



1 approximately six months into my position as a Supervisor. The  
2 General Manager was the contact for the FBI; however, the General  
3 Manager could not explain the necessary technical aspects of the  
4 conversation so I was brought in. Over time it was less necessary  
5 for the General Manager to be involved. I would inform the General  
6 Manager of an FBI agent coming to the facility. I do not recall the  
7 name of the first FBI agent to whom I generally reported incidents  
8 arising at Best Buy/Geek Squad. After the first agent, my contact at  
9 the FBI became Special Agent Tracey Riley.

10 6. I was never asked by Special Agent Riley or anyone else at  
11 the FBI or any other law enforcement agency to search for child  
12 pornography or evidence of any other crime at any time. I never  
13 directed my subordinates at the Best Buy/Geek Squad to search for  
14 child pornography or evidence of any other crime at any time. I never  
15 agreed to search for evidence of child pornography or evidence of any  
16 other crime on behalf of the FBI or any other law enforcement agency,  
17 and never directed my subordinates at the Best Buy Geek Squad to do  
18 so at any time. My intent in reviewing any evidence found by a  
19 technician and in contacting the FBI in any given case was to carry  
20 out my duty as an employee of Best Buy/Geek Squad. I was motivated  
21 by my duty as an employee to act in accordance with Best Buy policy.  
22 I was not motivated by an independent desire on my part to assist law  
23 enforcement. I was motivated only by my need to properly carry out  
24 my duties as an employee of Best Buy, in accordance with Best  
25 Buy/Geek Squad policy.

26 7. I do not remember ever being paid by the FBI. I never  
27 reviewed evidence or communicated to the FBI out of a motivation to  
28 get paid by the FBI or any other law enforcement agency.

1           8.    Trey Westphal ("Westphal") was an employee hired, trained,  
2 and directly supervised by me as a technician at the Brooks,  
3 Kentucky, Best Buy/Geek Squad facility. I do not recall Westphal  
4 ever attempting to help the police by searching computers or hard  
5 drives for child pornography, and he was never warned or disciplined  
6 for such behavior. I have no information that Westphal ever searched  
7 computers or hard drives beyond what was required by the service  
8 orders. Westphal's job duties included performing data recovery for  
9 computers and hard drives submitted for data recovery.

10           9.    I have reviewed the documents Bates-stamped SACR14-188 in  
11 the lower left corner and 58 through 60 in the lower right corner,  
12 attached hereto as Exhibits 1, 2, and 3.

13           10.   Exhibit 1 (Bates 58) is a Service Order number 101-  
14 966536638, dated November 20, 2011, for "DRD service" for a hard  
15 drive submitted by Mark Rettenmaier of 25462 Rodeo Circle in Laguna  
16 Hills, California. I recognize Exhibit 1 as a form Best Buy/Geek  
17 Squad service order in use in late 2011. Based on my experience  
18 working at Best Buy/Geek Squad, I understand "DRD service" to mean  
19 data recovery service in the "Data Recovery Department" or "Data  
20 Recovery Division." Based on this notation and on my training and  
21 experience as an employee of Best Buy/Geek Squad, I believe the hard  
22 drive in this service order was submitted for data recovery.

23           11.   Exhibit 2 (Bates 59) is a document dated November 25, 2011,  
24 with a heading "SECTOR ZERO." Exhibit 2 is familiar to me as a form  
25 generated at the Brooks, Kentucky, facility in connection with data  
26 recovery service in late 2011. The handwritten notes that say "FR -  
27 CRASH SCANNING" indicate to me, based on my training and experience  
28 as an employee of Best Buy, that the Best Buy/Geek Squad technician

1 who serviced this hard drive attempted to perform a format recovery  
2 that crashed. The handwritten note below it -- "ARiMFT" -- indicates  
3 to me that the technician who serviced the hard drive performed an  
4 advanced recovery ignoring the hard drive's master file table,  
5 probably because the master file table on the hard drive was  
6 corrupted.

7 12. Exhibit 3 (Bates 60) describes a typical process that a  
8 technician at Best Buy/Geek Squad would undertake in order to carry  
9 out the data recovery service order in Exhibit 1. The process  
10 described was a part of Westphal's job duties at Best Buy/Geek Squad.  
11 The "data review" mentioned in Exhibit 3 is a process undertaken by  
12 the technician to determine the viability of the files that have been  
13 recovered. "Client mission criticals" are the files and folders that  
14 the client has indicated are most important to them. Client mission  
15 criticals for data recovery service at Best Buy/Geek Squad are  
16 typically provided to Best Buy by the client. Based on my training  
17 and experience, I interpret the notes in Exhibit 3 to mean that the  
18 hard drive's owner had identified pictures and videos as mission  
19 criticals, i.e., had directed Best Buy to recover lost pictures and  
20 videos from the hard drive.

21 13. Looking for client mission criticals, and filtering them in  
22 the way described in Exhibit 3, is something that Best Buy/Geek Squad  
23 technicians typically do when carrying out a service order for data  
24 recovery. In reviewing Exhibit 3, based on my training and  
25 experience, the notes describe Westphal engaging in typical data  
26 recovery processes required by the service order for data recovery.  
27 Based on my experience, the notes indicate that Westphal carried out  
28 the textbook process required by the service order in Exhibit 1.

1 14. To the best of my knowledge, from approximately 2008 to  
2 mid-2012, I am the only person from Best Buy's Brooks, Kentucky,  
3 facility who contacted the FBI for the purpose of reporting suspected  
4 evidence of criminal offenses located by Best Buy technicians on  
5 computers being repaired at the facility.

6 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United  
7 States of America that the foregoing is true and correct and that  
8 this declaration is executed at Louisville, Kentucky on 12/31/15.

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11 JUSTIN MEADE  
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