



# SOCIAL MEDIA

INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT SECTION

JOINT STRATEGIC & TACTICAL ANALYSIS COMMAND CENTER

## METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C.

**PETER NEWSHAM**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

A043

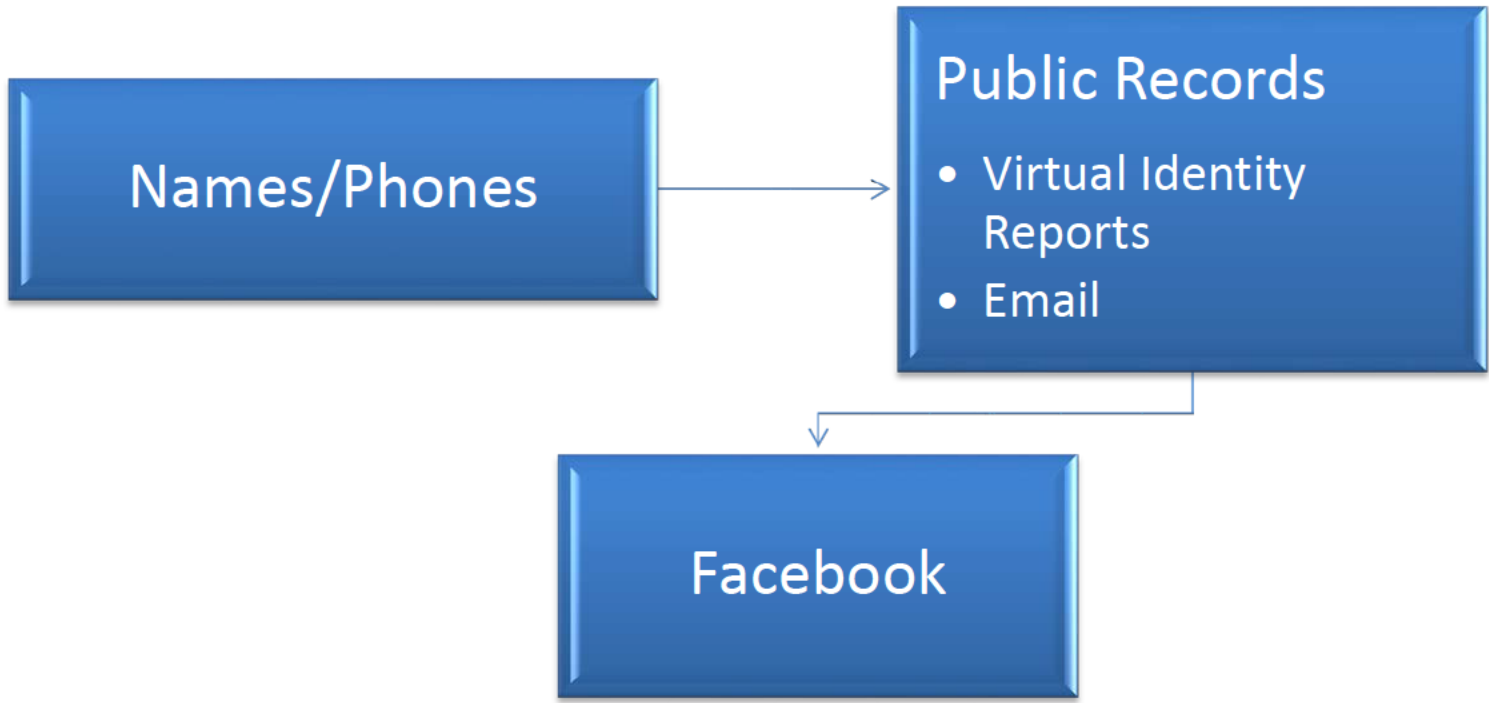


- Provide insight on how the Investigative Support Section (ISS) provides open source intelligence for investigative purposes
  - Old vs New procedures
- Techniques
- Challenges & Solutions
- Examples/Success stories



- Gaining actionable intelligence off social media about a subject
  - Weapons, narcotics, active areas, chatter, #hashtags, friends, activities, family members, etc.
- More targeted searches
- Ability to search a variety of social networking sites, but often use the most popular at the present time (Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, Youtube, Google)
- Search public profiles, pictures, blogs, comments, etc.





**Barely scratching the surface**





Robbery Arrestee:



Accurint:

Virtual Identity Report



Facebook:



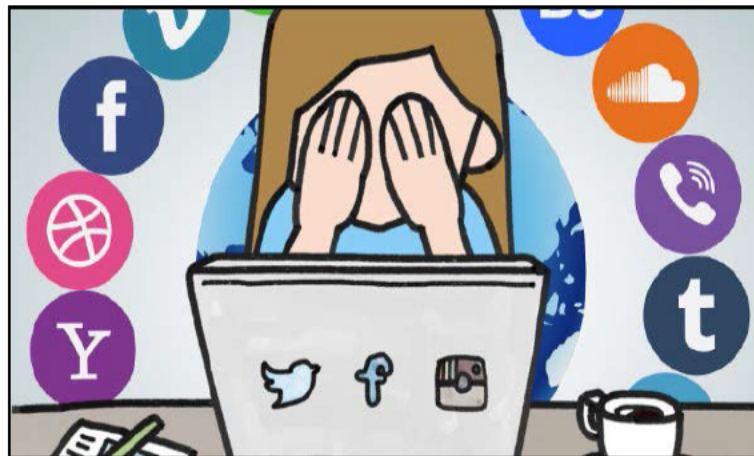
We couldn't find anything for [redacted]

Looking for people or posts? Try entering a name, location, or different words.

**SOME THINGS THAT  
ARE TRUE ARE NOT  
VERY USEFUL**

# SOCIAL MEDIA: CHALLENGES

- Time
  - ✓ SOLUTION
    - New social media protocol
    - In-depth searches post major incident
- Changing Usernames
  - ✓ SOLUTION
    - Variations of their previous usernames, check associates profiles for tagged photos
- Private Accounts
  - ✓ SOLUTION
    - Known associates and family members sharing tagged photos
- Getting Blocked
  - ✓ SOLUTION
    - Change username, view profiles publicly
    - Storiesig.com
- Search Restrictions
  - ✓ SOLUTION
    - Specialized search sites (Spokeo, Pipl, Webstagram, Facebook Messenger)





Name(s), Phone(s),  
Email(s), Various Identifiers



Accurant Virtual Identity Report, Facebook,  
Google and at least 2 other search  
engines/sites



If Profile is uncovered:

- URL handle, alias names queried through Google, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, and at least one additional site

Additional steps if no  
profiles found

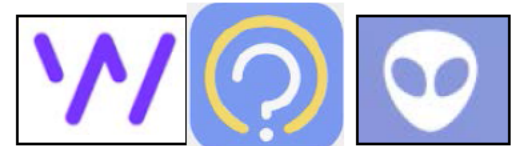
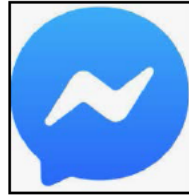
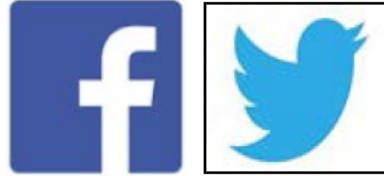


Use other public records (TLO) to find any  
possible emails, phones, relatives, etc.



