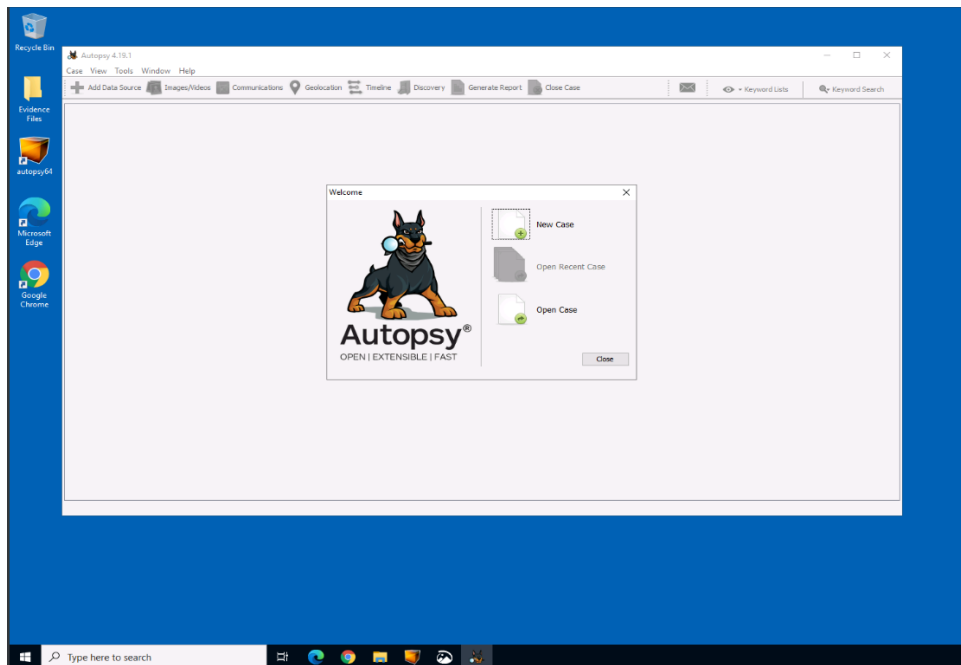
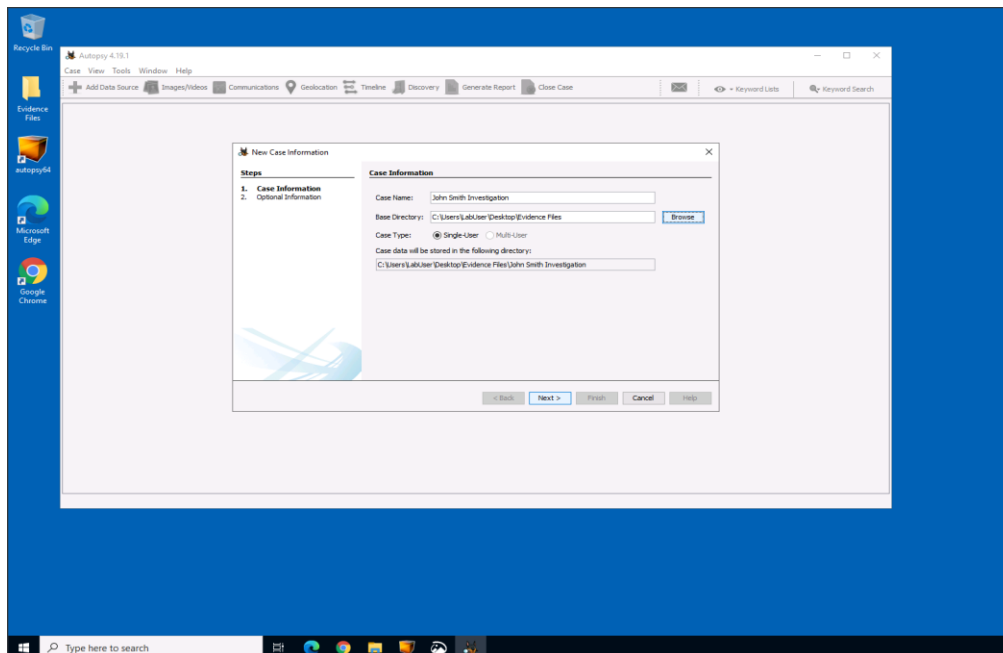


