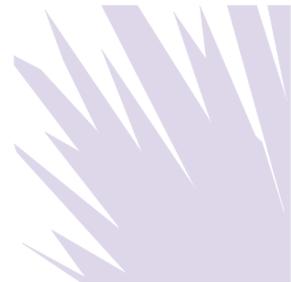


## The Sedona Conference Glossary: eDiscovery and Digital Information Management, Fifth Edition

The Sedona Conference



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THE SEDONA CONFERENCE GLOSSARY: eDISCOVERY &  
DIGITAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, FIFTH EDITION

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*A Project of The Sedona Conference Technology Resource Panel*

*Editor:*

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*Technology Resource Panel:*

(See [thesedonaconference.org](http://thesedonaconference.org) for a listing of the  
Technology Resource Panel members)

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## PREFACE

Welcome to the Fifth Edition of *The Sedona Conference Glossary*, a project of The Sedona Conference Technology Resource Panel. The Sedona Conference is a 501(c)(3) research and educational institute dedicated to the advanced study of law and policy in the areas of antitrust law, complex litigation, and intellectual property rights. The mission of The Sedona Conference is to move the law forward in a reasoned and just way.

The Technology Resource Panel consists of two halves: a "User Group," whose members regularly negotiate and work with service providers; and a panel of service provider members, who have agreed to work with the User Group's output, and who provide input along the way. The mission of the Technology Resource Panel is to provide input to Sedona's multiple Working Groups when they are working on an issue involving the use of technology or services provided by electronic discovery or electronic information governance service providers, and to help create tools and solutions like the *Glossary* that will benefit the entire marketplace.

*The Sedona Conference Glossary*, first published in 2005, is not intended to be an all-encompassing replacement of existing technical glossaries published by other organizations. Rather, the *Glossary* is published as a tool to assist in the understanding and discussion of electronic discovery and electronic information management issues, allowing for more effective communication between user and provider, enhanced by the ability to compare "apples to apples" when selecting a provider. The Technology Resource Panel was formed in the belief that a well-informed marketplace, speaking in the same language, will ultimately lead to reduced transaction costs for all parties, higher quality, and greater predictability.

The Sedona Conference acknowledges the contributions of Paul H. McVoy, who served as Editor of this Fifth Edition and

who was invaluable in driving this project forward. We also thank all of the Technology Resource Panel members who reviewed and commented on drafts of this edition. For a current listing of the Technology Resource Panel service provider and user group members, see <https://thesedonaconference.org/trp>.

As with all of our publications, your comments are welcome. Please forward them by email to [comments@sedonaconference.org](mailto:comments@sedonaconference.org).

Craig Weinlein  
Executive Director  
The Sedona Conference  
February 2020

**30(b)(6):** A shorthand reference to Rule 30(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, under which a corporation, partnership, association, or governmental agency is subject to the deposition process, and required to provide one or more witnesses to testify as to matters “known or reasonably available to the organization” on the topics requested by the deposition notice. Sometimes the 30(b)(6) topics concern the discovery process itself, including procedures for preservation, collection, chain of custody, processing, review, and production.

**Ablate:** To burn laser-readable “pits” into the recorded layer of optical disks, DVD-ROMs and CD-ROMs.

**Ablative:** Unalterable data. See Ablate.

**Access Control List (ACL):** A security group comprised of individual users or user groups that is used to grant similar permissions to a program, database, or other security-controlled environment.

**ACL:** See Access Control List.

**ACM:** See Association for Computing Machinery.

**Active Data:** Information residing on the direct-access storage media (disk drives or servers) that is readily visible to the operating system and/or application software with which it was created. It is immediately accessible to users without restoration or reconstruction.

**Active Machine Learning:** Technology-assisted-review algorithm for the selection of training documents, in which the machine selects sets of additional documents that should best improve results beyond the training that has already been done. Compare to Passive Learning.

**Active Records:** Records related to current, ongoing, or in-process activities referred to on a regular basis to respond to day-to-day operational requirements. See Inactive Record.

**Address:** A structured format for identifying the specific location or routing detail for information on a network or the internet. These include simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) email addresses, internet protocol (IP) addresses, and uniform resource locators (URLs) (commonly known as web addresses).

**Adware:** See Spyware.

**Agent:** A program running on a computer that performs as instructed by a central control point to track file and operating system events and takes directed actions, such as transferring a file or deleting a local copy of a file, in response to such events.

**AI:** See Artificial Intelligence.

**AIIM:** See Association for Intelligent Information Management.

**Air Gap:** A network security measure that uses a physical separation of computer hardware to isolate a secure computer network from other, unsecured networks.

**Algorithm:** With regard to electronic discovery, a computer script that is designed to analyze data patterns using mathematical formulas and is commonly used to group or find similar documents based on common mathematical scores.

**Alphanumeric:** Characters composed of letters, numbers, and sometimes noncontrol characters (such as @, #, \$). Excludes control characters.

**Ambient Data:** See Latent Data; Residual Data.

**American National Standards Institute (ANSI):** A private, nonprofit organization that administers and coordinates the U.S. voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. See <https://www.ansi.org/>.

**American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII, pronounced "ass-kee"):** A nonproprietary text format built on a set of 128 (or 255 for extended ASCII) alphanumeric and

control characters. Documents in ASCII format consist of only text with no formatting and can be read by most computer systems.

**Analog:** Data in an analog format is represented by continuously variable, measurable, physical quantities such as voltage, amplitude, or frequency.

**Analytcs:** See Conceptual Analytics.

**Annotation:** The changes, additions, or editorial comments made or applicable to a document—usually an electronic image file—using electronic sticky notes, highlighter, or other electronic tools. Annotations should be overlaid and not change the original document.

**Anonymization (as used in the GDPR):** The stripping of any identifiable information relating to a natural person from personal data in a manner such that it is impossible to derive insights on the data subject (discreet individual) and the individual is no longer identifiable.

**ANSI:** See American National Standards Institute.

**Aperture Card:** An IBM punch card with a window that holds a 35mm frame of microfilm. Indexing information is punched in the card.

**API:** See Application Programming Interface.

**Applet:** A program designed as an add-on to another program, allowing greater functionality for a specific purpose other than for what the original program was designed.

**Appliance:** A prepackaged piece of hardware and software designed to perform a specific function on a computer network, for example, a firewall.

**Application:** Software that is programmed for one or more specific uses or purposes. The term is commonly used in place of

“program” or “software.” Applications, often referred to as apps, may be designed for individual users, for example, a word processing program, or for multiple users, as in an accounting application used by many users at the same time.

**Application Programming Interface (API):** The specifications designed into a program that allows interaction with other programs. See Mail Application Programming Interface (MAPI).

**Application Service Provider (ASP):** An internet-based organization that hosts applications on its own servers within its own facilities. Customers license the application and access it through a browser over the internet or via some other network. See Software as a Service (SaaS).

**Architecture:** Refers to the hardware, software, or combination of hardware and software comprising a computer system or network. “Open architecture” describes computer and network components that are more readily interconnected and interoperable. “Closed architecture” describes components that are less readily interconnected and interoperable.

