About NW3C

NW3C was established over 40 years ago. NW3C began its existence in 1978 as the Leviticus Project, where they conducted a formally structured and centrally coordinated multi-state investigation of a variety of crimes affecting the nation’s coal industry. Including Alabama, this project grew throughout 20 states. The Leviticus Project became the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) in 1992 to link traditional law enforcement and regulatory agencies across all 50 states. Since then, NW3C has continued to evolve and expand services to meet the needs of state and local law enforcement and regulatory agencies nationwide in the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of economic and high-tech crime.

Through grant funding from various federal agencies and unique alliances we have created among the federal government, state and local criminal justice agencies, and the private sector, we have been able to:

- Become a leader in the development and delivery of no-cost, high-quality, industry-leading training in criminal intelligence, digital evidence examination, digital forensics, economic crime, elder fraud, darknets and dark markets, intellectual property, investigating/prosecuting skilled offenders, technical investigations, technology training for prosecutors, virtual currency, and other related areas;

- Develop tools and implement strategies to help law enforcement combat technically sophisticated financial crimes and cybercrimes; and

- Offer training and support materials through classroom and live online training, online training, webinars, and investigative resources.

NW3C now has 6,228 member agencies in the United States and its territories, as well as 15 countries throughout the world.

Since 1996, we have trained students from more than 41,000 different agencies across the country.

NW3C Project & Activity Summary
(10/1/20 – 9/30/21)

NW3C continues to have great success and has once again exceeded all of our grant-related training and technical assistance deliverables. In the last year, NW3C adapted to the many changes brought about by the pandemic, leveraged our technologies and successfully transitioned into a virtual environment in order to meet the needs of those we serve.

2021 has brought about many new and exciting opportunities that we hope will set us on a path for even greater success in the future. This year, we updated course content to keep our training on the leading-edge, developed new training and resources on emerging topics, started the new Officer Wellness and Mental Health Initiative, pursued new opportunities to increase and diversify our funding sources, collaborated with existing partners and established new strategic partnerships to further our outreach and mission while maintaining the focus on quality, innovation, and superior products, hired new employees to help lead existing grant-funded projects and strategize new funding initiatives, and expanded our contractor team of world-class professional trainers, subject matter experts, and curriculum developers to teach and create courses on topics including cybercrime, digital forensics, economic crime, and criminal intelligence.
Through the federal grant funding awards we received this year from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), and the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), we were able to deliver training to 72,548 students through all training modalities (in-person, live online, online training & webinars).

We had another record year in terms of training numbers and exposure to new law enforcement personnel throughout the country as well as internationally. We now have over 110,000 active NW3C user accounts, we continued to see an increase in website traffic, which now averages 329,000 page views per month, and we added over 1,000 new social media followers.

Classroom (In-Person & Live Online) Training Highlights

NW3C has been training criminal justice professionals for 25 years. We currently offer 30 classroom (in-person/live online) courses in the areas of cyber investigation, digital forensics, economic crime, intelligence, and intellectual property theft. This year we developed two new training courses and introduced two additional courses as part of our Partnership Training offerings.

In 2021, most of our classes were delivered in a live online format. On average, we delivered seven live online classes per week that are at maximum student capacity.

From October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, we taught 383 courses and trained nearly 12,000 students.

Early next year, we will introduce a new Learning Management System platform which will greatly improve the student learner experience, and enhance access to curricula, progress, certifications, and similar tasks.

Webinar & On-Demand Webinar Highlights

In an effort to further fulfill law enforcement’s training needs, NW3C presented three webinars per week led by industry experts on a variety of economic, high-tech crime, and officer wellness related topics.

Since October of 2020, NW3C provided 77 live webinars. A total of 18,538 criminal justice professionals across the U.S. and some international professionals have attended our live webinar events, and 19,635 completed our on-demand webinars (totaling more than 38,000 students).

Online Training Highlights

As part of NW3C’s continuing effort to train more law enforcement personnel, we continued to offer online training via our in-house learning management system.

From October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, over 24,259 students completed our online training courses.

We currently have 59 online training courses available on topics including economic crime, cybercrime, intelligence, wellness & mental health, public awareness, and officer cybersafety. NW3C also continued to develop and deliver online training specifically for prosecutors and judges. Course content is routinely updated to keep up with evolving technology, and three new online trainings were developed. Some of our online training was enhanced to include “immersive” modules which place the learner in an interactive virtual learning environment to teach them a particular skill and technique.

New this year, NW3C, in partnership with The Risk Management Group (TRMG), released 24 new officer cybersafety microlearning awareness training modules which introduce participants to best practices for protecting themselves online when using common apps, browsers, and devices.

Additionally, six of NW3C’s online training courses were certified through the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) National Certification Program.

Technical Assistance Highlights

Another primary area of service is technical assistance. NW3C provides “onsite” (in-person at agency’s facility) and “offsite” (telephone, email or website submission) technical assistance to help law enforcement with
questions related to various law enforcement efforts in our area of expertise.

From October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, we completed 352 (218 offsite, 134 onsite) requests for technical assistance. NW3C staff also provided 116 presentations such as workshops and panel participation for 15,243 attendees at various conferences, seminars and meetings throughout the year.

One example is NW3C’s participation in the National Cyber Crime Conference. We have proudly supported this premier annual cybercrime and digital evidence training event for law enforcement and prosecutors for the past ten years. During this year’s event, NW3C provided 19 in-person workshops on a variety of topics taught by our instructors and adjuncts, and also provided a scenario-based Capture The Flag challenge. All workshops were then offered as on-demand. There was a total of 3,152 attendees.