A1) Steps to Create Forensic Case File:

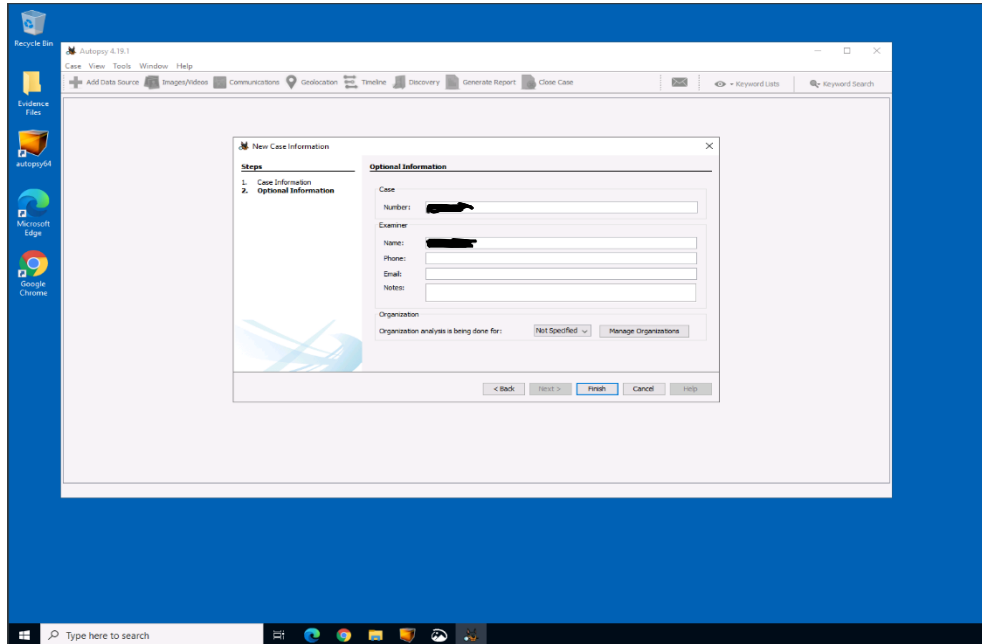
1. Double-click the Autopsy application to open it and then click on 'New Case'



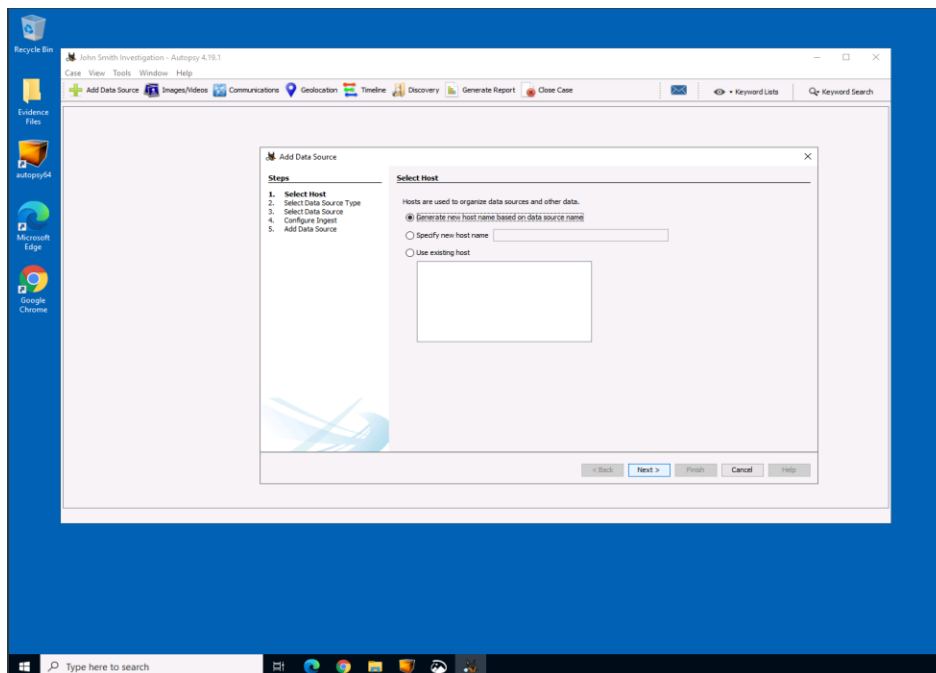
2. In the next window, enter the case name and then select the Base Directory using the browse button. In this case, it was C:\Users\LabUser\Desktop\Evidence Files. Then click on 'Next'