**Archival Data:** Information an organization maintains for long-term storage and record-keeping purposes, but which may not be immediately accessible to the user of a computer system. Archival data may be written to removable media or may be maintained on system hard drives. Some systems allow users to retrieve archival data directly, while other systems require the intervention of an IT professional.

**Archive, Electronic:** Long-term repositories for the storage of records. Electronic archives preserve the content, prevent or track alterations, and control access to electronic records.

**ARMA International:** A nonprofit association and recognized authority on managing records and information, both paper and electronic. See <https://www.arma.org/>.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI):** A subfield of computer science focused on the development of intelligence in machines so that the machines can react and adapt to their environment and the unknown. AI is the capability of a device to perform functions that are normally associated with human intelligence, such as reasoning and optimization through experience. It attempts to approximate the results of human reasoning by organizing and manipulating factual and heuristic knowledge. Areas of AI activity include expert systems, natural language understanding, speech recognition, vision, and robotics. See Machine Learning.

**ASCII:** See American Standard Code for Information Interchange.

**ASP:** See Application Service Provider.

**Aspect Ratio:** The relationship of the height to the width of any image. The aspect ratio of an image must be maintained to prevent distortion.

**Association for Computing Machinery (ACM):** An association for computer professionals with a number of resources, including a special interest group on search and retrieval. See <https://www.acm.org/>.

**Association for Intelligent Information Management (AIIM):** An organization that focuses on Enterprise Content Management (ECM). See <https://www.aiim.org/>.

**Asymmetrical Encryption:** Public-key encryption utilized in blockchain transactions that require the user to procure both a public and private key to decipher the transaction—thereby allowing anyone to view the existence of the transaction, but the details of the transaction are only accessible to the participants of the transaction.

**Attachment:** A record or file associated with another record for the purpose of retention, transfer, processing, review,

production, and routine records management. There may be multiple attachments associated with a single “parent” or “master” record. In many records and information management programs or in a litigation context, the attachments and associated record(s) may be managed and processed as a single unit. In common use, this term often refers to a file (or files) associated with an email for retention and storage as a single message unit. See Document (or Document Family); Message Unit; and Unitization.

**Attribute:** A specific property of a file such as location, size, or type. The term attribute is sometimes used synonymously with “data element” or “property.”

**Audio-Video Interleave (AVI):** A Microsoft standard for Windows animation files that interleaves audio and video to provide medium quality multimedia.

**Audit Log or Audit Trail:** An automated or manual set of chronological records of system activities that may enable the reconstruction and examination of a sequence of events and/or changes in an event.

**Authenticate (as a security term):** To technically verify the identity of an entity or individual requesting access to or use of a system, data, or resource.

**Author or Originator:** The person, office, or designated position responsible for an item’s creation or issuance. In the case of a document in the form of a letter, the author or originator is usually indicated on the letterhead or by signature. In some cases, a software application producing a document may capture the author’s identity and associate it with the document. For records management purposes, the author or originator may be designated as a person, official title, office symbol, or code.

**Auto-Delete:** The use of technology to run predefined rules at scheduled intervals to delete or otherwise manage electronically

stored information. May also be referred to as a janitor program or system cleanup.

**Availability:** The probability that a computer system is operational during the period of need.

**Avatar:** A graphical representation of a user in a shared virtual reality, such as web forums or chat rooms.

**AVI:** See Audio-Video Interleave.

**Backbone:** The top level of a hierarchical network. It is the main channel along which data is transferred.

**Backup:** The process of creating a copy of active data as a precaution against the loss or damage of the original data. The process is usually automated on a regular schedule, which can include the automatic expiration of older versions. The term is also used to refer to the electronically stored information itself, as in, "a backup of the email server exists." Backups can be made to any type of storage, including portable media, CDs, DVDs, data tapes, or hard drives—also known as a full backup. See Differential Backup; Incremental Backup.

**Backup Data:** A copy of electronically stored information that serves as a source for recovery in the event of a system problem or disaster. See Backup.

**Backup Tape:** Magnetic tape used to store copies of electronically stored information, for use when restoration or recovery is required. The creation of backup tapes is made using any of a number of specific software programs and usually involves varying degrees of compression.

**Backup Tape Rotation or Recycling:** The process whereby an organization's backups are overwritten with new data, usually on an automated schedule that should be determined by IT in consultation with records management and legal personnel. For example, the use of nightly backup tapes for each day of the

week—with the daily backup tape for a particular day being overwritten on the same day the following week.

**Bandwidth:** The amount of data a network connection can accommodate in a given period of time. Bandwidth is usually stated in kilobits per second (kbps), megabits per second (mbps) or gigabits per second (gbps).

**Bar Code:** A small pattern of vertical lines or dots that can be read by a laser or an optical scanner. In records management and electronic discovery, bar codes may be affixed to specific records for indexing, tracking, and retrieval purposes.

**Basic Input Output System (BIOS):** The set of user-independent computer instructions stored in a computer's ROM, immediately available to the computer when the computer is turned on. BIOS information provides the code necessary to control the keyboard, display screen, disk drives, and communication ports in addition to handling certain miscellaneous functions.

**Batch File:** A set of commands written for a specific program to complete a discrete series of actions, for example, renaming a series of files en masse.

**Batch Processing:** The processing of multiple sets of electronically stored information at one time. See Processing Data.

**Bates Number:** Sequential numbering system used to identify individual pages of documents where each page or file is assigned a unique number. Often used in conjunction with a suffix or prefix to identify a producing party, the litigation, or other relevant information. See Beginning Document Number; Production Number.

**Bayesian Search:** An advanced search that utilizes the statistical approach developed by Thomas Bayes, an 18th century mathematician and clergyman. Bayes published a theorem that describes how to calculate conditional probabilities from the

combinations of observed events and prior probabilities. Many information retrieval systems implicitly or explicitly use Bayes's probability rules to compute the likelihood that a document is relevant to a query. For a more thorough discussion, see *The Sedona Conference, Best Practices Commentary on the Use of Search and Information Retrieval Methods in E-Discovery*, 15 SEDONA CONF. J. 217 (2014), available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary\\_on\\_Search\\_and\\_Retrieval\\_Methods](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary_on_Search_and_Retrieval_Methods).

**BBS:** See Bulletin Board System.

**Beginning Document Number or BegDoc#:** A unique number identifying the first page of a document or a number assigned to identify a native file.

**Bibliographic Coding:** Manually recording objective information from documents such as date, authors, recipients, carbon copies, and blind copies, and associating the information with a specific document. See Indexing; Coding.

**Big Data:** A catch phrase informally used to describe a large volume of information that is gathered or compiled over time, is often distributed across multiple storage locations, is not uniformly structured, and may be challenging to analyze with traditional technology solutions.

**Binary:** The base-2 numbering system used in digital computing that represents all numbers using combinations of zero and one.

**Biometric Data (as used in the GDPR):** Personal data resulting from specific technical processing relating to the physical, physiological or behavioral characteristics of a natural person, which allow or confirm the unique identification of that natural person, such as facial images or dactyloscopic (fingerprint) data.

