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RHODE ISLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT WORK TOGETHER TO FIGHT CYBER CRIME

Lincoln, Rhode Island— The number of Internet crimes is on the rise in Rhode Island. The number of Internet crime complaints rose by nearly 30% between 2007 and 2008; and it is expected that it will increase by over 50% from 2008 to 2009. The Rhode Island State Police and local law enforcement have developed a team approach to help combat cyber crimes throughout the state. As part of that approach, the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) will present critical training to Rhode Island police officers to help law enforcement recognize electronic evidence and respond to an electronic crime scene.

“Over the last few years we have seen the number of crimes with an electronic element increase dramatically, putting an increased burden on our computer crimes officers,” said Captain David Neill, detective commander in charge of the detective division of the Rhode Island State Police. “Being able to have officers trained in this curriculum who can then continue educating other officers in the collection of digital evidence will greatly aid in our being able to prosecute crimes.”

On Dec. 9 and 10, a combination of state and local law enforcement officers will be trained in NW3C’s class “Identifying and Seizing Electronic Evidence.” These officers will then present this curriculum to 45 state and local agencies from across Rhode Island on Dec. 11.

“NW3C is very pleased that we are able to offer our training class to Rhode Island law enforcement to further advance their team approach to fighting cyber crime,” said Don Brackman, director for NW3C. “Having officers in the field who know how to handle and preserve electronic evidence is essential in today’s world where everyone has a computer or electronic device.”

Throughout the year NW3C holds free training classes for law enforcement in the area of computer crimes. Other classes offered by NW3C include financial crimes, intelligence analysis and train the trainer classes.

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About NW3C

Funded for over thirty years primarily by the Department of Justice (DOJ), The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) is a leader in the fight against economic and high-tech crime. For more information, please visit www.nw3c.org.