

Ray Yepes

Security Professional

Biography

Ray Yepes has over 21 years of experience as a security professional and criminal investigations examiner. As a security professional, Yepes has consulted, designed, maintained, and/or implemented security perimeters, network security architectures, and security policies for small, midsize, and large companies including Fortune 500, 200, 100, and 50 companies. As a criminal investigations examiner, Yepes has assisted and advised local and federal government agencies in national security matters and high profile criminal investigations. His first digital forensic investigation dates back to 1995 while assisting the FBI in a child pornography case. Since this time, Yepes has conducted 1,000+ digital forensic investigations, including network forensics, mobile forensics, vehicle forensics, computer forensics, and firewall appliance forensics in support of investigations ranging from complex white-collar schemes, to murder, and economic espionage. Yepes has served as board member, Treasurer, and Vice President for the Forensic Expert Witness Association (Houston Chapter).

Summary of Qualifications

- 21+ years of experience in computer crime investigations
- Expert Witness Testimony (served on civil/criminal matters in both federal and local courts)
- Licensed private investigator since 2006 (Texas – Licensure Number: 202717)
- Areas of training include advanced interviewing, rapport building, interrogation, persuasion, detecting deception, and investigative discourse analysis
- Experience in the design, analysis, development, and testing of information security systems solutions, including penetration testing
- Bilingual - can write and speak fluently in both English and Spanish (Expert Witness Testimony given in both languages)
- Extensive travel experience conducting investigations in the U.S. and overseas
- Diplomate and Fellow member of the American Board of Forensic Examiners
- Diplomate member of the American Board for Certification in Homeland Security
- Elected ISSA (Information Systems Security Association) Senior Member in recognition of exceptional service to the security community

Education

M.S., Criminal Justice
Sam Houston State University

M.S., Digital Forensics
Sam Houston State University
(Partial completion, helped create program and train professors)

B.S., Computer Science
Sam Houston State University

Associate of Science
Lone Star College

Associate of Arts
Lone Star College

Work Experience

Jan 2018 – present: Director of Forensics and Incident Response, CyberDefenses, Inc.

In January of 2018, Yepes joined CyberDefenses, Inc. to start its Digital Forensic and Incident Response division. CyberDefenses, Inc. is uniquely positioned to provide the highest possible level of cyber security, management, and technology solutions to its clients. Founded in 2001 by a team of returning military, cyber security veterans, CyberDefenses staff is comprised of battle tested cyber security professionals from the Big 5 consulting firms, Fortune 500 companies, and the US Military.

Feb 2015 – Dec 2017: Founder and Partner, ATX Forensics LLC.

In February of 2015, ATX Forensics began operations with the goal to create a work environment that is so enriching that employees and customers will never want to work with another company again. The company's guiding principles are simple, straightforward, and tested from over 50 years of combined forensics experience. As a company, they focus on doing

work they can take pride in. Their strength to operate today is a combination of experience, perspectives, and a philosophy based on principles and caring.

ATX Forensics LLC is a full-service and licensed cyber security company focusing on:

- Digital Forensics and Incident Response
- Electronic Discovery
- Threat Intelligence
- Expert Testimony
- Accreditation and Training (to ensure compliance with ISO 17025)

In December 31st, 2016, Yepes sold all his ownership interest to existing members and continues working as a senior consultant.

Mar 2012 – Jan 2015: Security Director, Waste Management Inc.

In March 2012, Yepes was promoted to Security Director, reporting directly to the CSO (Chief Security Officer) of WM. As Security Director, Yepes still oversaw the laboratory's functions but also carried duties that included:

- Assisting with company-wide information security policies and guidelines and for assessing security-related compliance with applicable requirements such as SOX, HIPAA, GLB, PCI, and Federal and State privacy laws.
- Assessment of security-related compliance and federal/state privacy laws
- Member of WM's Protection of Intellectual Property Team
- Member of the company's executive level compliance review team.
- Assisted in the design, implementation, and management of company's formal security awareness training program
- Assisted in the implementation of the company's encryption program rollout
- Contributed to the design/implementation of an integrated data and risk analysis tool
- Contributed to drive the convergence of the company's physical and information security functions by applying information technology and innovation to physical controls and monitoring systems
- Assisted in the implementation of the DriveCam program by implementing an API (application programming interface) to automate the preservation and requests of video events

Reason for leaving: Yepes volunteered for an early retirement package in August 22nd, 2014 to start ATX Forensics LLC.