**BIOS:** See Basic Input Output System.

**Bit:** Binary digit—the smallest unit of computer data. A bit consists of either 0 or 1. There are eight bits in a byte. See Byte.

**Bit Stream Backup:** A sector-by-sector/bit-by-bit copy of a hard drive; an exact copy of a hard drive, preserving all latent data in addition to the files and directory structures. See Forensic Copy.

*Glossary* definition cited: *Nucor Corp. v. Bell*, 2:06-CV-02972-DCN2008, WL 4442571, at \*14 (D.S.C. Jan. 11, 2008). *United States v. Saboonchi*, 990 F. Supp. 2d 536, 540 (D. Md. 2014).

**Bitmap (BMP):** A file format that contains information on the placement and color of individual bits used to convey images composed of individual bits (pixels), for which the system file extension is .bmp.

**Bitonal:** A bitonal image uses only black and white.

**Bits Per Inch (BPI):** A unit of measure of data densities in disk and magnetic tape systems.

**Bits Per Second (BPS):** A measurement of the rate of data transfer. See Bandwidth.

**Blockchain:** A type of asymmetrically encrypted, distributed ledger technology dispersed across multiple locations, with the purpose of ensuring transparency and resistance to falsification. Either public, private, or a combination of both, blockchain is generally structured chronologically so that each subsequent transaction builds on the previous record. See Distributed Ledger Technology.

**Blowback:** The term for printing electronically stored information to hard copy.

**BMP:** See Bitmap.

**Bookmark:** A link to another location, either within the current file or location, or to an external location like a specific address on the internet.

**Boolean Search:** Boolean searches use keywords and logical operators such as “and,” “or,” and “not” to include or exclude terms from a search, and thus produce broader or narrower search results. See Natural Language Search.

**Boot Sector/Record:** See Master Boot Sector/Record; Volume Boot Sector/Record.

**BPI:** See Bits Per Inch.

**BPS:** See Bits Per Second.

**Breach:** An incident, or series of incidents, where an unauthorized person or entity accesses and/or removes secured data of an organization.

**Bring Your Own Device Policy (BYOD):** A policy whereby an organization specifies how personal computing devices, like smart phones, personal laptops, or portable tablets, can be used in the context of work for that organization, and may include provisions for the ownership and discoverability of the organization’s data stored on the device. See *The Sedona Conference, Commentary on BYOD: Principles and Guidance for Developing Policies and Meeting Discovery Obligations*, 19 SEDONA CONF. J. 495 (2018), available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary\\_on\\_BYOD](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary_on_BYOD).

**Broadband:** Commonly used in the context of high bandwidth internet access made available through a variety of quickly evolving technologies.

**Brontobyte:** 1,024 yottabytes. See Byte.

**Browser:** An application used to view and navigate the World Wide Web and other internet resources.

**Bulletin Board System (BBS):** A computer system or service that users access to participate in electronic discussion groups, post messages, and/or download files.

**Burn:** The process of moving or copying data to portable media such as a CD or DVD.

**Bus:** A parallel circuit that connects the major components of a computer, allowing the transfer of electric impulses from one connected component to any other.

**BYOD:** See Bring Your Own Device.

**Byte (Binary Term):** A basic measurement of most computer data consisting of 8 bits. Computer storage capacity is generally measured in bytes. Although characters are stored in bytes, a few bytes are of little use for storing a large amount of data. Therefore, storage is measured in larger increments of bytes. See Kilobyte; Megabyte; Gigabyte; Terabyte; Petabyte; Exabyte; Zettabyte; Yottabyte; Brontobyte; and Geopbyte (listed here in order of increasing volume).

**Cache:** A dedicated, temporary, high-speed storage location that can be used to store frequently used data for quick user access, allowing applications to run more quickly.

**CAD:** See Computer Aided Design.

**CAL:** See Continuous Active Learning.

**Case De-Duplication:** Eliminates duplicates to retain only one copy of each file per case. For example, if an identical file resides with three custodians, only the first custodian's copy will be saved. Also known as Cross Custodial De-Duplication, Global De-Duplication or Horizontal De-Duplication.

**Catalog:** See Index.

**CCITT Group 4:** A lossless compression technique/format that reduces the size of a file, generally about 5:1 over run-length

encoding (RLE) and 40:1 over bitmap. CCITT Group 4 compression may only be used for bitonal images.

**CD:** See Compact Disk.

**CDPD:** See Cellular Digital Packet Data.

**Cellular Digital Packet Data (CDPD):** A data communication standard utilizing the unused capacity of cellular voice providers to transfer data.

**Central Processing Unit (CPU):** The primary silicon chip that runs a computer's operating system and application software. It performs a computer's essential mathematical functions and controls essential operations.

**Certificate:** An electronic affidavit vouching for the identity of the transmitter. See Digital Certificate; Digital Signature; and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Digital Signature.

**Chain of Custody:** Documentation regarding the possession, movement, handling, and location of evidence from the time it is identified to the time it is presented in court or otherwise transferred or submitted; necessary to establish both admissibility and authenticity, and important to help mitigate risk of spoliation claims.

**Characters Per Inch (CPI):** A description of the number of characters that are contained in an inch of backup tape.

**Checksum:** A value calculated on a set of data as a means of verifying its authenticity to a copy of the same set of data, usually used to ensure data was not corrupted during storage or transmission.

**Child:** As related to Parent. See Document.

**CIA Triad:** The three basic security principles: confidentiality, integrity, and availability.

**CJK:** An abbreviation used in a discovery context to describe data that may contain one or more of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean languages.

**Clawback Agreement:** An agreement outlining procedures to be followed if documents or electronically stored information are inadvertently produced; typically used to protect against the waiver of privilege.

**Client:** (1) In a network, a computer that can obtain information and access applications on a server; (2) an application on a hard drive that relies on a server to perform some operations. See Thin Client.

**Client Server:** An architecture whereby a computer system consists of one or more server computers and numerous client computers (workstations). The system is functionally distributed across several nodes on a network and is typified by a high degree of parallel processing across distributed nodes. With client-server architecture, CPU intensive processes (such as searching and indexing) are completed on the server, while image viewing and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) occur on the client. This dramatically reduces network data traffic and insulates the database from workstation interruptions.

**Clipboard:** A holding area in a computer's memory that temporarily stores information copied or cut from a document or file.

**Cloud Computing:** “[A] model for enabling ubiquitous, convenient, on-demand network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources (e.g., networks, servers, storage, applications, and services) that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management effort or service provider interaction.” <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nist-specialpublication800-145.pdf> (last visited February 10, 2020). For further discussion, see the cited NIST publication SP800-145.pdf.

**Cluster (File):** The smallest unit of storage space that can be allocated to store a file on operating systems. Windows and DOS organize hard disks based on clusters (also known as allocation units), which consist of one or more contiguous sectors. Disks using smaller cluster sizes waste less space and store information more efficiently.

**Cluster (System):** A collection of individual computers that appear as a single logical unit. Also referred to as matrix or grid systems.

**Cluster Bitmap:** Used in NTFS to keep track of the status (free or used) of clusters on the hard drive. See New Technology File System (NTFS).