Resources

As part of our BJA grant deliverables, NW3C continued to lead the Law Enforcement Cyber Center (LECC) initiative with project partners, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF). The partners manage the LECC website, a national resource for law enforcement and related justice and public safety entities.

The site contains cyber-related information to enhance the awareness, expand the education, and build the capacity of criminal justice personnel to prevent, investigate, prosecute and respond to cyber threats and cybercrime. Monthly page views to this resource site average 14,000 per month.

NW3C also maintains the Intellectual Property Theft Resource website, which provides a common place for Intellectual Property Enforcement Program (IPEP) grantees and law enforcement to find training, resources, and technical assistance to aid in their IP investigations.

We continued to add additional materials to our investigative resources that we make available for law enforcement. NW3C’s investigative resources page was accessed over 43,000 times this year.

A sample of investigative resources currently available on our website include:

- Legal Templates
- Law Enforcement Tools & Guides
- Intellectual Property templates
- Investigative Guides and Resources on developing policy, Interpol Guidelines NDCAC Guides, Real Time and Open Source Analysis Resources
- Cryptocurrency Resources
- Law Enforcement Cyber Alerts
- White Papers
- Mobile Guides on Bitcoin and Intellectual Property

**NW3C Certification Program**

NW3C now offers three professional certifications for criminal justice personnel:

- **Certified Economic Crime Forensic Examiner (CECFE)**
- **Certified Cyber Crime Examiner (3CE)**
- **Certified Cyber Crime Investigator (3CI)**

NW3C’s certification program continues to rapidly grow reaching over 1,300 applications, over 900 certification holders, and a 90% certification renewal rate.

By using a unique point system, more public and private investigators and examiners are able to get certified at an affordable cost by using a combination of their work experience, training, and education.
**NW3C Officer Wellness & Mental Health Initiative**

In January 2021, NW3C launched its new Officer Wellness & Mental Health Initiative. The program encompasses training and resources specifically tailored to address underlying mental health concerns and proactive wellness support of criminal justice professionals.

NW3C, in partnership with the Kentucky State Police, was recently awarded the **Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act grant** from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). As part of the grant deliverables, NW3C will work with the Kentucky State Police to implement its Strategic Training and Organizational Resilience and Mindset (STORM) program.

**Partnership Highlights**

The success of NW3C has been due in no small part to our ability to partner with other organizations, universities, and vendors who share our goal of supporting state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement. This year, NW3C continued many successful ongoing partnerships and also entered into some new strategic partnerships.

We continued our longstanding partnership with the **District Attorney of New York County (DANY)** to provide annual training through the NW3C/DANY Cyber Academy. This private partnership is now into a decade of success and continues to prosper.

We maintained a working relationship with the **Safe Surfin’ Foundation** to collaborate on the Cyber S.W.A.T.™ (Safety While Accessing Technology) project, a program working with school resource officers throughout the country to educate and protect children from crime and exploitation on the internet.

NW3C continued its work with the **National Native American Law Enforcement Association (NNALEA)** on promoting and providing training to Native American law enforcement nationwide. The partners collaborated on promoting the Cyber S.W.A.T. (Safety While Accessing Technology) program in tribal schools.

NW3C and the **FINRA Investor Education Foundation** have been training partners for a decade. Since 2012, NW3C has delivered the **Targeting Investment Fraud (TIF)** training class **58 times**, training over **2,600 students** across the country. NW3C is also developing a 4-hour online training module based on the concepts covered in the 1-day TIF classroom training.

NW3C also continued to maintain its longstanding relationships with academic institutions including West Virginia University, Purdue University, Indiana University, Liberty University, Champlain College Cyber Security and Digital Forensics Center, and Florida International University, among others. This year, we established **new university partnerships with the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Saint Thomas University Law School and East Tennessee State University**.

NW3C continued collaborating on training projects with the FBI National Domestic Communications Assistance Center, E-Pay Resources, the National Cyber Security Alliance, and also established new training partnerships with the **Northern New Jersey Urban Areas Security Initiative (NNUJASI)** and the **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania** to sponsor NW3C training for their members.

This year NW3C worked the **High Technology Crime Investigative Association** (HTCIA), a non-profit committed to high technology training, education, and networking through local chapters and international events, on several initiatives.

We established a new partnership with the **Small and Rural Law Enforcement Executive Association (SRLEEA)**, an association dedicated to supporting and promoting law enforcement executives and agencies that serve small, rural & tribal communities across America.

Additionally, new strategic partnerships were established with the International Association of Financial Crime Investigators (IAFCI), Document Security Alliance (DSA), the Cybercrime Support Network (CSN), and others.

One notable project that NW3C completed this year was done in partnership with **INTERPOL**. NW3C developed 8 hours of online training content for first responders on identifying and seizing digital evidence.
This training contained a mix of self-paced, instructional and immersive modules. INTERPOL has 194 member countries worldwide, so this training is anticipated to reach law enforcement officers around the world.

**Funding Awards**

NW3C received several new funding federal awards including the Economic, High-Technology, White Collar, and Internet Crime Prevention National Training and Technical Assistance Grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), and the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act Grant, in partnership with Kentucky State Police, from the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

In addition, NW3C and KACE were successful in winning the **U.S. Secret Service, National Computer Forensics Institute (NCFI) Training Contract**. As part of this 5-year contract, NW3C will coordinate with project partners to teach NCFI’s existing curriculum & develop new curriculum to be taught at their Hoover, AL facility, other U.S. training sites, and potentially, internationally.

With our existing and new funding awards, we will continue to focus on:

01. meeting the training needs of criminal justice professionals;

02. prioritizing efforts to develop & deliver cutting-edge training; and

03. maintaining our focus on quality, innovation and superior products