Jan 2009 – Mar 2012: Lab Manager, Waste Management Inc.

In early 2009, a year after he was hired, Yepes was promoted to Lab Manager, reporting directly to the Security Director. Immediately after replacing the lab manager, Yepes and his team revisited and updated all existing procedures. Together, they streamlined all processes (from intake to the handling and processing of evidence) to meet ASCLD standards.

Two months after working in this new position, the WM Forensic Lab submitted the ASCLD Legacy Accreditation application. Eleven months later (and after only one inspection), the accreditation was awarded in Feb 2010. This was the second ASCLD accreditation obtained under the supervision of Yepes. The WM organization was the 6th private laboratory to obtain this prestigious accreditation.

By updating the existing procedures and streamlining all processes, the laboratory was able to increase efficiency while reducing overhead. As a result, the lab personnel were reduced. As expected, the laboratory was able to handle the additional workload with fewer overheads. In 2009 the lab handled 1,244 cases as compared to 278 in 2008. The cost savings to the organization for the 2009 calendar year was \$14,432,298 as compared to \$6,886,686 in 2008. In 2009, the lab imaged 1,617 electronic devices (including cell phones, PDAs and hard drives), and digitally preserved 2,644 email accounts as well as 2,274 network shares.

During this time as lab manager, Yepes was responsible for the operation and management of the computer forensic laboratory, providing computer forensics and eDiscovery services for various departments of Waste Management including but not limited to: Corporate Security, Human Resources, Ethics Compliance, Safety, Procurement, IT, and the Legal Department. These included (but were not limited to):

- Evidence collection, preservation and processing
- Organization and management of all incoming media
- Case tracking and management
- Proper documentation of work
- Calculating cost savings metrics

By 2012, the lab handled 1,959 cases without additional personnel or increased overhead and the cost savings (or cost avoidance) reached a staggering \$20,362,928.

Jan 2008 – Jan 2009: Senior Forensic Analyst, Waste Management Inc.

Yepes reported directly to Lab Manager and personally handled 86% of all investigation requests received by the lab. These investigations included: bribery, conflict of interest,

network/computer related crimes, extortion, FCPA (Foreign Corrupt Practices Act), fraud/embezzlement, identity theft, labor actions, personnel matters, workers compensation, crimes against company, and crimes against persons.

Jan 2006 – Jan 2008. Vice-President of Professional Services & Senior Forensic Examiner, CyberEvidence, Inc.

Yepes managed and supervised a small group (1 lab manager and 5 analysts) of certified forensic examiners in their daily forensic investigations, including the work product of all investigations. Yepes was also responsible for the operations and management of the computer forensic laboratory, including but not limited to:

- Case tracking
- Assignments and continuity for forensic examiners
- Ensuring the validation, accuracy and quality of investigation reports
- Evidence production for use by attorneys, clients, and courts
- Analysis and implementation of industry trends/methodologies for incorporating validated best forensic techniques into practice

As a Senior Forensic Examiner, Yepes handled all high profile federal cases and local government related cases. Served as Expert Witness in civil matters at both the federal and local level. Performed 69 high profile digital investigations (including 13 Unix/MAC based cases) in 2006 and 74 high profile digital investigations (including 9 Unix/MAC based cases) in 2007.

Reason for leaving: company did not offer sufficient employee benefits.

Jan 1995 – April 2005. Security Analyst, TheCyberCop LLC.