**Clustering:** Unsupervised machine learning in which thematically similar files are grouped together based on the text of the individual files.

**Coding:** An automated or human process by which specific information is captured from documents. Coding may be structured (limited to the selection of one of a finite number of choices) or unstructured (a narrative comment about a document). See Indexing; Verbatim Coding; Bibliographic Coding; Level Coding; and Subjective Coding.

*Glossary definition cited: Hinterberger v. Catholic Health System, Inc.*, 2013 WL 2250591 at \*8 (W.D.N.Y. May 21, 2013). *Gordon vs. Kaleida Health*, 2013 WL 2250506 at \*7 (W.D.N.Y. May 21, 2013).

**Cold Storage:** A description of data storage where the data is removed from a more expensive production server environment to a less expensive location that is not readily available to end users. See also Off-line Storage.

**Co-Location:** A company that provides a place where multiple unrelated companies can house their servers and other

computer equipment, offering advanced security, fire suppression, and redundant power, cooling and internet access. Also known as a Colo.

**Comma Separated Value (CSV):** A text file used for the transmission of data that separates data fields with a comma and typically encloses data in quotation marks.

**Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS):** Hardware or software products that are commercially manufactured, ready-made, and available for use by the general public without the need for customization.

**Compact Disk (CD):** A type of optical disk storage media; compact disks come in a variety of formats. These formats include CD-ROM (CD Read-Only Memory)—read-only; CD-R or CD+R (CD Recordable)—can be written to once and are then read-only; and CD-RW (CD Re-Writable)—can be written to multiple times.

**Company Owned Personally Enabled (COPE):** A personal computing device, such as a smart phone or laptop, that is owned by an organization but by policy of the organization is also used for personal business. See also BYOD.

**Compound Document:** A file that contains multiple files, often from different applications, by embedding objects or linked data; multiple elements may be included, such as images, text, animation, or hypertext. See Container File; Object Linking and Embedding (OLE).

**Compression:** The reduction in the size of a source file or files with the use of a variety of algorithms, depending on the software being used. Algorithms approach the task in a variety of ways, generally eliminating redundant information or by predicting where changes are likely to occur.

**Compression Ratio:** The ratio of the size of an uncompressed file to a compressed file; e.g., with a 10:1 compression ratio, a 10 KB file can be compressed to 1 KB.

**Computer:** Any one of a number of electronic devices that are used to process and analyze data using a variety of programs and programming languages as directed by a user or other system.

**Computer Aided Design (CAD):** The use of a wide range of computer-based tools that assist engineers, architects, and other design professionals in their design activities.

**Computer Aided or Assisted Review:** See Technology-Assisted Review.

**Computer Client:** A computer or program that requests a service of another computer system. A workstation requesting the contents of a file from a file server is a client of the file server. Also commonly used as synonymous with an email application, by reference to the Email Client. See Client; Thin Client.

**Computer Forensics:** The use of specialized techniques for recovery, authentication, and analysis of electronic data when an investigation or litigation involves issues relating to reconstruction of computer usage, examination of residual data, authentication of data by technical analysis, or explanation of technical features of data and computer usage. Computer forensics requires specialized expertise that goes beyond normal data collection and preservation techniques available to end users or system-support personnel and generally requires strict adherence to chain-of-custody protocols. See Forensics; Forensic Copy.

**Concatenate:** Generally, to add by linking or joining to form a chain or series; the process of linking two or more databases of similar structure to enable the user to search, use, or reference them as if they were a single database.

**Concept Search:** The method of search that uses word meanings and ideas, without the presence of a particular word or phrase, to locate electronically stored information related to a desired concept. Word meanings can be derived from any of a number of sources, including dictionaries, thesauri, taxonomies, and ontologies, or computed mathematically from the context in which the words occur.

**Conceptual Analytics:** Using one or more of a number of mathematical algorithms or linguistic methodologies to analyze unstructured data by themes and ideas contained within the documents, enabling the grouping or searching of documents or other unstructured data by their common themes or ideas.

**Confidence Interval:** The range of values that is likely to contain the true parameter for a population to the specified confidence level (also called the Margin of Error). For example, sampling a set of documents at a 95 percent confidence level with an interval of plus-or-minus 2 percent means that 95 percent of samples will produce a result within 2 percent of the actual population.

**Confidence Level:** The percentage of samples for which the results are expected to correctly describe a population parameter within a provided confidence interval. For example, sampling a set of documents at a 95 percent confidence level means that 95 percent of samples taken from the population would contain the correct result within a specified interval. See Margin of Error.

**Confidentiality (as a security term):** A classification of data by use of a specific attribution of that data so that it is technically accessible only to authorized users or entities.

**Consent (as used in the GDPR):** Any freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous indication of the data subject's wishes by which he or she, by a statement or by a clear

affirmative action, signifies agreement to the processing of personal data relating to him or her.

**Container File:** A compressed file containing multiple files; used to minimize the size of the original files for storage and/or transporting. Examples include .zip, .pst, and .nsf files. The file must be ripped or decompressed to determine volume, size, record count, etc. and to be processed for litigation review and production. See also Decompression; Rip.

*Glossary definition cited: Country Vintner of North Carolina, LLC v. E. & J. Gallo Winery, Inc.*, 718 F.3d 249, 252 (4th Cir. Apr. 29, 2013). *United States v. Life Care Centers Of America, Inc.*, 2015 WL 10987073, at \*9 (E.D. Tenn. Aug. 31, 2015).

**Content Comparison:** A method of de-duplication that compares file content or output (to image or paper) and ignores metadata. See De-Duplication.

**Contextual Search:** Using one of a number of mathematical algorithms or linguistic methodologies to enlarge search results to include not only exact term matches but also matches where terms are considered in context of how and where they frequently occur in a specific document collection or more general taxonomy. For example, a search for the term “diamond” may bring back documents related to baseball but with no reference to the word diamond because the term frequently occurs within similar documents and therefore has a logical association.

**Continuous Active Learning (CAL):** A machine-learning algorithm that periodically analyzes users’ decisions in order to rank unreviewed data, with the most likely desired data ranking first based on the users’ previous decisions. See also Technology-Assisted Review.

**Control Character:** A character used by a computer program to perform a command rather than translate the character to written text.

**Control Number:** A unique record identifier within a database. Sometimes also referred to as Begdoc id.

**Control Set:** See Seed Set.

**Conversation Index:** A hexadecimal number string created by an email program on outgoing messages, indicating the relative position of a message within a specific email thread.

**Cookie:** A text file containing tracking information such as dates and times of website visits, deposited by a website onto a user's computer or mobile device. The text file is accessed each time the website is visited by a specific user and updated with browsing and other information. The main purpose of cookies is to identify users and possibly prepare customized web pages for them, including the personalization of advertising appearing on the websites.

**Coordinated Universal Time (UTC):** A high-precision atomic time standard with uniform seconds defined by International time and leap seconds announced at regular intervals to compensate for the earth's slowing rotation and other discrepancies. Leap seconds allow UTC to closely track Universal time, a time standard based not on the uniform passage of seconds but on the earth's angular rotation. Time zones around the world are expressed as positive or negative offsets from UTC. Local time is UTC plus or minus the time-zone offset for that location, plus an offset (typically +1) for daylight savings, if in effect. For example, 3:00 a.m. Mountain Standard Time = 10:00 UTC minus 7. As the zero point reference, UTC is also referred to as Zulu time (Z). See Normalization.

