



DIGITAL FORENSICS REPORT

M57 Patents – Kitty Exploitation



Digital Forensics Examiner
Jiehui Li

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On December 09, 2009, the City of Monterey, CA Police Department received a phone call from Aaron Greene reporting a possible cat exploitation possession from a used computer. Aaron reported that he purchased the computer from Craig's List and discovered that the previous owner had not erased the hard disk. He claimed to have found kitty exploitation movies and pictures. Later that day, officers went to Aaron's house to seize the evidence which Aaron voluntarily released.

Through the initial analysis, forensic tech identified the main user of the computer as "Jo" and a possible owner linked to a local company called M57 Patents. Detective of the case, Joe Friday and Gannon met with M57 Patents' CEO, Pat McGoo, which he confirmed that Jo was an employee of the company. McGoo also claimed that the computer was probably stolen from the company, having been told it was non-functional. Forensics tech also discovered that a USB thumb drive was used on the computer, possibly owned by Jo. With this assumption, a warrant to seize the USB thumb drive was granted.

REQUEST

[06-05-2010] – A black HP tower desktop and a blue USB thumb drive, along with the forensically imaged disk copy of the HP computer, were received from CA Police Department. I was assigned to find evidence of kitty files on the USB thumb drive, the possible owner of the kitty files, and correlation between the identified user Jo in both HP computer and USB thumb drive.

SCOPE OF ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

The subject's computer was formatted as NTFS (**New Technology File System**). This was located on partition volume 2 (vol2, sectors 63-25398764), evidenced by the presence of \$MFT (Master File Table) and \$LogFile, key NTFS metadata files.

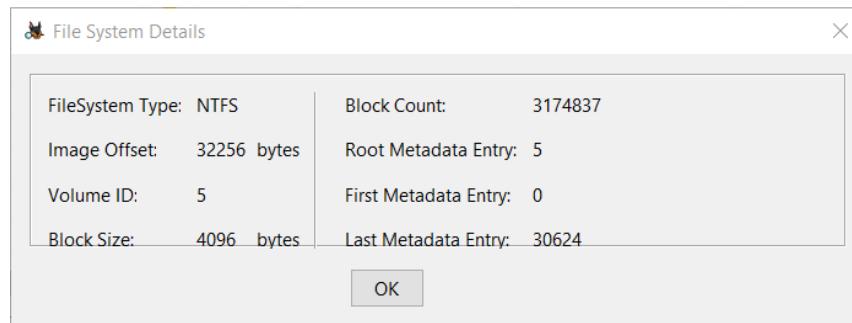


Figure 2.1 - Computer File System

The device contained 3 logical drives which only partition 2 (vol2, sectors 63-25398764) was allocated with data. The remaining partitions (vol1 and vol3) were unallocated, suggesting deleted

or unformatted space. Two (2) user account were identified: an Administrator and a primary user account named “Jo,” this could be the user initials.

USB Devices

Examination in Autopsy revealed a total of 11 USD device connections, including mass storage drives, keyboard, and mouse as illustrated in the picture below.

2009-11-20 13:17:13 EST		ROOT_HUB	4&28fef180&0	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-20 13:17:36 EST		ROOT_HUB	4&389651e0&0	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-20 13:17:13 EST		ROOT_HUB	4&5e88044&0	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-20 13:17:13 EST		ROOT_HUB20	4&36326108&0	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-18 13:10:12 EST		Vid_0000&Pid_7777	2B9ECCFF	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-19 20:07:33 EST	Logitech, Inc.	Optical Wheel Mouse	5&2f6f8af0&0&2	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-17 13:45:06 EST	Alcor Micro Corp.	Flash Drive	51491E64	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-16 19:20:07 EST	LaCie, Ltd	Rugged Triple Interface Mobile Hard Drive	00D04B881007C255	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-20 12:37:06 EST	Imation Corp.	Flash Drive	AADA04411400000B	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-20 13:17:15 EST	Dell Computer Corp.	Model L100 Keyboard	5&2f6f8af0&0&2	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01
2009-11-20 13:17:36 EST	Dell Computer Corp.	Mouse	5&b81797c&0&1	jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01

Figure 3.1 - USB Device Connections

Further examination through the computer registry specifically identified four (4) USB storage devices connections as illustrated below.