If searches are exhausted, document all sites  
searched. Revisit if homicide/major case of  
interest

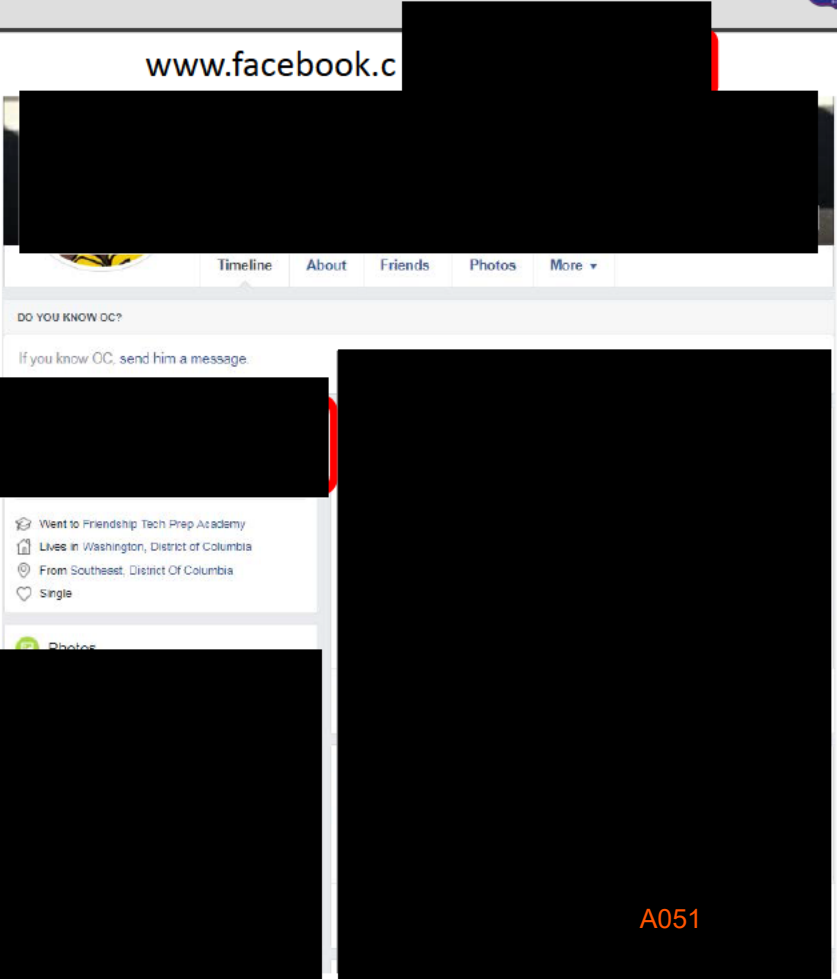
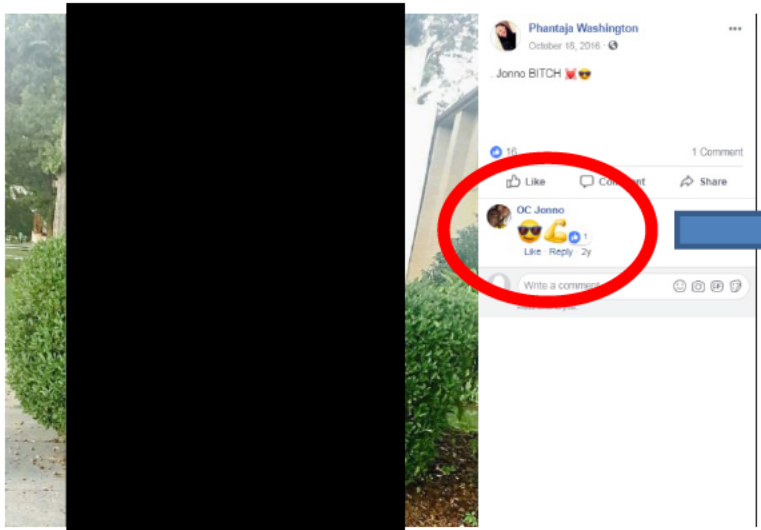
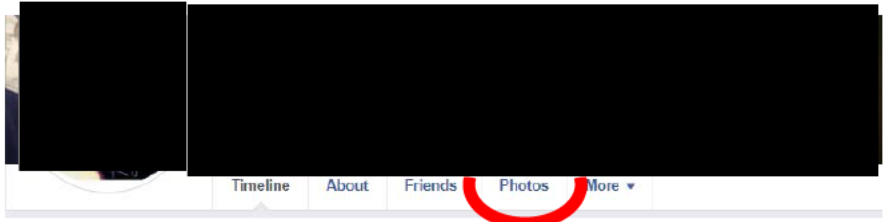
# SOCIAL MEDIA: RESOURCES



# FACEBOOK



- Exhausted searches on armed robbery arrestee, Daejon Ross. Found mother's Facebook account; however, no links to her son.
- Next, Daejon Ross ex-girlfriend/child in common: Phantaja Washington