**COPE:** See Company Owned Personally Enabled.

**Corrupted File:** A file that has become damaged in some way, such as by a virus or by software or hardware failure, so that it is partially or completely unreadable by a computer.

**COTS:** See Commercial Off-the-Shelf.

**CPI:** See Characters Per Inch.

**CPU:** See Central Processing Unit.

**CRC:** See Cyclical Redundancy Checking.

**CRM:** See Customer Relationship Management Application.

**Cross-Custodian De-Duplication:** The suppression or removal of exact copies of files across multiple custodians for the purposes of minimizing the amount of data for review and/or production. Sometimes referred to as Case De-Duplication. See also De-Duplication.

**Cryptocurrency:** A digital-only form of currency, highlighted as having no central or regulating authority, which utilizes decentralized, distributed ledger technology called blockchain to record online transactions and issue new units of currency, denominated in terms of a virtual “token.” See Blockchain; Distributed Ledger Technology.

**Cryptography:** A technique to scramble data to preserve confidentiality or authenticity.

**CSV:** See Comma Separated Value.

**Cull (verb):** To remove, or suppress from viewing, a document from a collection to be reviewed or produced. See Data Filtering; Harvesting.

**Custodian:** See Record Custodian; Record Owner.

**Custodian De-Duplication:** The removal or suppression of exact copies of a file found within a single custodian’s data for the purposes of minimizing the amount of data for review and/or

production. Also known as Vertical De-duplication. See De-Duplication.

**Customer Relationship Management (CRM) Application:** A computer program that helps manage communications with client and contains contact information.

**Cybersecurity:** Measures undertaken to protect a network or system against unauthorized access or attack.

**Cyclical Redundancy Checking (CRC):** Used in data communications to create a checksum character at the end of a data block to ensure integrity and receipt of data transmission. See Checksum.

**Cylinder:** The set of tracks on both sides of each platter in a hard drive that is located at the same head position. See Platter.

**DAC:** See Digital to Analog Converter.

**DAD:** See Digital Audio Disk.

**DAT:** See Text Delimited File.

**Data:** Any information stored on a computer, whether created automatically by the computer, such as log files, or created by a user, such as the information entered on a spreadsheet. See Active Data; Latent Data.

**Data Categorization:** The process of classifying electronically stored information with supervised machine learning software, using categories created by either the user or automatically by the software based on the similar content of the individual files.

**Data Cell:** An individual field of an individual record. For example, in a table containing information about all of a company's employees, information about employee Joe Smith is stored in a single record, and information about his social security number is stored in an individual Data Cell. See Field.

**Data Collection:** See Harvesting.

**Data Controller (as used in the GDPR):** The natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body which, alone or jointly with others, determines the purposes and means of the processing of personal data; where the purposes and means of such processing are determined by Union or Member State law, the controller or the specific criteria for its nomination may be provided for by Union or Member State law.

**Data Element:** A combination of characters or bytes referring to one separate piece of information, such as name, address, or age.

**Data Exfiltration:** Unauthorized transfer of data from a computer or other digital media device.

**Data Extraction:** The process of parsing data, including the text of the file, from any electronic documents into separate metadata fields such as date created and date last accessed.

*Glossary definition cited: Race Tires America, Inc. v. Hoosier Racing Tire Corp., 674 F.3d 158, 161 (3d Cir. 2012).*

**Data Field:** See Field.

**Data File:** See Text Delimited File.

**Data Filtering:** The process of identifying data based on specified parameters, such as date range, author, and/or keyword search terms, often used to segregate data for inclusion or exclusion in the document culling or review workflow.

**Data Formats:** The organization of information for display, storage, or printing. Data is sometimes maintained in certain common formats so that it can be used by various programs that may only work with a particular format, e.g. PDF or HTML. Also used by parties to refer to production specifications during the exchange of data during discovery.

**Data Harvesting:** See Harvesting.

**Data Integrity:** The process and procedure to ensuring that data is not improperly modified or deleted, whether through accident or malicious intent.

**Data Lake:** A repository of data from a variety of sources and in any of format, structured or unstructured. The collection of data is established to allow for the implementation of a variety of analytics. A data lake is distinguished from a data warehouse in that the data exists in its native, minimally processed (or “raw”) form unless and until an analytical task or query is executed, generally requiring sophisticated data science methods. Data lakes are more comprehensive, as no data is denied from them and is typically stored indefinitely. See also Data Warehouse.

**Data Map:** A document or visual representation that records the physical or network location and format of an organization’s data. Information about the data can include where the data is stored, physically and virtually, in what format it is stored, backup procedures in place, how the electronically stored information moves and is used throughout the organization, information about accessibility of the electronically stored information, retention and lifecycle management practices and policies, and identity of records custodians.

**Data Mining:** The process of knowledge discovery in databases (structured data); often techniques for extracting information, summaries, or reports from databases and data sets. In the context of electronic discovery, this term often refers to the processes used to analyze a collection of electronically stored information to extract evidence for production or presentation in an investigation or in litigation. See Text Mining.

**Data Processor (as used in the GDPR):** A natural or legal person (other than an employee of the data controller), public

authority, agency or other body which processes personal data on behalf of the data controller.

**Data Set:** A named or defined collection of data. See Production Data Set; Privilege Data Set.

**Data Subject (as used in the GDPR):** A natural person to whom personal data relates.

**Data Subject Access Request (DSAR; as used in the GDPR):** Also referred to as “the Right of Access,” DSAR is one of eight rights in the GDPR and is defined as a request by an individual to a company or organization asking for access to the personal data the company holds upon the aforementioned individual, thus allowing the individual to be aware of and verify the lawfulness of any processing of his or her personal data. The individual is entitled to see information regarding why the individual’s data was requested, how the data was processed, the timeframe of data processed, who the data has been disclosed to, if the disclosed data has been used to make an automated decision regarding the individual, and/or if the individual’s data has been used by an organization to create a profile on that individual. May also be referred to as SAR.

**Data Trust:** An independent legal entity established to take custody, physically or virtually, of data from trustors, for the purpose of protecting data privacy and security while allowing the data to be accessed, on a limited basis under strict rules, for research or commercial purposes. Examples of data trusts include a consortium of medical institutions establishing a trust to hold patient records for medical research purposes, or a consortium of retailers establishing a trust to hold consumer data for market research purposes.

**Data Verification:** Assessment of data to ensure it has not been modified from a prior version. The most common method of verification is hash coding by using industry accepted

algorithms such as MD5, SHA1, or SHA2. See Digital Fingerprint; File-Level Binary Comparison; and Hash Coding.

**Data Warehouse:** A repository of mastered or enriched data from a variety of sources and in a more refined variety of formats. All collected data must be in structured form, either from ingestion of or manipulations to the raw data, for ease of identification and access. A data warehouse is distinguished from a data lake in that the data may be accessed from an index or with a simple query, analogous to obtaining records from an historical archive. See also Data Lake.