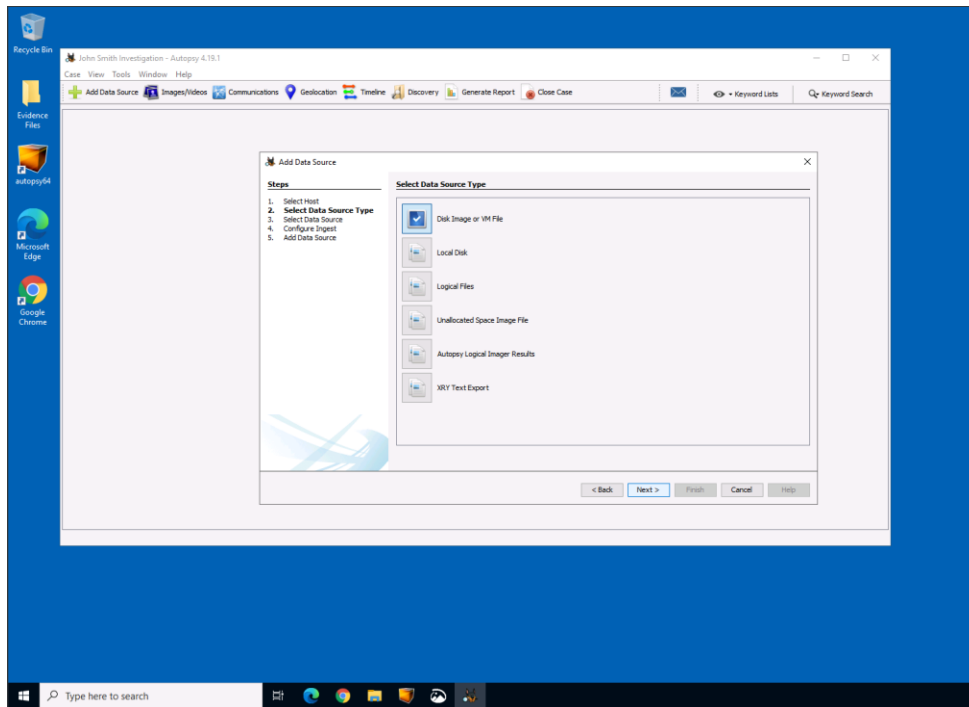
- Next, fill out the necessary information, including the case number and Examiners information. Click on 'Finish'.