Path: SYSTEM > ControlSet001 > Enum > USBSTOR

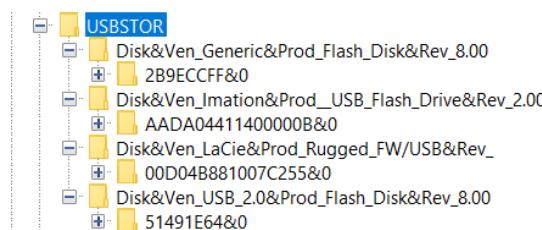


Figure 3.2 - USB Thumb Drive Connections

Evidence of Kitty Pictures and Movies

Through examination of the user Jo’s folder, I identified multiple cat pictures, in JPG format, inside a folder named “Pics” located in the user’s Desktop folder. After examining few pictures and metadata, I noticed that every picture filename contained the characters “DSC” followed by a sequence of numbers [000xx]. The metadata shows the MIME type attribute as “image/jpeg.” With these details, I was able to search all pictures through Autopsy, identifying a total of 266 cat pictures. Hash verification confirmed duplicate filenames represented distinct files. Additionally, a subfolder named “NEW” contained 5 cat movies.

Name	S	C	O	Modified Time	Change Time	Access Time	Created Time	Size
TiggerTheCat.m4v	▼	2		2009-11-18 19:50:54 EST	2009-11-20 12:51:26 EST	2009-11-20 12:51:45 EST	2009-11-20 12:38:58 EST	12536015
TiggerTheCat (copy).m4v	▼	2		2009-11-18 19:50:54 EST	2009-11-20 12:52:04 EST	2009-11-20 12:52:21 EST	2009-11-20 12:38:57 EST	12536015
Tigger.m4v	▼	1		2009-11-20 12:00:00 EST	2009-11-20 12:50:50 EST	2009-11-20 12:51:28 EST	2009-11-20 12:38:47 EST	25123154
Cat.m4v	▼	1		2009-11-20 12:12:04 EST	2009-11-20 12:39:31 EST	2009-11-20 12:50:25 EST	2009-11-20 12:38:46 EST	1077729
Cat.mov	▼	1		2009-11-20 12:25:26 EST	2009-11-20 12:50:25 EST	2009-11-20 12:50:47 EST	2009-11-20 12:38:44 EST	5712046

Figure 3.3 - Kitty Videos

The following paths were where the pictures and videos were found:

Main Folder Path:

- /img_jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01/vol_vol2/Documents and Settings/Jo/Desktop/Pics/

Subfolder Paths:

- /img_jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01/vol_vol2/Documents and Settings/Jo/Desktop/Pics/NEW
- /img_jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01/vol_vol2/Documents and Settings/Jo/Desktop/Pics/NEW/HighQuality
- /img_jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01/vol_vol2/Documents and Settings/Jo/Desktop/Pics/OLD
- /img_jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01/vol_vol2/Documents and Settings/Jo/Desktop/Pics/OLD/HighQuality

All identified cat media (266 pictures, 5 movies) were exclusively located in Jo's user folder (SID: S-1-5-21-583907252-527237240-1606980848-1003). Metadata analysis revealed that the pictures were captured by two (2) Sony cameras (models: CYBERSHOT, HDR-SR10).

Forensic examination of the “Recent” folder revealed user Jo accessed cat media (pictures, movie) and downloaded “QuickTimerInstaller.exe” from Apple.com on 2009-11-20 at 12:41:19 EST. Subsequent prefetch file generation at 12:42:06 EST confirmed installer execution. Further analysis showed QuickTimer Player was launched (prefetch generated at 12:49:09 EST) and used to view the movies, evidenced by the creation of a session file named “QTPlayerSession.xml” at 12:50:25 EST. The artifacts collectively demonstrate Jo’s sequential actions: download, installation, and media playback, with all timestamps forensically correlated. The presence of both prefetch files and session data provides robust evidence of this user activity.