A051



www.instagram.co

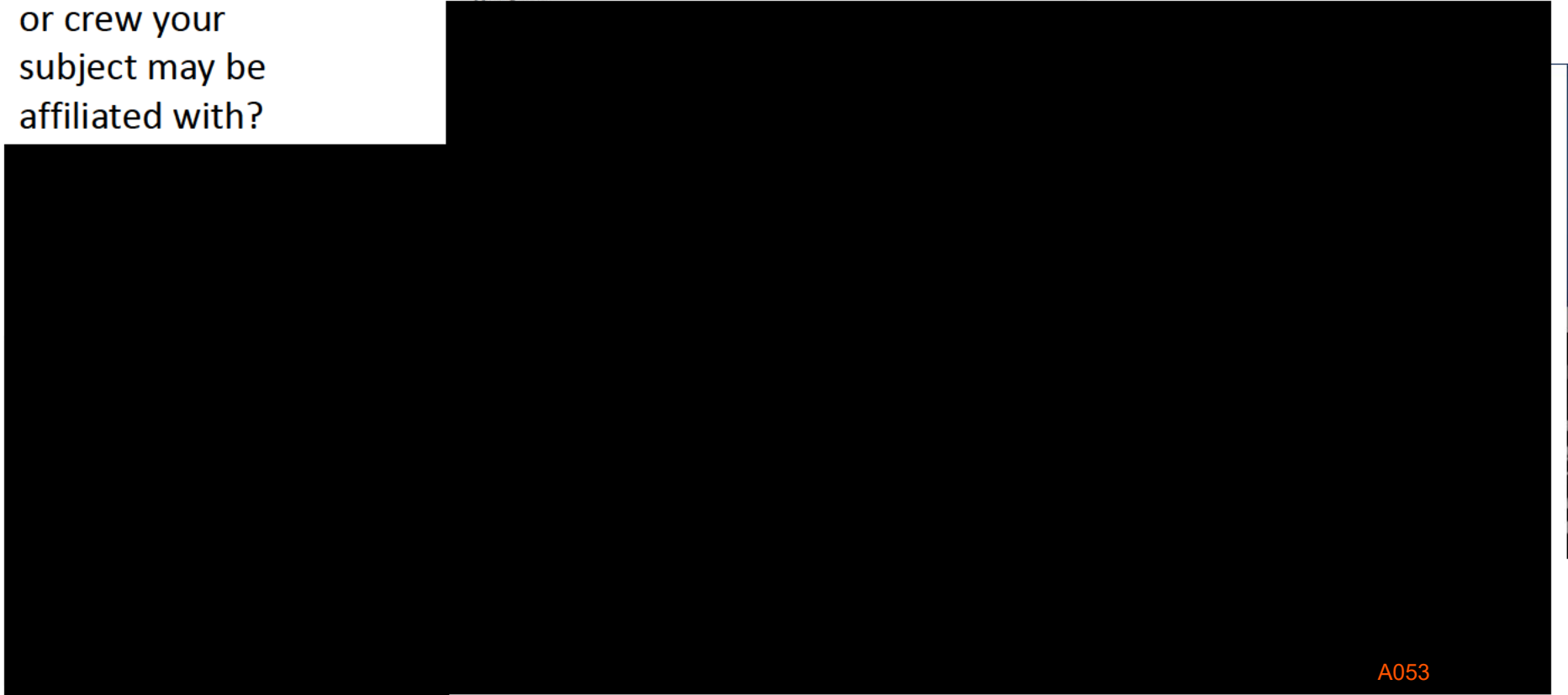


www.instagram.com



# INSTAGRAM

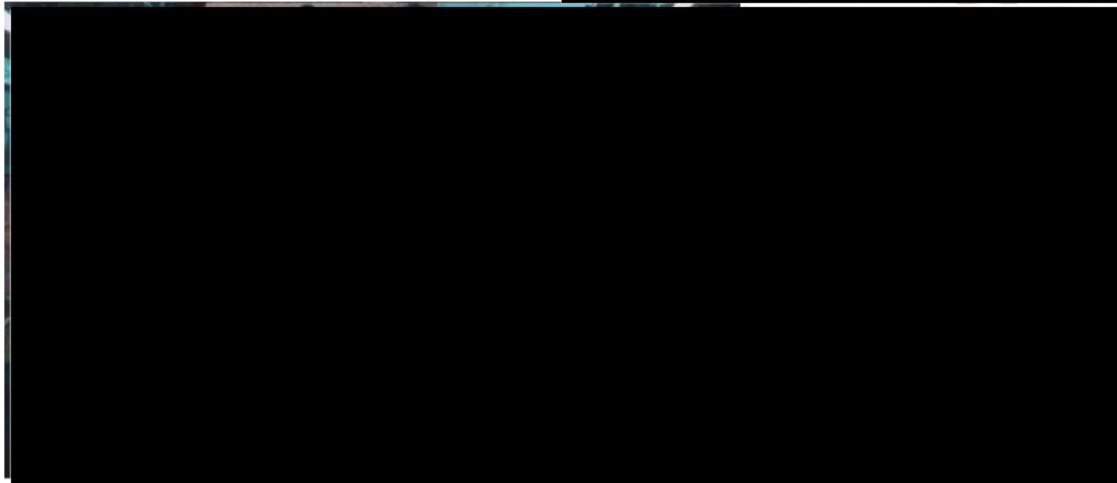
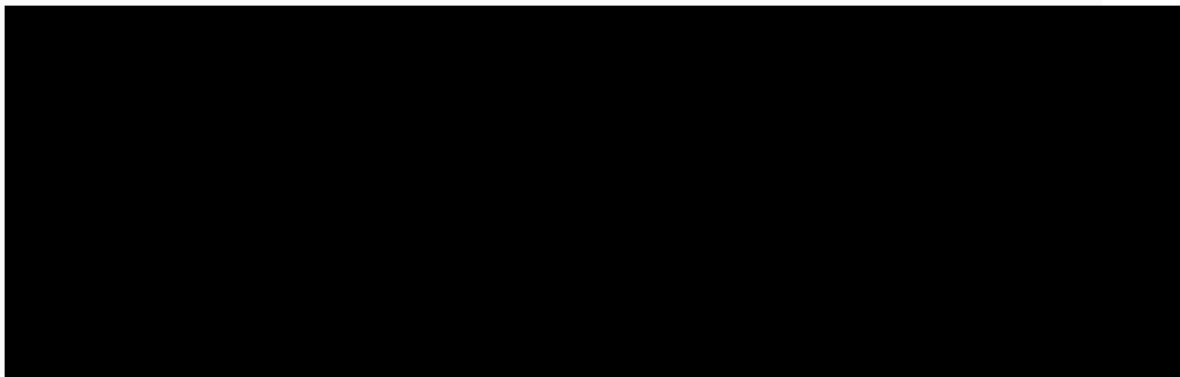
Is there a location  
or crew your  
subject may be  
affiliated with?



A053

# INSTAGRAM CONT'D.

While on this profile  
look for clues that may  
help you identify key  
words and help identify  
your subject



Based on the profile  
bio and photos it  
appears [redacted] and  
[redacted] may be  
keywords associated  
with subjects from  
Simple City

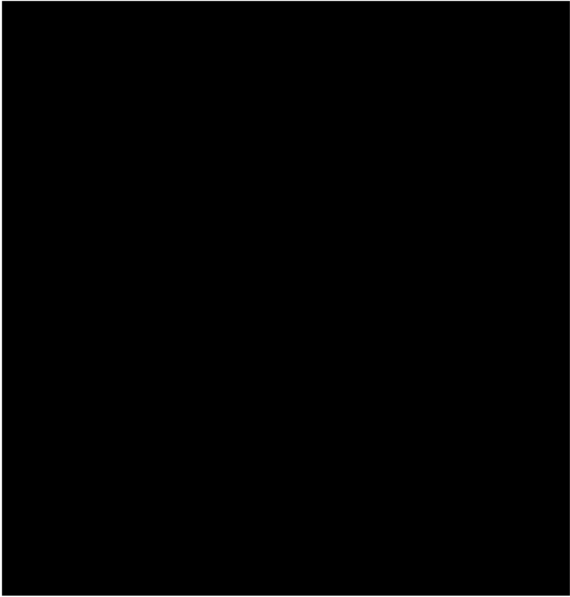
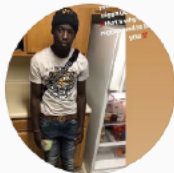
A054



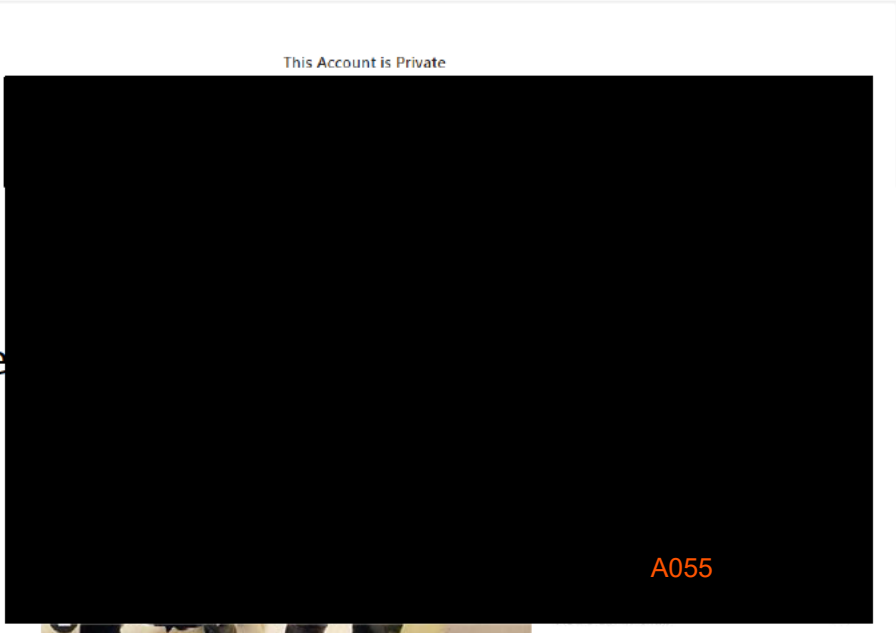
# INSTAGRAM CONT'D

Based on that information, try searching [REDACTED] and see what populates

[REDACTED] account is private, how can we combat it?