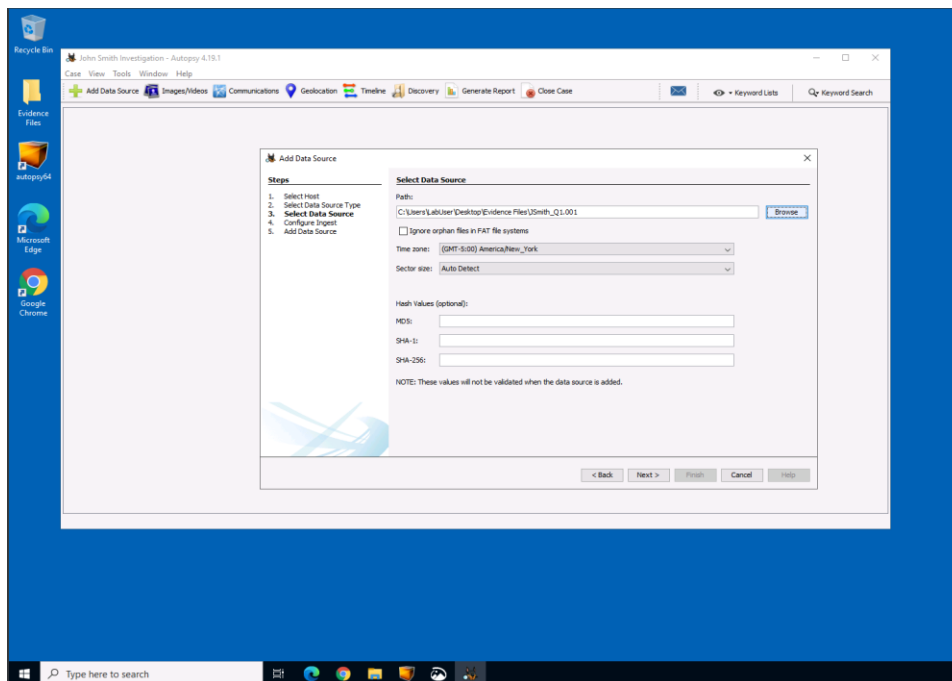
- An 'Add Data Source' window will appear, with the first step being 'Select Host'. Accept the default settings and click 'Next'.



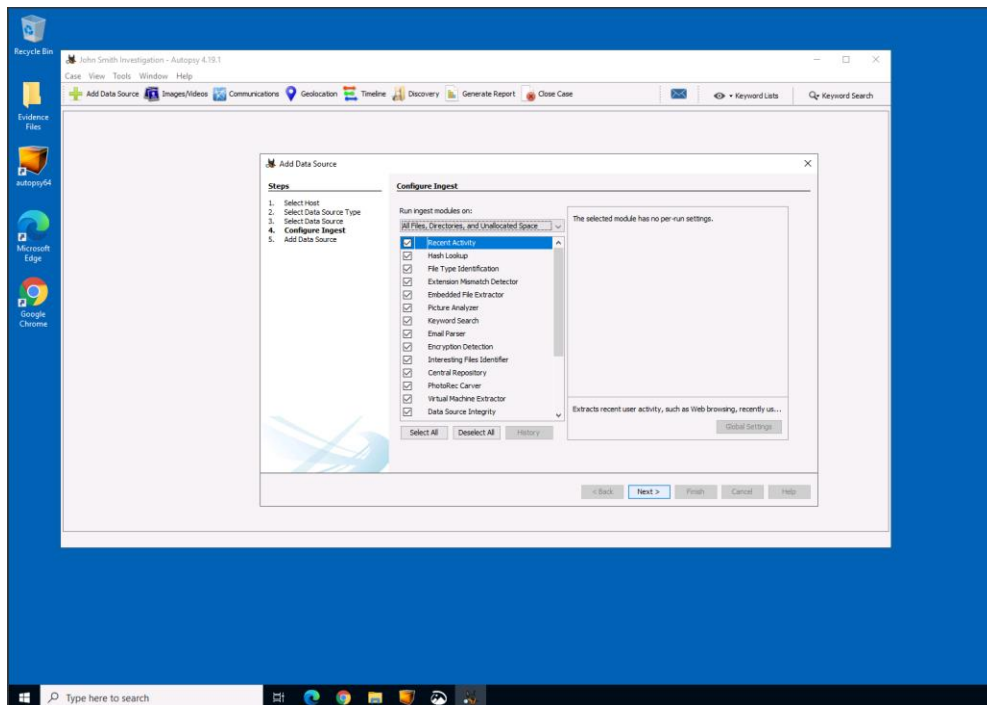
5. The next step is the 'Data Source Type'; select 'Disk Image or VM File' for this instance.



