NW3C Computer Crimes Section
Fast Track Program

1. Overview
   a. In the past, NW3C Computer Crime courses were taught in locations based upon requests for training from member agencies on an individual course schedule. Working within the limitations of available instructors, type of course requested, and the total number of training weeks available, an agency would see a course taught within their area approximately every other year.
   b. The Fast Track Program (FT) was developed as an alternative training delivery model. Under this program an agency will host the program, which consists of four courses, delivered in two training weeks, taught at the same location, within a shorter time span, usually no more than six weeks between classes.
   c. When NW3C conducts normal training courses, the class size is limited to 30 students. When NW3C conducts a FT program the class size is still limited to 30 students; however the “core group” is made up of 15 to 20 students of the total 30 students. These remaining seats are for other non-core students that have already taken some of the core courses and only want to take the courses they need.
      i. Core students are guaranteed first seating in each class of the FT.
      ii. The remaining seats are assigned on a first come basis through NW3C’s online registration process.
   d. We are asking for a commitment from the department head, Sheriff, Chief, Director, etc. that the student will be allowed to attend all classes and assurance that command staff also understands the time commitment required. The student will also be asked to make the same type of commitment, i.e. must attend each class, study sessions, self-study, homework projects between classes, written and practical testing. Students also need to understand that they will have to study on their own time not necessarily on department time.

2. Fast Track Program
   a. Courses
      i. **Cyber-Investigation 100-Identifying and Seizure of Electronic Evidence (ISEE) Web Based Course**
         1. The ISEE course is designed to instruct participants in the basics of recognizing potential sources of electronic evidence, preparing them to respond to an electronic crime scene, and to safely and methodically preserve and collect items of evidentiary value to be used in court proceedings.
ii. **Cyber-Investigation 101-Secure Techniques for Onsite Preview (STOP)**

1. This 1 day course is intended for detectives and officers conducting “knock and talk” interviews and probation/parole interviews or spot checks and home visits. This class utilizes TUX4N6™, a Linux-based bootable CD to preview a suspect computer system for potential evidence in a forensically sound manner. CD or USB based, TUX4N6™ has the advantage of being able to “read” other computer system’s files without writing to or altering the data on those systems.

iii. **Cybercop 101-Basic Data Recovery & Acquisition (BDRA)**

1. Through a series of classroom presentations and hands-on reinforcement, participants will learn the basics of how computers work and store data. Attendees will use this information as a foundation to further understand and successfully demonstrate the critical concepts necessary to seize, protect, preserve, and collect potential electronic evidence found at the computer crime scene. The concepts of operating system vs. file system and obtaining forensically sound duplicate images of digital media, including live imaging, will be covered. Participants will use this class as a prerequisite to continue their professional development and training which will assist in the investigation and prosecution of cyber crime cases.

iv. **Cybercop 201-Intermediate Data Recovery & Analysis (IDRA)**

1. A scenario-based course with the students examining a victim’s and a suspect’s hard drives as well as alternate media with a focus on in depth computer analysis for evidentiary material, using automated forensic utilities. This course should be taken prior to other advanced classes to become familiar with an overview of the structure of media and techniques used in complex forensic examinations.

b. **Homework**

   i. The homework element has been included to meet two objectives:

   1. A practical application of the knowledge and skills they received from the course they just attended.
   2. A method of providing students with pre-course study materials that will “pre-load” the student for the next course they attend.

   ii. At the end of the STOP and BDRA course each core student will be given some type of media with an instruction/question sheet for them to complete prior to the next course.
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c. Delivery Schedule  
i. All four courses will be delivered in two one week events  
   1. Week One  
      a. Cyber-Investigation 100-ISEE-Web Based Training  
      b. Cyber-Investigation 101-STOP  
      c. Cybercop 101-BDRA  
   2. Week Two  
      a. Cybercop 201-IDRA  

   ii. The spacing between the training weeks will be agreed upon by the participating agency, core students and NW3C.

3. Hosting a Fast Track  
a. Training Site  
   i. The normal NW3C training site requirements for the classroom apply. See the Training Request form for specifics.  
   ii. In addition, NW3C will be leaving our lab equipment at the training site throughout the FT program, so the hosting agency must provide secure storage between classes.  

b. Agency and student agreements  
   i. Each agency participating in the FT program will need to submit a letter, on Agency letterhead, signed by a command level officer indicating  
      1. their desire to participate in the FT program  
      2. their nomination of a specific student  
      3. they will arrange for the student to attend all FT classes.  
   ii. Each student participating in the FT program will need to submit a signed letter, on Agency letterhead, indicating  
      1. their desire to participate in the FT program  
      2. their acknowledgment that time outside of class time will be required  
      3. they will arrange to attend all FT classes

4. Getting Started  
a. Find a qualified training site.  
b. Contact agencies in your area that want to participate in the FT program.  
c. Identify your “core group” of students  
   i. 15 to 20 of the total 30 students per class.  
d. Contact the Computer Crime Section 304-366-9094 or 877-628-7674 to discuss a training schedule or for any other questions you may have.