Performed criminal investigations for the federal government, large universities, and selective companies from the private sector. Responsibilities included:

- Development, implementation, and maintenance of network and internet security policies
- Implementation of major brand firewall appliances and various authentication technologies
- Security audits and assessments: Analyzed vulnerabilities that may cause inappropriate or accidental access, destruction, or disclosure of sensitive information
- Penetration testing (within company parameters)
- Cryptanalyst for commercial and research purposes

- Researcher to noncommercial reverse engineering projects

Yepes installed and oversaw the installation of protection systems and devices to ensure that sensitive information, equipment, and other material were not compromised, sabotaged, stolen, misused, or subjected to terrorist, malicious mischief, or other acts of willful interference. Inspected facilities where sensitive and classified material was located, then determined levels of control for the material within the facility (i.e., who is to use it, and how it should be protected).

Reason for leaving: Yepes received a conditional offer of employment as Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and resigned to attend the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

RAY YEPES

Certifications

Guidance Software certifications:

- Encase Certified Examiner (EnCE)

The International Society of Forensic Computer Examiners certifications:

- Certified Computer Examiner (CCE)

AccessData certifications:

- AccessData Certified Examiner (ACE)

High Tech Crime Network:

- Certified Computer Crime Investigator (CCCI)

ACFEI (The American College of Forensic Examiners) certifications:

- CHS-5 (Certified in Homeland Security Level 5)
- Sensitive Security Information, Certified (SSI)

NSA (National Security Agency) certifications:

- IAM (INFOSEC Assessment Methodology)
- IEM (INFOSEC Evaluation Methodology)

John E. Reid and Associates, Inc. certifications:

- Certification in the Reid Technique

International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium, Inc. certifications:

- Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)

Microsoft certifications (prior to 1998 - NT 4.0):

- Microsoft Certified System Engineer (MCSE)
- Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)
- Microsoft Certified Database Administrator (MCDBA)
- Microsoft Certified Solution Developer (MCSD)
- Microsoft Certified Application Developer (MCAD)
- Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)

SonicWall certifications:

- Certified SonicWall Security Administrator
- Certified SonicWall Security Engineer

Cisco certifications:

- Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP)
- Cisco Certified Security Professional: Cisco Security Specialist 1 (CCSP)

Novell certifications (prior to 1998 - Novell 4.0):

- Certified Novell Administrator (CNA)
- Certified Novell Engineer (CNE)
- Certified Novell Instructor (CNI)

CompTIA certifications:

- CompTIA A+
- CompTIA Linux +
- CompTIA Security +
- CompTIA Network +

Oracle certifications:

- Oracle8i Certified Professional

Sun Microsystems certifications:

- Sun Certified System Administrator for the Solaris 8 Operating Environment

Solomon certifications:

- Certified Solomon IV SQL System Administrator

International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium, Inc. certifications:

- Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)

Forensic Expert Witness Association

- Certified Forensic Litigation Consultant (CFLC)

Expert Witness Testimony, Depositions, and Affidavits

(Complete listing available upon request)

- Peter A. Davidson, Receiver for Efficient Services Escrow Group vs. First Foundation Bank, Bentson, Vuona and Westersten, LLP, and DOES 1-50 inclusive. Superior Court of the State of California, County of Orange. C.A.NO. 30-2013-00691661-CU-MC-CJC.
- Waste Management of Washington Inc., v. Dean Kattler. United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas Houston Division. C.A.NO. 4:12-cv-03454.
- Anadarko Petroleum Corporation v. Billy Don Davis and GeoSouthern Energy Corp. Case No. H-06-2849.
- Oilfield Audit Services Inc., v. Texas Workforce Commission and Page W. Nelson. Cause No. 06CV1202.
- Nucor Corporation vs. John Bell and Severcorr, LLC United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Charleston Division Case No. 2:06-cv-02972-DCN.
- US Dept. of Justice vs. Waste Management of Rhode Island Inc. United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island, RI Case # 201 OR00357-6.
- Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Joint Solid Waste Mgmt. Dist. v. American Landfill, Inc. et al., Case No. 5:10-cv-00119.
- Baker Hughes Incorporated vs. Pathfinder Energy Services, Inc. Pralay Kumar Das, Joe Marzouk, Cornelius Huiszoon and Tsili Wang. C.A.No. 04-cv-02623.
- Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. v. John Timothy Sharpe and CitiGroup Global Markets, Inc., f/k/a Smith Barney National Association of Securities Dealers - No. 04-04114.
- E. C. Waste, Inc., El Coqui Landfill, Inc., Waste Management of Puerto Rico vs. Mayra Maldonado Torres. Case No. KPE08-0126 (904).
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, Maurice Gary v. Waste Management, Inc., Diane Hicks and Shane Sacobie. MCAD Docket Nos.: 08SEM00211, 08SEM01384, 08SEM00765. EEOC Docket No.: 16C-2008-01641.