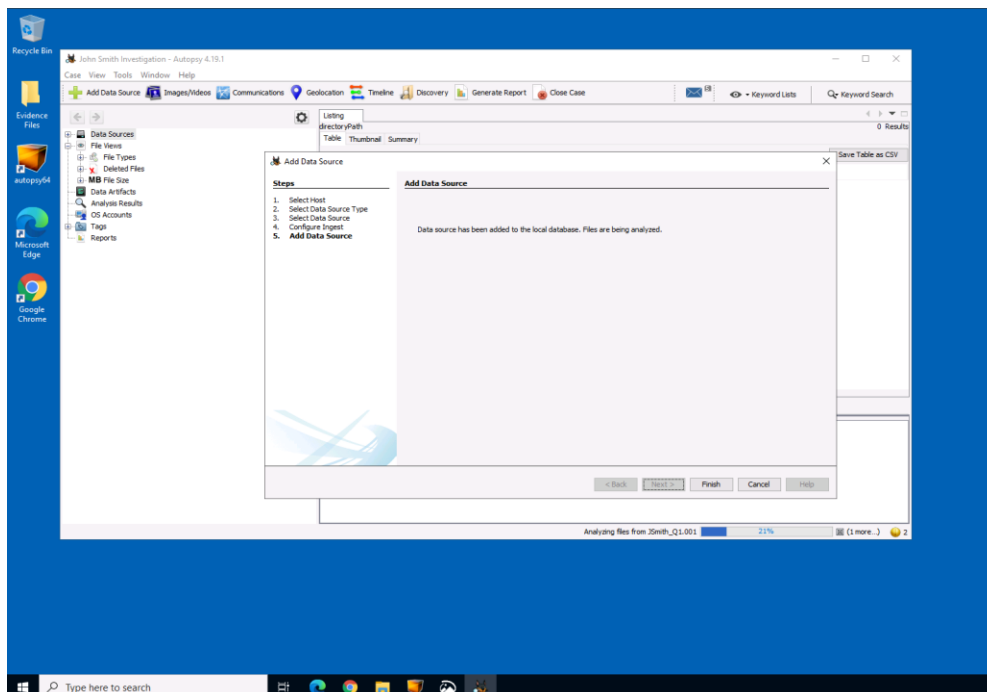
6. 'Select Data Source' is the next step; we will browse to C:\Users\LabUser\Desktop\Evidence Files\JSmith_Q1.001, keep the default settings, and proceed.