**Database:** A set of data elements consisting of at least one file or of a group of integrated files, usually stored in one location and made available to several users. The collection of information is organized into a predefined formatted structure and usually organized into fields of data that comprise individual records that are further grouped into data tables. Databases are sometimes classified according to their organizational approach, with the most prevalent approach being the relational database—a tabular database in which data is defined so that it can be reorganized and accessed in a number of different ways. Another popular organizational structure is the distributed database, which can be dispersed or replicated among different points in a network. Computer databases typically contain aggregations of data records or files, such as sales transactions, product catalogs and inventories, and customer profiles. For further discussion, see *The Sedona Conference Database Principles*, available for download at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Database\\_Principles](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Database_Principles).

**Database Management System (DBMS):** A software system used to access and retrieve data stored in a database.

**Date Created:** A common metadata field that contains the date a file was created or moved and the media where it currently resides.

**Date Last Accessed:** A common metadata field that contains the date a file was last accessed, meaning last opened or moved or even copied, depending on the technology used to copy.

**Date Last Modified:** A common metadata field that contains the date a file was last changed either by a modification to the content or format, printed, or changed by the automatic running of any macros that are executed upon the file being opened. The date-last-modified field does not normally reflect a change to a file's storage location or when the file was opened and read, and is thus often used as an electronic file date control field for discovery purposes.

**Date Sent:** A common metadata field that contains the date on which an email was sent.

**Date Received:** A common metadata field that contains the date on which an email was received.

**Date/Time Normalization:** See Normalization.

**Daubert or Daubert Challenge:** *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals*, 509 U.S. 579, at 593–94 (1993), addresses the admission of scientific expert testimony to ensure that the testimony is reliable before considered for admission pursuant to Rule 702. The court assesses the testimony by analyzing the methodology and applicability of the expert's approach. Faced with a proffer of expert scientific testimony, the trial judge must determine first, pursuant to Rule 104(a), whether the expert is proposing to testify to (1) scientific knowledge that (2) will assist the trier of fact to understand or determine a fact at issue. This involves preliminary assessment of whether the reasoning or methodology is scientifically valid and whether it can be applied to the facts at issue. *Daubert* suggests an open approach and provides a list of

four potential factors: (1) whether the theory can be or has been tested; (2) whether the theory has been subjected to peer review or publication; (3) known or potential rate of error of that particular technique and the existence and maintenance of standards controlling the technique's operation; and (4) consideration of general acceptance within the scientific community.

**DBMS:** See Database Management System.

**DDE:** See Dynamic Data Exchange.

**DEB:** See Digital Evidence Bag.

**Decompression:** To expand or restore compressed data back to its original size and format. See Compression.

**Decryption:** Transformation of encrypted (or scrambled) data back to original form. See Encryption.

**De-Duplication (de-dupe):** The process of comparing electronic files or records based on their characteristics and removing, suppressing, or marking exact duplicate files or records within the data set for the purposes of minimizing the amount of data for review and production. De-duplication is typically achieved by calculating a file or record's hash value using a mathematical algorithm. De-duplication can be selective, depending on the agreed-upon criteria. See Case De-Duplication; Content Comparison; Cross-Custodian De-Duplication; Custodian De-Duplication; Data Verification; Digital Fingerprint; File-Level Binary Comparison; Hash Coding; Horizontal De-Duplication; Metadata Comparison; and Near Duplicates.

*Glossary definition cited: CBT Flint Partners, LLC v. Return Path, Inc., 737 F.3d 1320, 1328 (Fed. Cir. Dec. 13, 2013).*

**Defensible Disposition:** The effective disposal of physical and electronic information that does not need to be retained according to an organization's policies when the data is not or no longer subject to a legal requirement for retention, be it statutory

or as part of a litigation. See Disposition. For further discussion, see The Sedona Conference, *Commentary on Defensible Disposition*, 20 SEDONA CONF. J. 179 (2019), available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary\\_on\\_Defensible\\_Disposition](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary_on_Defensible_Disposition).

**Defragment (defrag):** Use of a computer utility to reorganize files so they are more physically contiguous on a hard drive or other storage medium, when the files or parts thereof have become fragmented and scattered in various locations within the storage medium in the course of normal computer operations. Used to optimize the operation of the computer, it will overwrite information in unallocated space. See Fragmentation.

**Deleted Data:** Information that is no longer readily accessible to a computer user due to the intentional or automatic deletion of the data. Deleted data may remain on storage media in whole or in part until overwritten or wiped. Even after the data itself has been wiped, directory entries, pointers, or other information relating to the deleted data may remain on the computer. Soft deletions are data marked as deleted (and not generally available to the end user after such marking) but not yet physically removed or overwritten. Soft-deleted data can be restored with complete integrity.

**Deletion:** The process whereby data is removed from active files and other data storage structures on computers and rendered more inaccessible except through the use of special data recovery tools designed to recover deleted data. Deletion occurs on several levels in modern computer systems: (1) File-level deletion renders the file inaccessible to the operating system and normal application programs and marks the storage space occupied by the file's directory entry and contents as free and available to reuse for data storage; (2) Record-level deletion occurs when a record is rendered inaccessible to a database management system (DBMS) (usually marking the record storage

space as available for reuse by the DBMS, although in some cases the space is never reused until the database is compacted) and is also characteristic of many email systems; and (3) Byte-level deletion occurs when text or other information is deleted from the file content (such as the deletion of text from a word processing file); such deletion may render the deleted data inaccessible to the application intended to be used in processing the file, but may not actually remove the data from the file's content until a process such as compaction or rewriting of the file causes the deleted data to be overwritten.

**De-NIST:** The use of an automated filter program that screens files against the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) list in order to remove files that are generally accepted to be system generated and have no substantive value in most instances. See NIST List.

**De-skewing:** The process of straightening skewed (tilted) images. De-skewing is one of the image enhancements that can improve OCR accuracy. Documents often become skewed when scanned or faxed.

**Desktop:** Generally refers to the working area of the display on an individual personal computer.

**DFS:** See Distributed File System.

**Differential Backup:** A method of backing up data that backs up data that is new or has been changed from that last full backup.

**Digital:** Information stored as a string of ones and zeros (numeric). Opposite of analog.

**Digital Audio Disk (DAD):** Another term for compact disk.

**Digital Audio Tape:** A magnetic tape generally used to record audio but can hold up to 40 gigabytes (or 60 CDs) of data if used

for data storage. Has the disadvantage of being a serial access device. Often used for backup.

**Digital Certificate:** Electronic records that contain unique secure values used to decrypt information, especially information sent over a public network like the internet. See Certificate; Digital Signature; and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Digital Signature.

**Digital Evidence Bag (DEB):** A container file format used for electronic evidence to preserve and transfer evidence in an encrypted or protected form that prevents deliberate or accidental alteration. The secure wrapper provides metadata concerning the collection process and context for the contained data.

**Digital Fingerprint:** A fixed-length hash code that uniquely represents the binary content of a file. See Data Verification, File-Level Binary Comparison, and Hash Coding.