- Crown Cork & Seal USA, INC. vs. Jerry Gilbert, Leslie Agnew and Rexam Beverage Can Company. Case No. 9:06-CV-54.
- International Environmental Management v. Kathryn Wilburn. In the superior court of Forsyth County, State of Georgia, Civil Action File No. 2011cv1801.
- International Environmental Management v. Bill Edmonds. In the superior court of Forsyth County, State of Georgia, Civil Action File No. 2011cv204798.
- United States Environmental Protection Agency vs. Waste Management of Hawaii, Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill, EPA Docket No. CWA 308-9-11-003.
- Waste Management, Inc. et al v. James W. Doherty, in the 234th Judicial District Court, Harris County, Texas. Case No. 2011-11447.
- County of Santa Clara v. Waste Management, Inc., et al. Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara. Case No. 111CV209755.
- Dresser Rand v. Michael T Cunningham. CA H-07-2020.
- Steven Powell, vs. Waste Management of California, Inc., etc., et al. Orange County – Superior Court, Santa Ana, CA. Case No. 30201100514230. CT Log Number 519336467.
- Waste Management of South Texas DBA Waste Management vs. Lisa A. Smith. In the District Court of Travis County, Texas. 201st Judicial District. No. D-1-GN-12-000389.
- Renec Ulysse, et al. v. Waste Management, Inc. of Florida, FLSD Docket 06222011, Case No: 9:11-cv-80723-KLR.
- Waste Management of Connecticut, Inc. v. IPT, LLC d/b/a FM Facility Maintenance, ADP TotalSource Group, Inc., James A. Cannavino, A.J. Wasserstein and Kenneth Savino.
- Superior Court J.D. of Hartford at Hartford. Cause No. X04-HHD-CV-10-6020190-S (Complex Litigation).
- A-1 Balers & Compactors, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company vs. Waste Management, Inc. of Florida, a Florida corporation; Osniel Sanchez, an individual, and IES Sales and Service, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company. Circuit Court of the 11th Judicial Circuit in and for Miami-Dade County, Florida. Case No. 11-11039CA-80.

- Health Facility Consultants, Inc. vs. North Cypress Medical Center Operating Company, GP LLC., et al. Cause No. 2005-51175.
- USA Waste Management Resources, LLC v. Artyom Nahapetyan. District Court of Harris County, Texas. 133 Judicial District. Cause No. 13-26794.
- Victor Miranda vs. Waste Management of Florida and Ronald D. Oliver. In the Circuit Court of the 15th Judicial Circuit in and for Palm Beach County, Florida. Case No. 50212CA013432.
- Quinn Group, Inc. vs. Shepherd Management Services, Waste Management of California, et al. JAMS, CA. Case No. (Arbitration) 1220044838.
- Aaron Derusse vs. Alejandro Salazar, Jr., and Waste Management of Texas, Inc. In the District Court 55th Judicial District of Harris County, Texas. Cause No: 2012-01500.
- James E. Bohl vs. Waste Management of Indiana, LLC. United States District Court Northern District of Indiana Hammind Division. Cause No. 2 13CV 428-JVB-PRC.
- Waste Management National Services, Inc. and Waste Management Corporate Services, Inc. v. Greg H. Weiss. In the District Court of Harris County, Texas. 269th Judicial District. Cause No. 2014-56650.
- Don Adams v. Waste Management Inc. of Florida, In the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit in and for Sarasota County, Florida. Case No.: 14-CA-2161.
- AVW of West Virginia, Inc. dba Apple Valley Waste v. Waste Management of West Virginia, Inc. Public Service Commission of West Virginia Charleston, West Virginia. Case No. 14-0673-MC-FC.
- U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration v. Waste Management, Inc. FAA Case No. 2012SO700212.
- Bobby E. Wooten and Marjorie Wooten v. Waste Management of Washington Inc. Superior Court of Washington for King County. Case No. 10-2-36106-5 SEA.
- Margaret Reveau Whitmore vs. Waste Management of Utah, Inc. In the Third Judicial District Court Salt Lake County, State of Utah. Civil No. 130907266.
- William Sharp vs. Waste Management of Ohio, Inc. United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio Western Division Dayton. Case No. 3:12-cv-421.
- Danny King v. Citizens Disability LLC. United States District Court for the District of New Mexico. Civil Action No. 1:17-cv-00427-GBW-WPL.