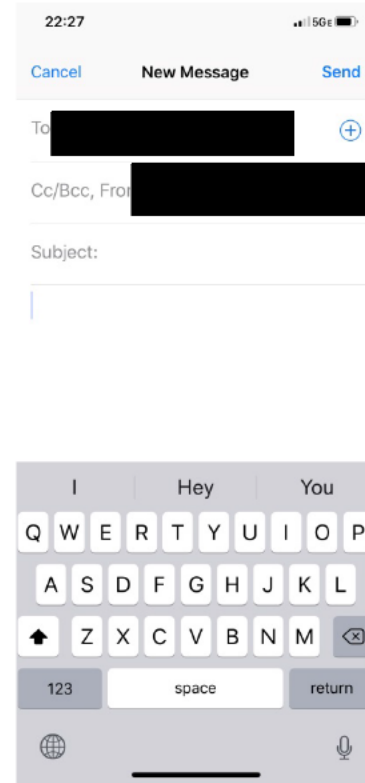
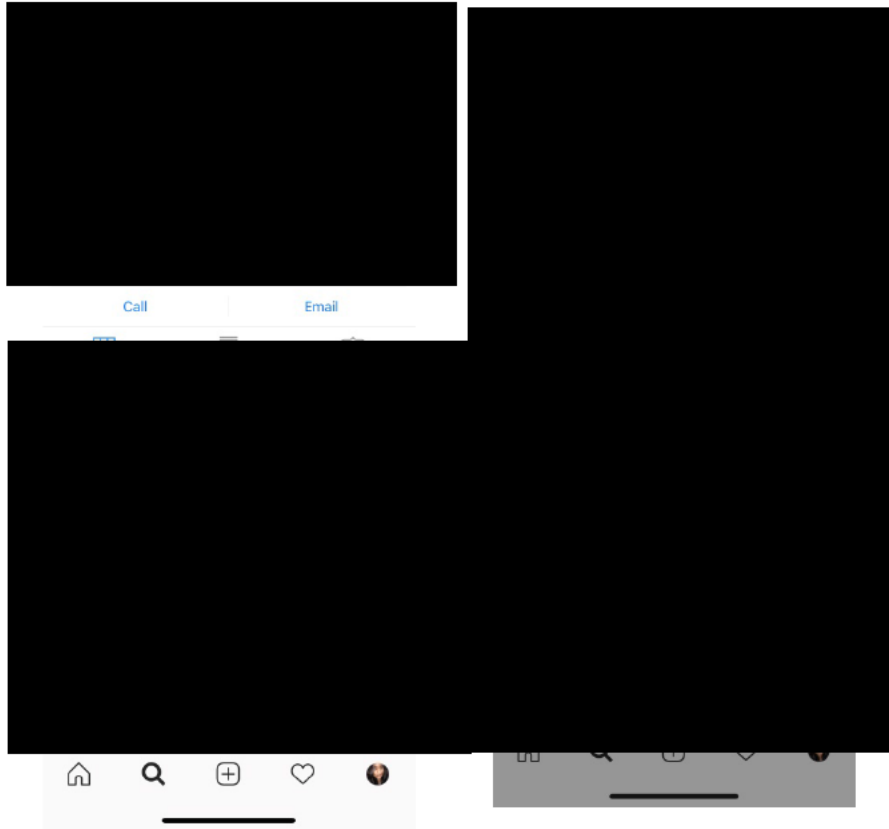


Check [REDACTED] page since its public and he appears to be affiliated with the same area



A055

# INSTAGRAM CONT'D



A056



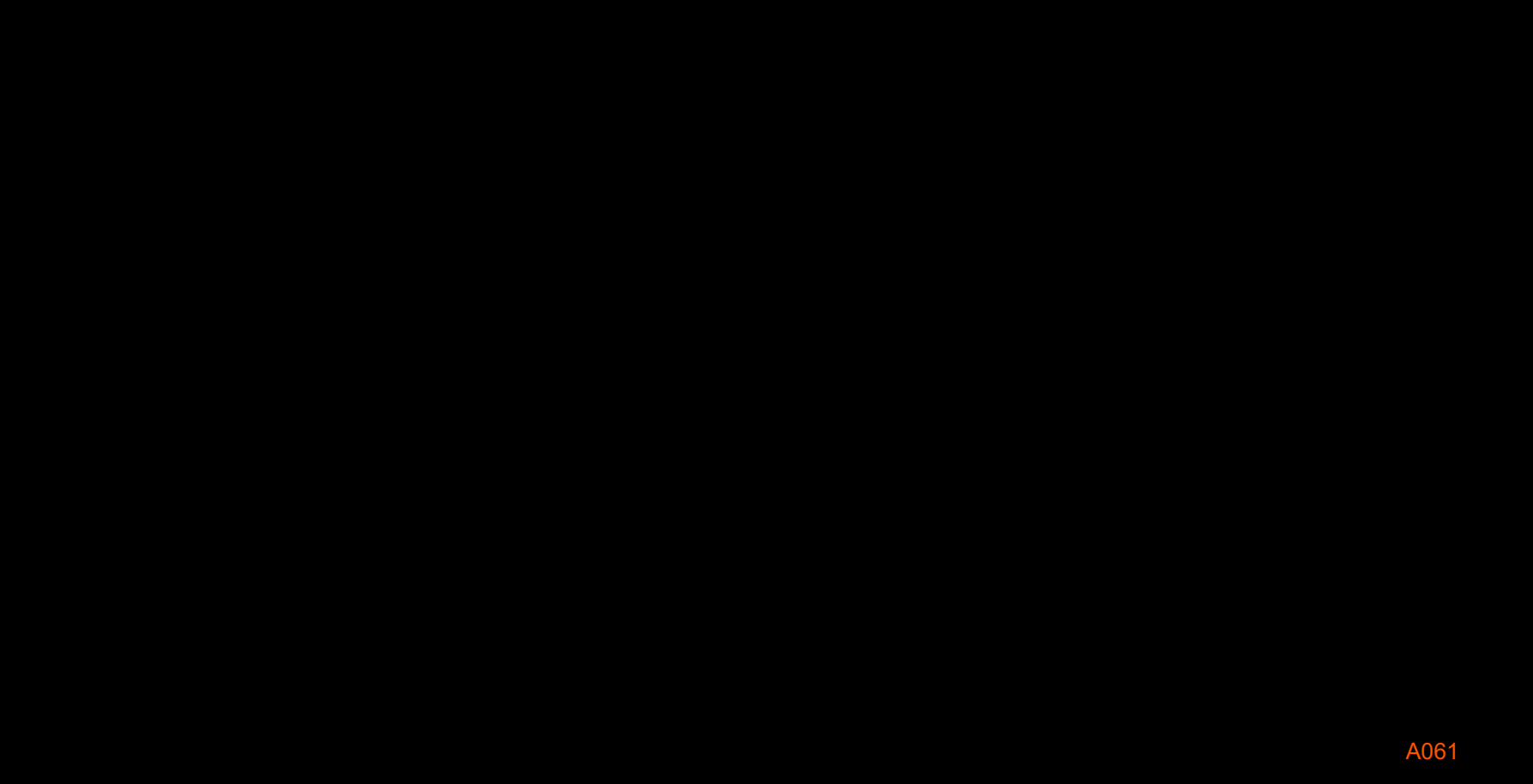
- Social Media drill downs on homicides and high profiles cases/individuals of interest
  - Quick turnaround time for requests
    - Around the clock requests/communication needed between shifts
  - Building out information on hashtags, possible retaliation/crew beefs, relatives/associates
  - Information sharing with Intel, NSID, Districts