7. Accept the default settings and click 'Next' for the 'Configure Ingest' step.

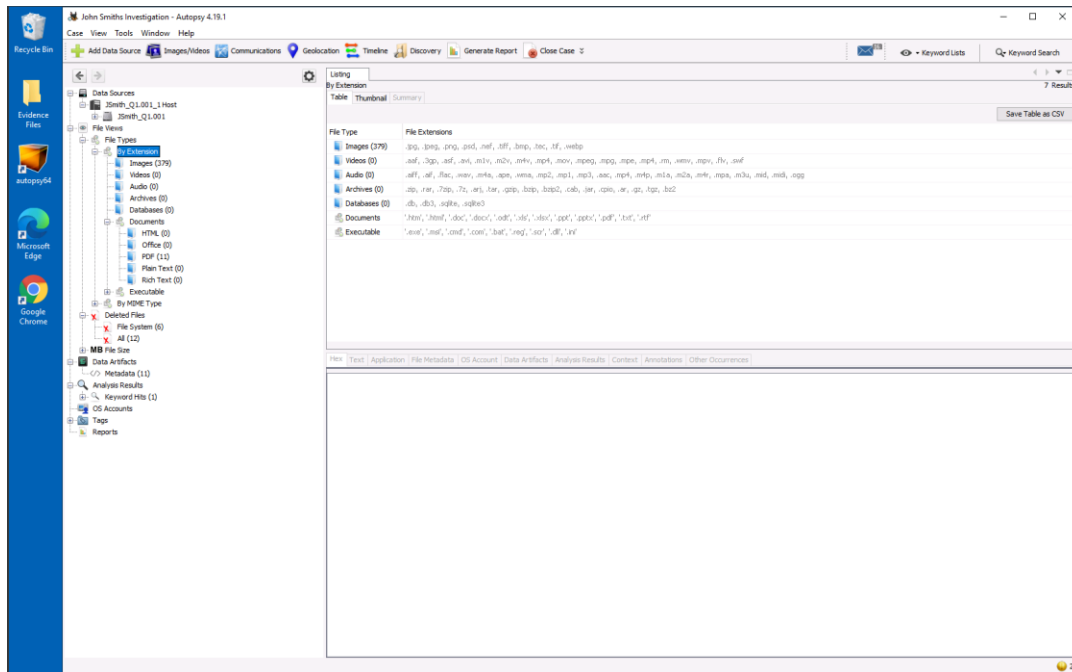


8. On the 'Add Data Source' step, you will see a message stating, "Data source has been added to the local database. Files are being analyzed". Click 'Finish'

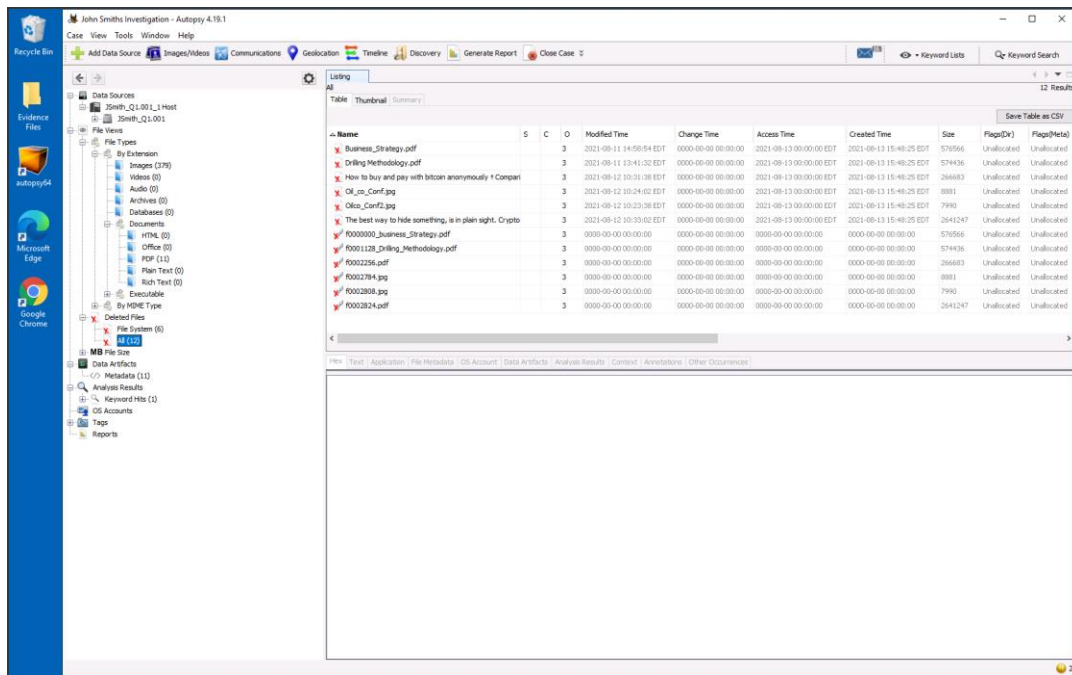


A2) Steps Used to Identify Potential Evidence:

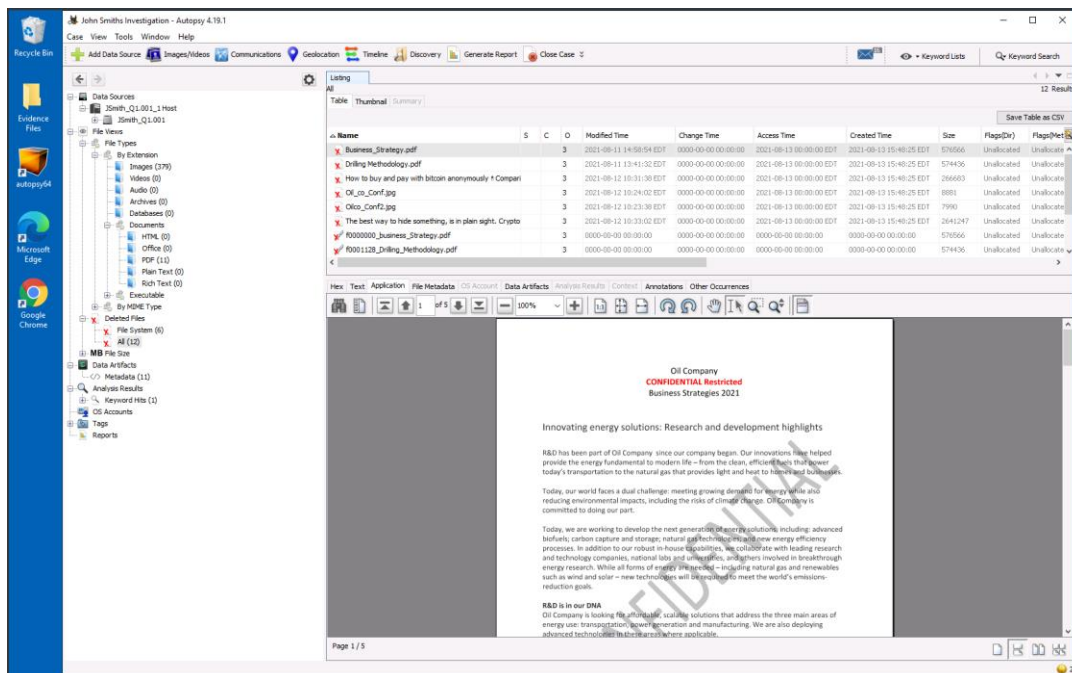
1. Clicking on 'File Types' and then expanding the 'By Extension' and 'Documents' sections reveal which file types are on the device.



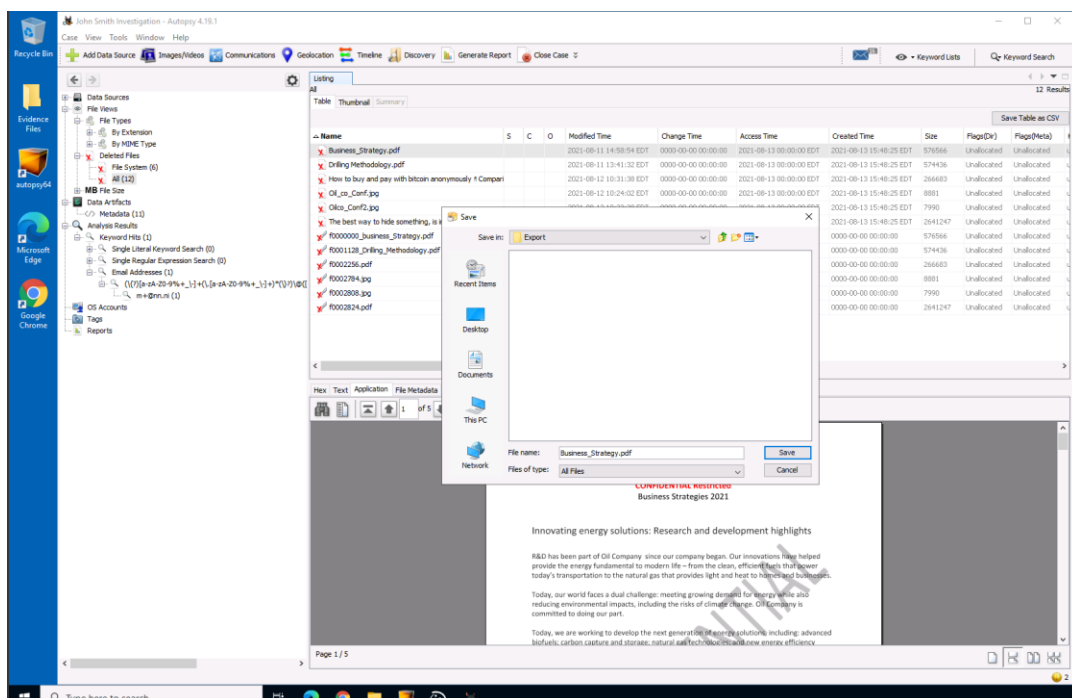
2. Clicking on 'Deleted Files' and then on 'All' shows the device's deleted and carved files.