Memberships and Affiliations

- Forensic Expert Witness Association (FEWA)
- American College of Forensic Examiners International (ACFEI)
- ASIS International (ASIS)
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE)
- High Tech Crime Network (HTCN)
- High Technology Crime Investigation Association (HTCIA)
- The International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS)
- InfraGard
- Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA)
- Information Systems Security Association (ISSA)
- John E. Reid and Associates
- IEEE Computer Society
- Association of Computing Machinery (ACM)
- Internet Society (ISOC)
- International Information Systems Forensics Association (IISFA)
- The American Society of Digital Forensics & eDiscovery (ASDFED)
- The Corporate E-Discovery Forum (CEDF)

Publications

- “Profiling in a Digital World” by Ray Yepes. Published by the ISSA Journal in 2015 July issue
- “Do’s and Don’ts of Expert Witness Testimony when Dealing with Computer Forensic Investigations in the Courtroom” by Ray Yepes. Published by the FEWA Journal in First Quarter of 2015 issue.
- “Case 99 – Forensic Case Study” Determining If Files Are Copied to USB Devices Based on Last Accessed Dates by Ray Yepes and Santiago Ayala. Published by the ISSA Journal in 2011 June issue.
- “Forensic Tech Tip” by Ray Yepes, winter 2009 issue published by High Tech Crime Investigation Association (HTCIA)

- “USB Anti forensics” Autumn 2008 issue published by 2600 Magazine
- “How to Become an FBI Special Agent” by Ray Yepes published in 2007
- “PDF Forensics: Uncovering MYD Files”. Forensic analyst Ray Yepes discovers a procedure for uncovering and analyzing recently accessed PDF documents. Published by the ISSA Journal in the 2008 April issue.
- Yepes, Ray. “Computeronment: Computers and the Environment”. This journal provides readers with a greater understanding of the important role of computers in the environment. Published in 1994 by Convergence Magazine in Canada.

Training and Technical Proficiency

- Digital Forensics
- Fraud Examinations
- Cryptanalysis
- Investigative Analysis
- Advanced researching techniques
- Reverse Engineering
- Social Engineering
- Forensic Psychology
- Forensic Science (Fingerprints, DNA, etc.)
- Forensic Science in Document Examination
- Bio-terrorism and disaster risk management
- Radiological preparedness
- International and Domestic Terrorism
- Weapons of Mass Destruction (chemicals, biological, nuclear and radiological)
- Advanced studies in Homeland Security (including level 5 certification)
- Psychological Profiling
- Advanced Interviewing and Interrogation
 - Personality styles and interviewing
 - Interviewing witnesses
 - Introduction to statement analysis
 - Analysis of the subject’s narrative and terminology
 - Semantic indicators of deception
 - Steps in an admission-seeking interview
 - How to take confessions and signed statements

Public Speaking and Presentations

- “The Art of Profiling in a Digital World” presented at the Austin Area Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners in Austin, Texas on February 02nd, 2015
- “Convergence of Digital Investigations, Mobile Data, and e-Discovery” presented at the Masters Conference for Legal Professionals in Washington DC on October 20th, 2015

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