**Digital Linear Tape (DLT):** A type of magnetic computer tape used to copy data from an active system for purposes of archiving or disaster recovery.

**Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA):** United States copyright law enacted to protect against copyright infringement of data, address rights and obligations of owners of copyrighted material, and the rights and obligations of internet service providers on whose systems the infringing material may reside.

**Digital Rights Management (DRM):** A program that controls access to, movement, or duplication of protected data.

**Digital Signature:** A way to ensure the identity of the sender, utilizing public key cryptography and working in conjunction with certificates. See Certificate; Digital Certificate; and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Digital Signature.

**Digital to Analog Converter (DAC):** Converts digital data to analog data.

**Digital Video Disk or Digital Versatile Disk (DVD):** A plastic disk, like a CD, on which data can be optically written and read. DVDs can hold more information and can support more data formats than CDs. Formats include: DVD-R or DVD+R (DVD Recordable)—written to once and are then read-only; and DVD-RW (DVD Re-Writable)—can be written to multiple times.

**Digital Visual Interface (DVI):** A piece of hardware used to connect a video source to a video display device, like a computer monitor.

**Digitize:** The process of converting an analog value into a digital (numeric) representation. See Analog.

**Directory:** The organizational structure of a computer's file storage, usually arranged in a hierarchical series of folders and subfolders. Often simulated as a file folder tree.

**Disaster Recovery Tapes:** Portable magnetic storage media used to store data for backup purposes. See Backup Data; Backup Tape.

**Discovery:** The process of identifying, locating, preserving, securing, collecting, preparing, reviewing, and producing facts, information, and materials for the purpose of producing/obtaining evidence for use in the legal process. There are several ways to conduct discovery, the most common of which are interrogatories, requests for production of documents, and depositions. See Electronic Discovery.

**Disk:** Round, flat storage media with layers of material that enable the recording of data.

**Disk Mirroring:** The ongoing process of making an exact copy of information from one location to another in real time and often used to protect data from a catastrophic hard-disk failure or for long-term data storage. See Mirror Image; Mirroring.

**Disk Partition:** A discrete section of a computer's hard drive that has been virtually separated from one or more other partitions on the same drive.

**Diskwipe:** A utility that overwrites existing data. Various utilities exist with varying degrees of efficiency—some wipe only named files or unallocated space of residual data, thus unsophisticated users who try to wipe evidence may leave behind files of which they are unaware.

**Disposition:** The final business action carried out on a record. This action generally is to destroy or archive the record. Electronic record disposition can include "soft deletions," "hard deletions," "hard deletions with overwrites," "archive to long-term store," "forward to organization," and "copy to another media or format and delete (hard or soft)." See Deletion; Defensible Disposition.

**Distributed Data:** Information belonging to an organization that resides on portable media and nonlocal devices such as remote offices, home computers, laptop computers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), wireless communication devices (e.g., Blackberry), and internet repositories (including email hosted by internet service providers or portals and websites). Distributed data also includes data held by third parties such as application service providers and business partners. Note: Information Technology organizations may define distributed data differently (for example, in some organizations distributed data includes any non-server-based data, including workstation disk drives).

**Distributed File System (DFS):** The architecture of a system that is based upon the client/server schema, whereby one or more file servers store data that can be accessed by an unlimited number of remote clients, provided they have the authorization to do so.

**Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT):** A decentralized database technology existing across multiple locations or participants, eliminating the need for an intermediary or central authority to process, validate, or authenticate transactions and other types of data. DLT technology provides aforementioned validation and authentication. The records are only stored in the ledger once full consensus or acceptance is reached by all participants involved, at which point all files are timestamped and given a unique cryptographic signature, allowing all participants on the distributed ledger to view all transaction records.

**DLT:** See Digital Linear Tape; Digital Ledger Technology.

**DMCA:** See Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

**Document (or Document Family):** A collection of pages or files produced manually or by a software application, constituting a logical single communication of information, but consisting of more than a single stand-alone record. Examples include a fax cover, the faxed letter, and an attachment to the letter, the fax cover being the “Parent,” and the letter and attachment being a “Child.” See Attachment; Load File; Message Unit; and Unitization—Physical and Logical.

*Glossary definition cited: Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank v. Morgan Stanley & Co. Inc., 2011 WL 3738979, at \*2 (S.D.N.Y., Aug. 18, 2011). United States v. Life Care Centers Of America, Inc., 2015 WL 10987073, at \*8 (E.D. Tenn. Aug. 31, 2015).*

**Document Date:** Generally, the term used to describe the date the document was last modified or put in final form; applies equally to paper and electronic files. See Date Last Modified; Date Created; Date Last Accessed; Date Sent; and Date Received.

**Document Imaging Programs:** Software used to scan paper documents and to store, manage, retrieve, and distribute documents quickly and easily.

**Document Type or Doc Type:** A bibliographic coding field that captures the general classification of a document, i.e., whether the document is correspondence, memo, report, article, and others.

**DoD 5015:** The Department of Defense standard addressing records management.

**Domain:** A group of servers and computers connected via a network and administered centrally with common rules and permissions.

**DOS:** See Microsoft-Disk Operating System (MS-DOS).

**Dots Per Inch (DPI):** Used as a measure of the resolution of an image, where more dots in the linear inch indicates a higher resolution.

**Double-Byte Characters :** See Unicode.

**Double-Byte Language:** See Unicode.

**Download:** To move data from a remote location to a local computer or network, usually over a network or the internet; also used to indicate that data is being transmitted from one location to another. See Upload.

**DPI:** See Dots Per Inch.

**Draft Record:** A preliminary version of a record before it has been completed, finalized, accepted, validated, or filed. Such records include working files and notes. Records and information management policies may provide for the destruction of draft records upon finalization, acceptance, validation, or filing of the final or official version of the record. However, draft records generally must be retained if: (1) they are deemed to be

subject to a legal hold; or (2) a specific law or regulation mandates their retention; and policies should recognize such exceptions.

**Drag and Drop:** The movement of files by dragging them with the mouse and dropping them in another place.

**DRAM:** See Dynamic Random Access Memory.

**Drive Geometry:** A computer hard drive is made up of a number of rapidly rotating platters that have a set of read/write heads on both sides of each platter. Each platter is divided into a series of concentric rings called tracks. Each track is further divided into sections called sectors, and each sector is subdivided into bytes. Drive geometry refers to the number and positions of each of these structures.

**Driver:** A computer program that controls various hardware devices such as the keyboard, mouse, or monitor and makes them operable with the computer.

**DRM:** See Digital Rights Management.

**Drop-Down Menu:** A menu window that opens on-screen to display context-related options. Also called pop-up menu or pull-down menu.

**DSAR:** See Data Subject Access Request.

**DVD:** See Digital Video Disk or Digital Versatile Disk.

**DVI:** See Digital Visual Interface.

**Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE):** A form of interprocess communications used by Microsoft Windows to support the exchange of commands and data between two simultaneously running applications.

**Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM):** A memory technology that is periodically refreshed or updated — as opposed to

static RAM chips that do not require refreshing. The term is often used to refer to the memory chips themselves.