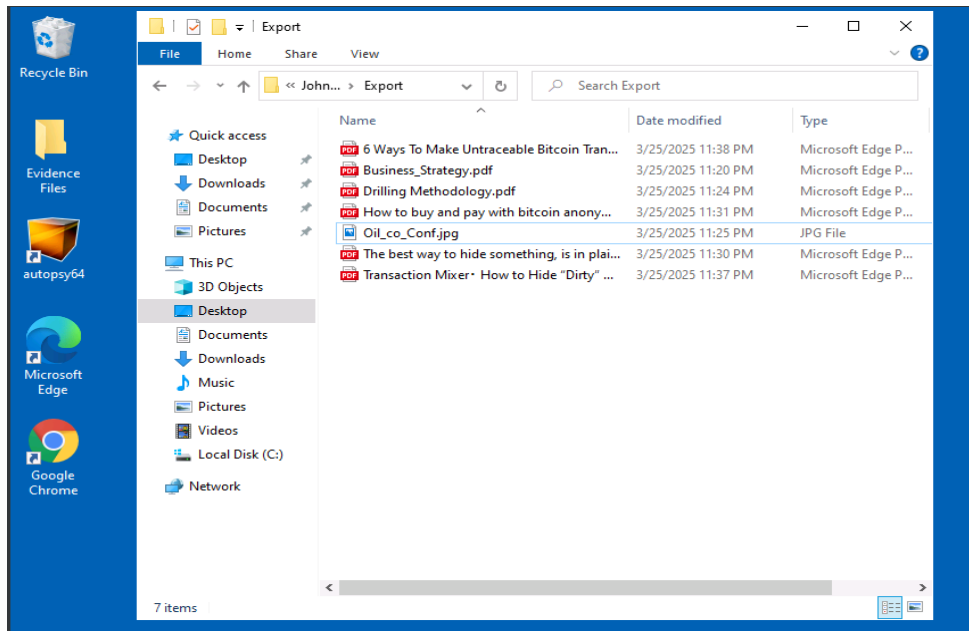
3. Clicking on any files in the 'Deleted Files' section will display the file and its contents.



4. Right-click on all files of note and click on 'Extract File'. This will save it to an 'Export' folder for review.



- Once all files of note are saved into the 'Export' folder, you will be able to view them outside of Autopsy.



Summary of Findings and Conclusions:

As shown in image 5 from setion A2, the export folder contains a confidentially labeled Business Strategy file, a Drilling Methodology file, and what seems to be a blueprint or patent image named Oil_co_Conf.jpg. Alongside those files are also articles saved as PDF files detailing how to hide cryptocurrency, how to make untraceable transactions, how to purchase cryptocurrency anonymously, and one article describing how a group used ransomware to lock an organization out of their data and paid the ransom, in cryptocurrency, to regain access. This proves that John Smith gained unauthorized access to proprietary information and may have been planning to sell or ransom the information.