# SOCIAL MEDIA: TARGETED SEARCHES – YOUTUBE/INSTAGRAM





# SOCIAL MEDIA: TARGETED SEARCHES - EXAMPLE

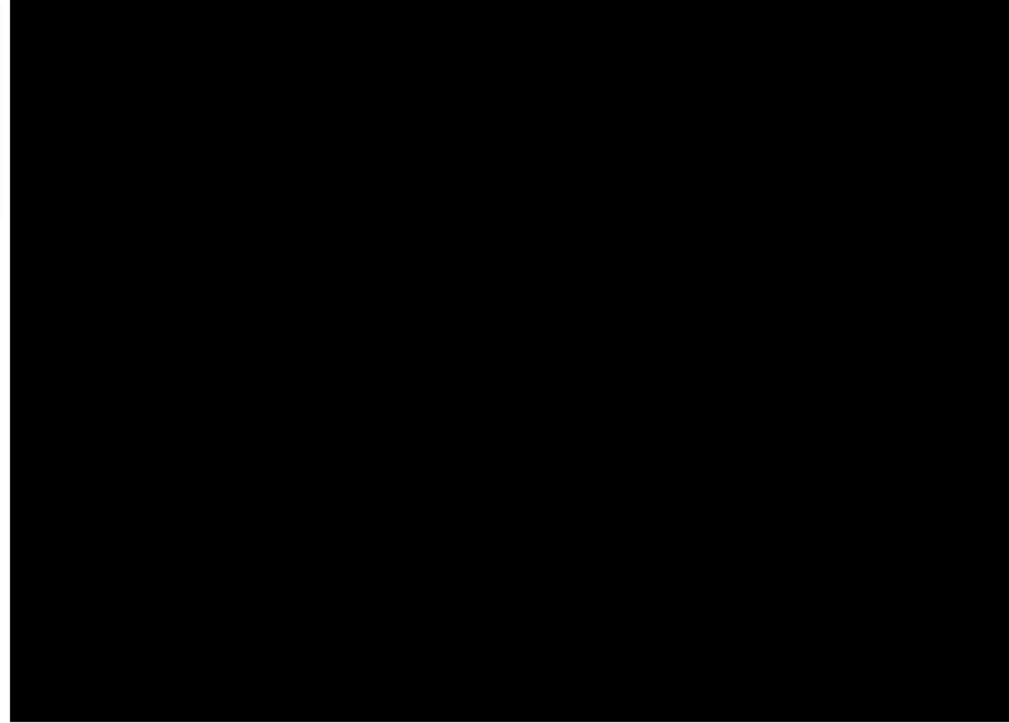
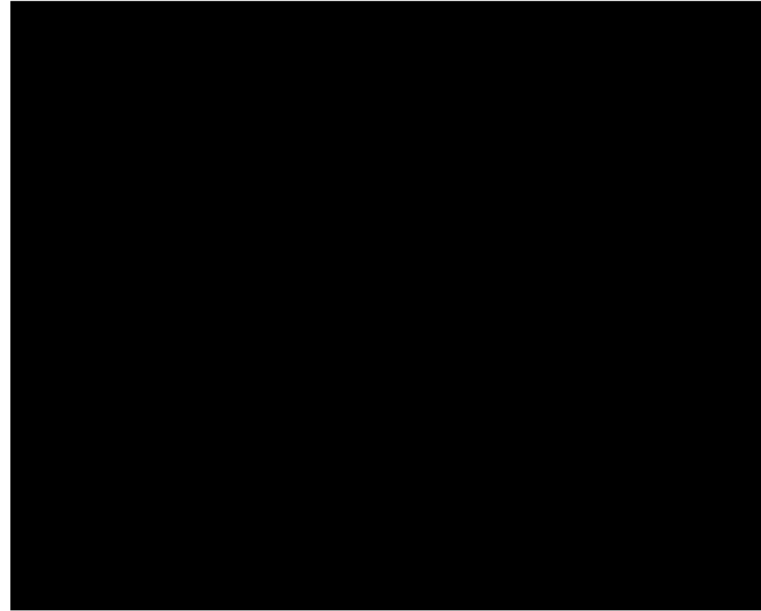
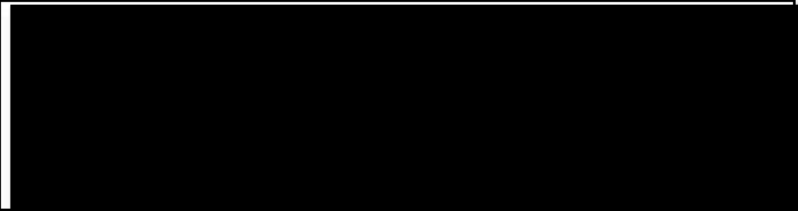


Post homicide follow-up of *validated* [REDACTED]

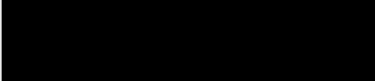
- Searched through Instagram accounts of known validated members
  - [REDACTED]
  - Posted 4 days after the homicide occurred







Who is this person?



# CHALLENGES: SEARCH RESTRICTIONS

The screenshot shows a website with a pink-to-blue gradient header. The logo 'STORIESDOWN' is in the top left, and navigation links 'HOMEPAGE', 'BLOG', 'REMOVE CONTENT', and 'CONTACT US' are in the top right. The main heading is 'Instagram Story Viewer & Downloader' in a cursive font. Below it is a sub-heading: 'Best Instagram story viewer! You can watch Instagram stories anonymously and quickly without the need to log in or having account.' A white box contains an advertisement for Google with the text 'Ads by Google' and two buttons: 'Stop seeing this ad' and 'Why this ad?'. At the bottom of the white box is a search bar with the placeholder 'Enter instagram username' and a 'Search' button. A dark grey navigation bar below the header contains 'Home' and 'Download Stories'. Below the main content area is a white box with the heading 'Start Download' and the text 'View PDF & Download PDF Converter Guru'. Below that is the heading 'Instagram Downloader' and a search bar with the placeholder 'Instagram URL'.