Recent Folder Path: /img_jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01/vol_vol2/Documents and Settings/Jo/Recent/

□	Cat (2).lnk	▼	0	2009-11-20 12:50:25 EST	2009-11-20 12:50:25 EST	2009-11-20 12:50:25 EST	2009-11-20 12:50:25 EST	588
□	Cat.lnk	▼	0	2009-11-20 12:49:00 EST	2009-11-20 12:49:00 EST	2009-11-20 12:49:00 EST	2009-11-20 12:39:31 EST	588
□	DSC00003.lnk	▼	0	2009-11-20 12:52:41 EST	2009-11-20 12:52:41 EST	2009-11-20 12:52:41 EST	2009-11-18 13:13:28 EST	749
□	DSC00008.lnk	▼	0	2009-11-18 13:22:14 EST	2009-11-18 13:22:14 EST	2009-11-18 13:22:14 EST	2009-11-18 13:22:14 EST	681
□	DSC00009.lnk	▼	0	2009-11-20 12:52:24 EST	2009-11-20 12:52:24 EST	2009-11-20 12:52:24 EST	2009-11-18 13:12:24 EST	619

Figure 4.1 - Evidence of User Jo Interacting with the Kitty Files

QT Player Session Path: /img_jo-2009-11-20-oldComputer.E01/vol_vol2/Documents and Settings/Jo/Application Data/Apple Computer/QuickTime/QTPlayerSession.xml

```
<string>TiggerTheCat (copy)</string>
<string>C:\Documents and Settings\Jo\Desktop\Pics\NEW\TiggerTheCat (copy).m4v</string>
<string>TiggerTheCat</string>
<string>C:\Documents and Settings\Jo\Desktop\Pics\NEW\TiggerTheCat.m4v</string>
<string>Tigger</string>
<string>C:\Documents and Settings\Jo\Desktop\Pics\NEW\Tigger.m4v</string>
<string>Cat</string>
<string>C:\Documents and Settings\Jo\Desktop\Pics\NEW\Cat.m4v</string>
```

Figure 2 - Session File Evidence of Kitty Videos Playbacks

Jo 2 GB Thumb Drive (Evidence 2)

The USB thumb drive has the serial number 2404211721370480589018. It contained a total of 125 cat pictures, including 82 in a folder named “HighQuality” and 43 in the root directory, along with cat movies in a separate folder named “Videos.”

Pictures Folder Path:

- /img_MT-2009-12-015-W001.E01/
- /img_MT-2009-12-015-W001.E01/HighQuality/

Videos Folder Path: /img_MT-2009-12-015-W001.E01/Videos/

Further examination using Autopsy’s “Find Common Properties” tool confirmed that all 125 cat pictures and 4 cat movies originally identified on the USB thumb drive (Evidence 2) were also present on the subject’s computer (Evidence 1). This file matching demonstrates that a portion of the cat media (pictures, videos) previously discovered on the computer’s hard drive originated from the USB device. The automated comparison of file hashes and attributes through Autopsy’s specialized tool provides definitive evidence in the evidentiary chain.

Subsequently, I identified a \$MBR (Master Boot Record). Examination of the extracted text from \$MBR revealed the string “JO FAVORITEFAT32,” consistent with a volume label for the USB thumb drive. A corresponding "JO FAVORITE (Volume Label Entry)" file was also identified, further supporting attribution to user Jo based on the "JO" initials. This evidence strongly suggests ownership or frequent use of the USB drive by Jo.

CONCLUSION

Forensic analysis confirmed user Jo owned both the HP computer and USB drive (serial: 2404211721370480589018). Evidence included 266 cat pictures and 5 videos in Jo's profile folder, plus 125 matching files on the USB. The "JO FAVORITEFAT32" volume label and duplicate files proved device ownership and data transfer. Metadata showed Jo actively accessed the files, including installing QuickTime to view videos. Findings demonstrate Jo's possession and use of the cat media.

EXHIBITS

HTML Electronic Report of HP Computer

Navigate to folder:

Electronic Reports ➔ (HP Computer) MT-2009-12-015-EV001 HTML Report 05-13-2025-23-48-21 ➔ report.html

HTML Electronic Report of the USB Thumb

Navigate to folder:

Electronic Reports ➔ (USB Thumb Drive) MT-2009-12-015-W001 HTML Report 05-13-2025-23-55-32 ➔ report.html