INSTADP

## Instdp search profile pictures

Search and download Instagram profile pictures or stories

INSTADP STORIES

Q Search username

A065

# CHALLENGES: SEARCH RESTRICTIONS INSTADP

INSTADP



## Instdp search profile pictures

Search and download Instagram profile pictures or stories

INSTADP STORIES



Search username

INSTADP



## Instdp search profile pictures

Search and download Instagram profile pictures or stories

INSTADP STORIES



yln.tay



yln.tay



yln.tayyyy



INSTADP

INSTADP

ze and download it

st



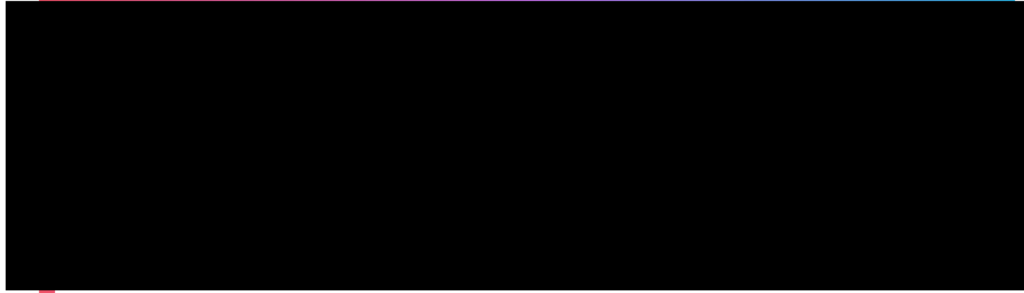
A066

# CHALLENGES: SEARCH RESTRICTIONS STORIESDOWN

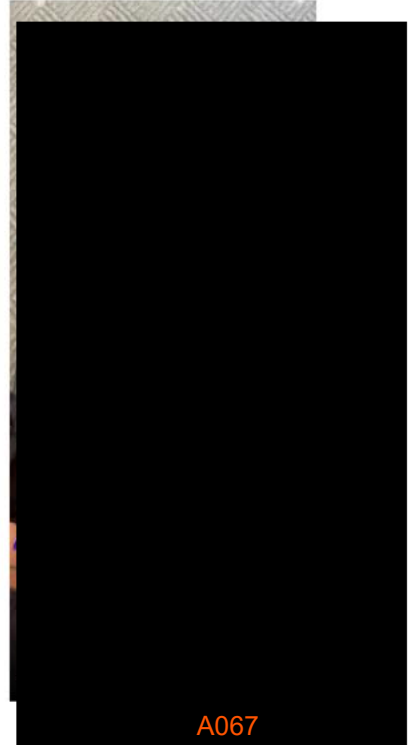
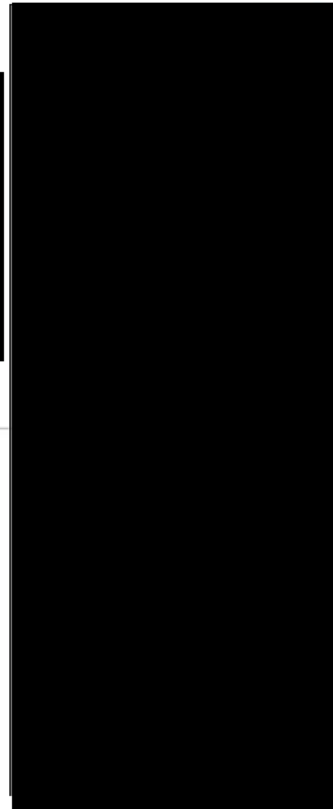


[HOMEPAGE](#) [BLOG](#) [REMOVE CONTENT](#) [CONTACT US](#)

*Stories*



*Posts*



A067

5 hours and 42 minutes ago

# CHALLENGES: SEARCH RESTRICTIONS W3TOYS



Start Download

View PDF & Download PDF Converter Guru

Inst.

Instagr

Instagram Downloader

[https://www.instagram.com/p/B\\_Av\\_YgH1ge/](https://www.instagram.com/p/B_Av_YgH1ge/)

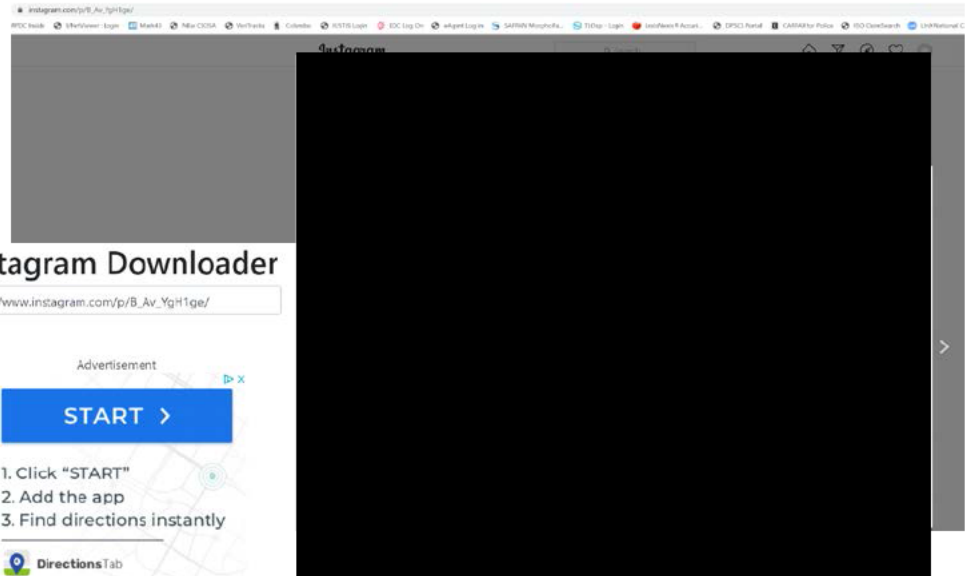
Advertisement

START >

1. Click "START"
2. Add the app
3. Find directions instantly

Directions Tab

Download



A068

# CHALLENGES: SEARCH RESTRICTIONS TWITTER DOWNLOAD

## Twitter Video Downloader

Download twitter videos & GIF from tweets

←

Ads by Google

Stop seeing this ad Why this ad? ↗

Paste Tweet URL Here:

Enter link/url and click Download

Download

# SOCIAL MEDIA: ADDITIONAL SEARCHES



- Using specialized sites to search hashtags, telephone numbers, usernames, email addresses, keywords, URLs
- Specialized site searches for Twitter, Instagram, etc.



peekyou

SPOKEO

pipl

Buzzsumo

Social Searcher

WebMii

#tagboard

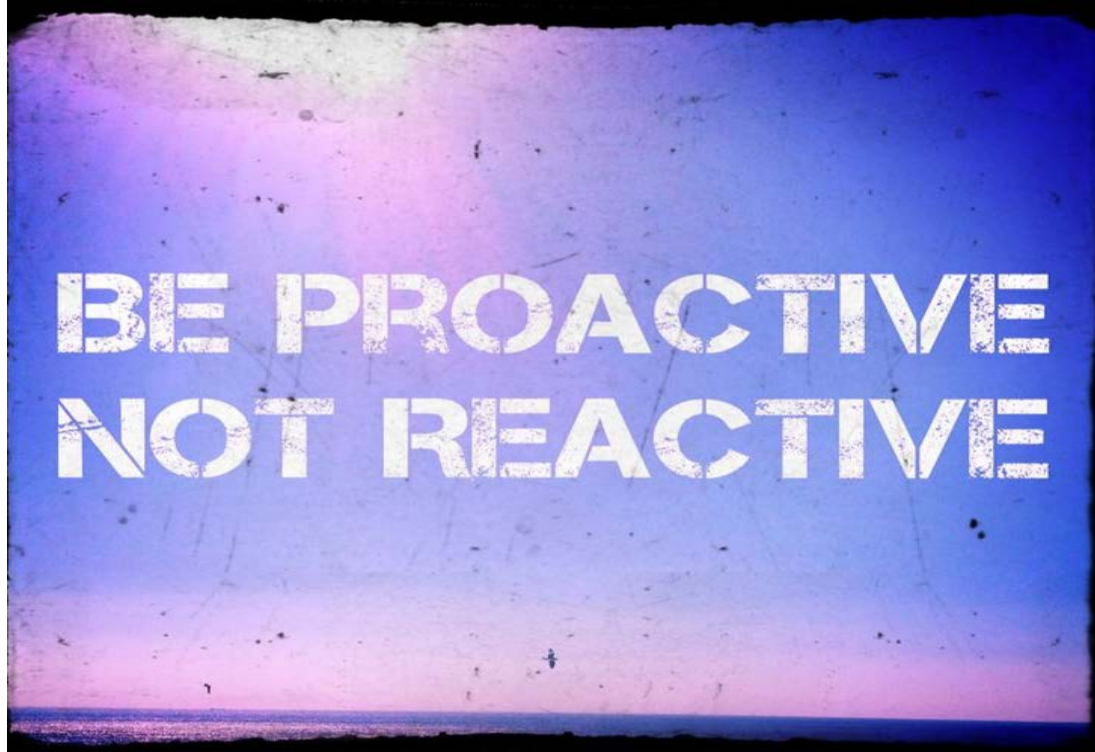
Lullar.com

SnapBird

WEBSTAGRAM



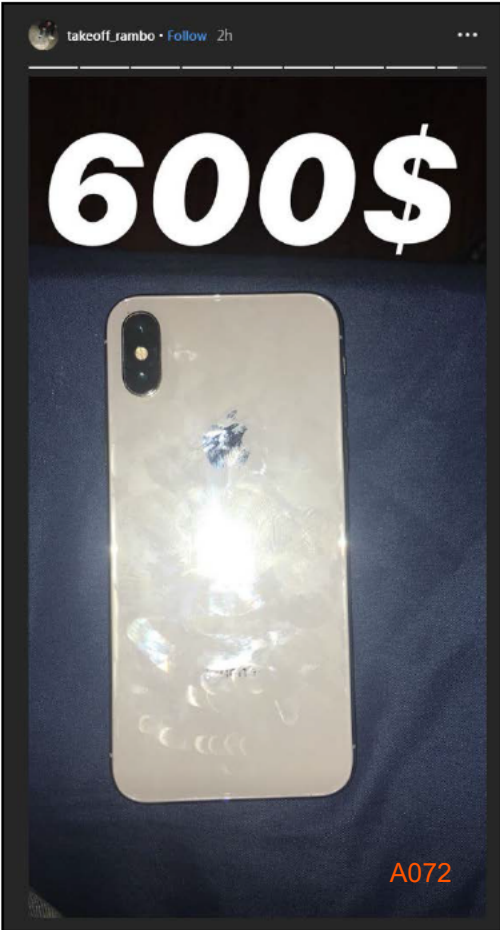
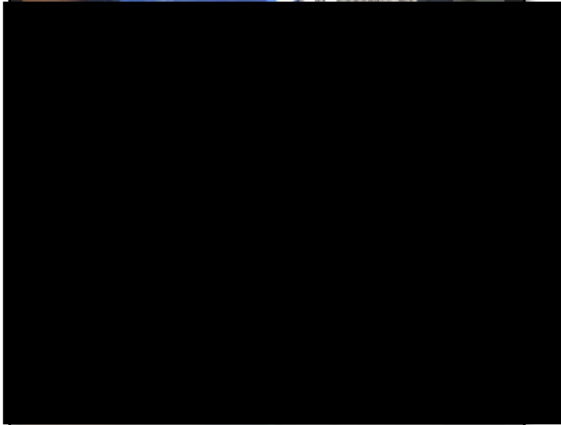
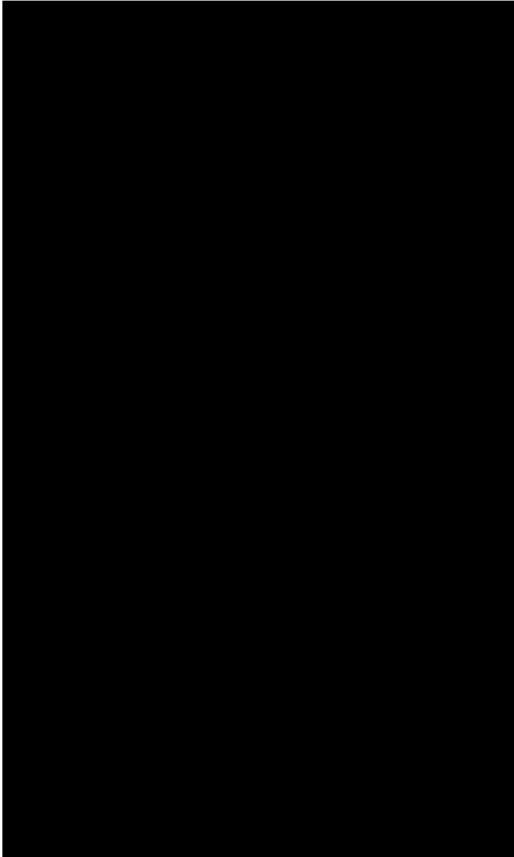
# WHAT'S NEXT?



Check-in on known recidivists and gang/crew members with a social media footprint

A071

# SOCIAL MEDIA: TARGETED SEARCHES – SUCCESS STORY

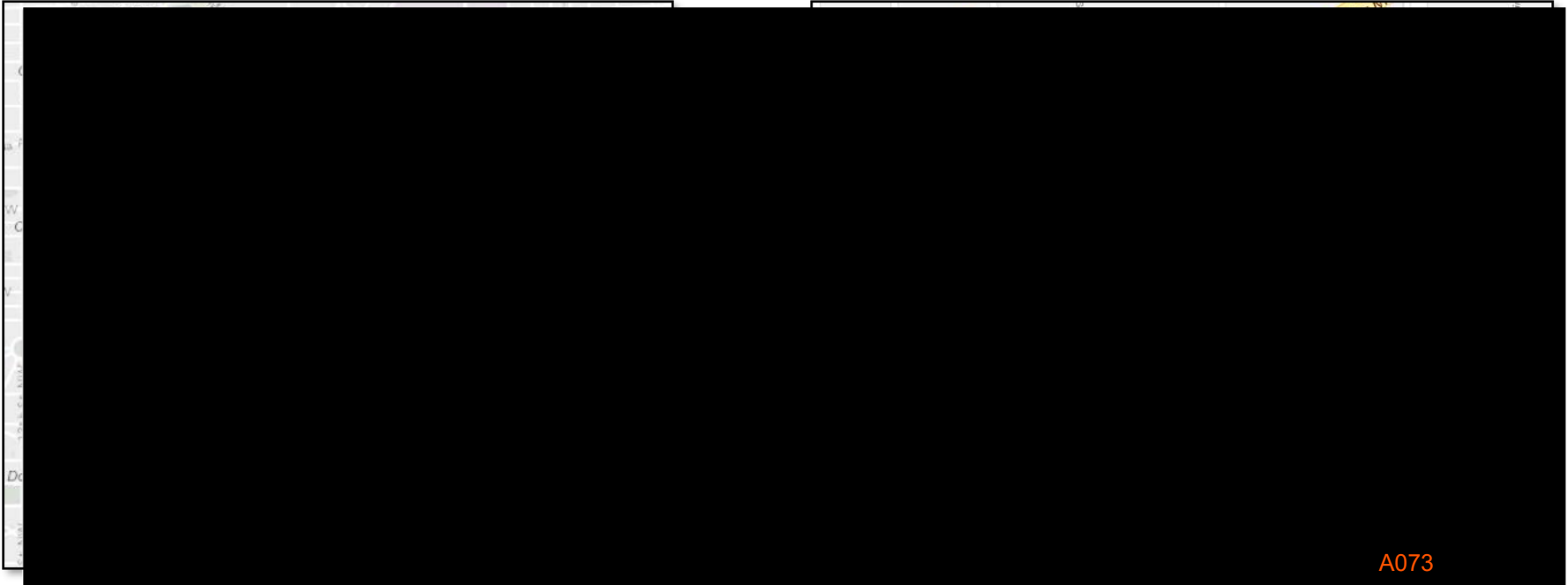


# SOCIAL MEDIA: TARGETED SEARCHES - EXAMPLE



01/04/19 0037 - 0234 hours - Robbery (Gun) [REDACTED]

- On the above listed date and time, the complainant and two others were approached from behind and held at gunpoint by three suspects who instructed them to lie face down then took several items including an **iPhoneX** described in Cobalt as **Aluminum/Silver**. The look out in this incident was for **3 B/M, late teens to mid-twenties**.





# SOCIAL MEDIA: TARGETED SEARCHES - EXAMPLE

Complainant, owner of the iPhone X stolen in the 01/04/19 incident appears to be a lawyer. The phone has a folder of apps dedicate to "Law Stuffs". [REDACTED]

Attorney Licensee [REDACTED]

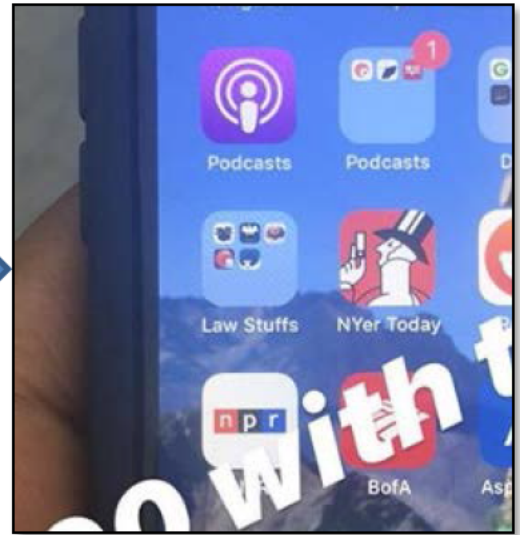
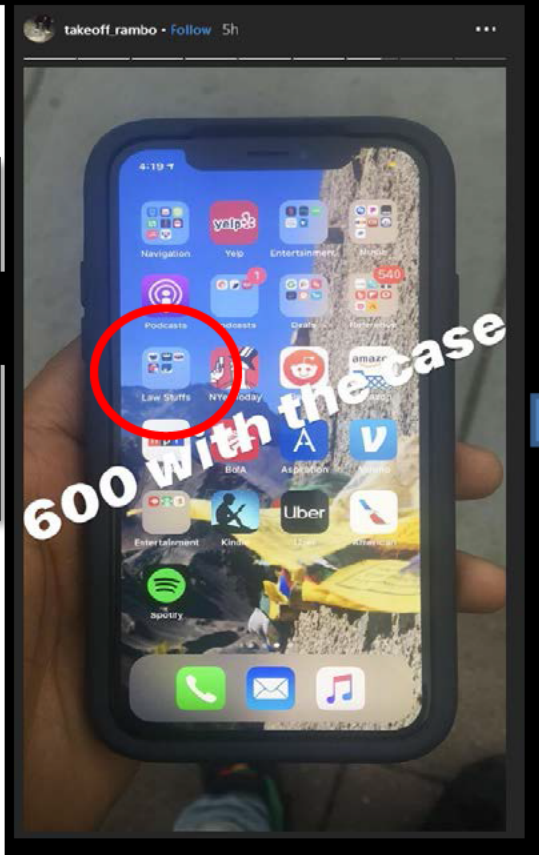
License Status: Active

[REDACTED]

County: Non-California County

[REDACTED]

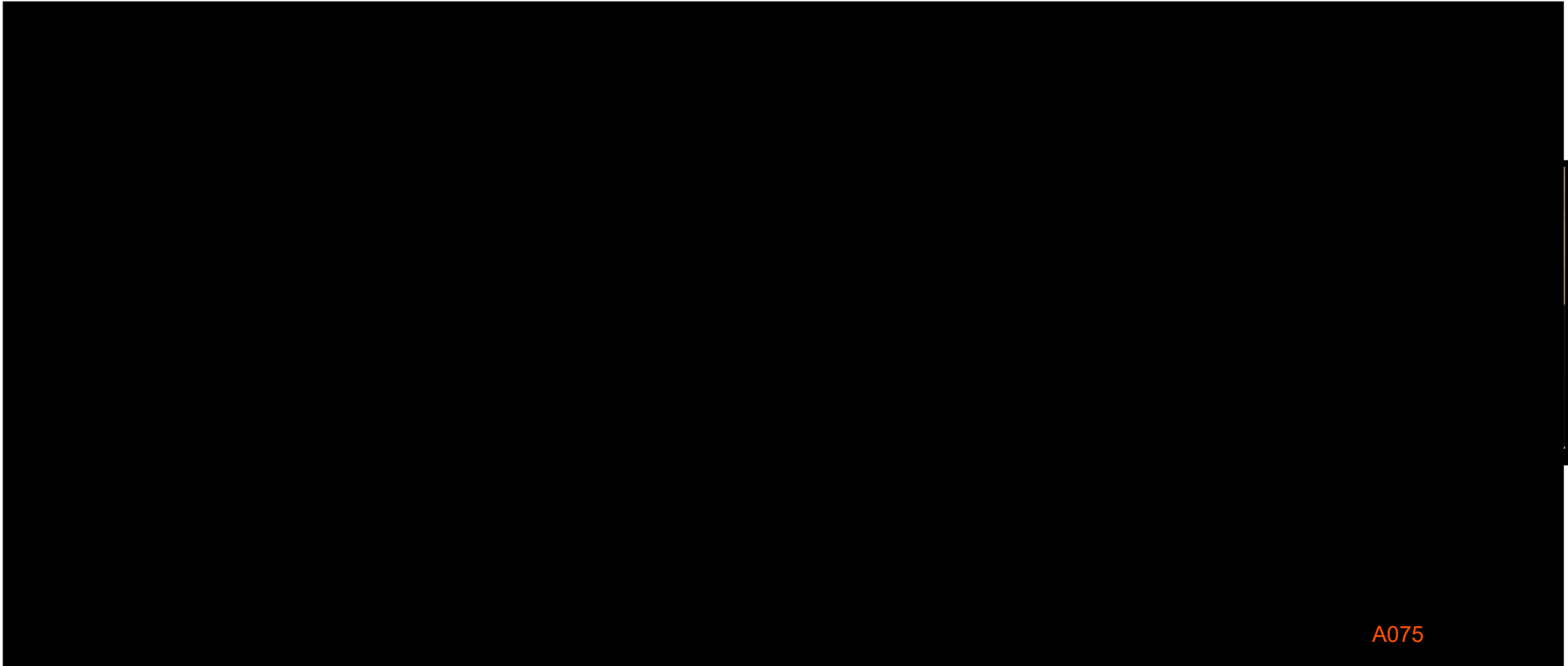
Law School: UC Berkeley SOL Boalt Hall; Berkeley CA





# SOCIAL MEDIA: TARGETED SEARCHES - EXAMPLE

Social media was queried for complainant. The following Facebook account was located which matches the complainant based on age and location. Photos show the complainant may have recently visited Asia, possibly China. The background of the phone shown in Logan's Instagram story includes what appear to be Tibetan prayer flags.





- Stopped at the [REDACTED] probable cause for arrest for being in possession and attempting to sell complainant's phone
- **Placed under arrest for RSP, CPWL, PWID Marijuana**
- Recovered in this incident was a Smith & Wesson 9MM Handgun, 1.8 ounces of marijuana, 2 cell phones