**Dynamic Search:** A term used to describe a saved search that is updated each time the search is run to account for changes in the search corpus, such as added data or coding information. See also Static Search.

**Early Case Assessment (ECA):** The process of assessing the merits of a case early in the litigation lifecycle to determine its viability. The process may or may not include the collection, analysis, and review of data.

**Early Data Assessment (EDA):** The process of separating possibly relevant electronically stored information from nonrelevant electronically stored information using both computer techniques, such as date filtering or advanced analytics, and human-assisted logical determinations at the beginning of a case. This process may be used to reduce the volume of data collected for processing and review. See also Early Case Assessment.

**ECA:** See Early Case Assessment.

**ECM:** See Enterprise Content Management.

**EDA:** See Early Data Assessment.

**EDI:** See Electronic Data Interchange.

**eDiscovery:** See Electronic Discovery.

**EDMS:** See Electronic Document Management System.

**e-doc:** A colloquial term used to refer to an electronic document that is not an email.

**e-file:** A colloquial term used to refer to an electronic file or a colloquial term used to describe the process of submitting a file electronically.

**Electronic Data Interchange (EDI):** Eliminating forms altogether by encoding the data as close as possible to the point of the transaction; automated business information exchange.

**Electronic Discovery (eDiscovery):** The process of identifying, locating, preserving, collecting, preparing, reviewing, and producing electronically stored information (ESI) in the context of the legal process. See Discovery.

*Glossary definition cited: Gordon v. Kaleida Health, 2013 WL 2250579, at \*2 (W.D.N.Y. May 21, 2013). Hinterberger v. Catholic Health System Inc., 2013 WL 2250603, at \*2 (W.D.N.Y. May 21, 2013). Small v. University Medical Center of Southern Nevada, 2014 WL 4079507, at \*5 (D. Nev. Aug. 18, 2014).*

**Electronic Document Management:** The process of using a computer program to manage individual unstructured files, either those created electronically or scanned to digital form from paper. See Information Lifecycle Management.

**Electronic Document Management System (EDMS):** A system to electronically manage documents during all life cycles. See Electronic Document Management.

**Electronic File Processing:** See Processing Data.

**Electronic Image:** An individual page or pages of an electronic document that has been converted into a static format, for example PDF or TIFF. See PDF and TIFF.

**Electronic Record:** Information recorded in a form that requires a computer or other machine to process it.

**Electronically Stored Information (ESI):** As referenced in the U.S. Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, information that is stored electronically, regardless of the media or whether it is in the original format in which it was created, as opposed to stored in hard copy (i.e., on paper).

*Glossary* definition cited: *EEOC v. BOK Financial Corp.*, 2013 WL 12330078 at \*1 (D.N.M. May 7, 2013).

**Elusion:** The percentage of documents of a search's null set that were missed by the search, usually determined with review of a random sample of the null set. The elusion rate can be multiplied by the number of documents in the null set to estimate how many documents were missed by the search.

**Email (Electronic Mail):** An electronic means for sending, receiving, and managing communications via a multitude of different structured data applications (email client software), such as Outlook or Lotus Notes or those often known as "webmail," such as Gmail or Yahoo Mail. See Email Message.

*Glossary* definition cited: *Rosehoff, Ltd. v. Truscott Terrace Holdings LLC*, 2016 WL 2640351, at \*5 (W.D.N.Y. May 10, 2016).

**Email Address:** A unique value given to individual user accounts on a domain used to route email messages to the correct email recipient, most often formatted as follows: user-ID@domain-name. See Email Message.

**Email Archiving:** A systematic approach to retaining and indexing email messages to provide centralized search and retrieval capabilities. See Journaling.

**Email Client:** See Email (Electronic Mail).

**Email Message:** A file created or received via an electronic mail system. Any attachments that may be transmitted with the email message are not part of the email message but are part of the Message Unit and Document Family.

**Email Store:** A file or database containing individual email messages. See Container File; Message Unit; OST; PST; and NSF.

**Email String:** An electronic conversation between two or more parties via email. Also referred to as an email thread. See Thread.

**Email Threading:** A technical process of regrouping emails that comprise an email discussion, including replies and forwards.

**Embedded Object:** A file or piece of a file that is copied into another file, often retaining the utility of the original file's application; for example, a part of a spreadsheet embedded into a word processing document that still allows for editing and calculations after being embedded. See Compound Document.

*Glossary definition cited: United States v. Life Care Centers Of America, Inc., 2015 WL 10987073, at \*9 (E.D. Tenn. Aug. 31, 2015).*

**EML:** File extension of a generic email message file.

**Emoji:** An image utilized to express an emotion or thought in an electronic message.

**Emoticon:** An image or set of keyboard characters used to depict a facial expression and used to indicate the author's intended tone or feelings.

**Encapsulated PostScript (EPS):** Uncompressed files for images, text, and objects. Can only be printed on printers with PostScript drivers.

**Encoding:** To change or translate into code; to convert information into digital format. For software, encoding is used for video and audio references, such as encoding analog format into digital or raw digital data into compressed format.

**Encryption:** A procedure that renders the contents of a message or file unreadable to anyone not authorized to read it; used to protect electronically stored information being stored or transferred from one location to another.

**Encryption Key:** A data value that is used to encrypt and decrypt data. The number of bits in the encryption key is a rough measure of the encryption strength; generally, the more bits in the encryption key, the more difficult it is to break. See Decryption.

**End Document Number or EndDoc#:** A common metadata field that contains the Bates number of the last page of a document.

**End of File (EOF):** A distinctive code that uniquely marks the end of a data file.

**Enhanced Parallel Port (EPP):** See Port.

**Enhanced Small Device Interface (ESDI):** A defined, common electronic interface for transferring data between computers and peripherals, particularly disk drives.

**Enhanced Titles:** A bibliographic coding field that captures a meaningful/descriptive title for a document based on a reading of the document as opposed to a verbatim title lifted as it appears on the face of the document. See Verbatim Coding.

**Enterprise Architecture:** Framework of information systems and processes integrated across an organization. See Information Technology Infrastructure.

**Enterprise Content Management (ECM):** Management of an organization's unstructured electronically stored information, regardless of where it exists, throughout the entire lifecycle of the ESI.

**EOF:** See End of File.

**Ephemeral Data:** Data that exists for a very brief, temporary period and is transitory in nature, such as data stored in random access memory (RAM).

**EPP:** See Enhanced Parallel Port.

**EPS:** See Encapsulated PostScript.

**Erasable Optical Disk:** A type of optical disk that can be erased and new electronically stored information added; most optical disks are read only.

**ESDI:** See Enhanced Small Device Interface.

**ESI:** See Electronically Stored Information.

**Ethernet:** A common way of networking personal computers to create a Local Area Network (LAN).

**Evidentiary Image or Copy:** See Forensic Copy.

**Exabyte:** 1,024 petabytes (approximately one billion gigabytes). See Byte.

**Exception Files:** See Processing Exception.

**Exchange Server:** A server running Microsoft Exchange messaging and collaboration software. It is widely used by enterprises using Microsoft infrastructure solutions. Among other things, Microsoft Exchange manages email, shared calendars, and tasks.

**Expanded Data:** See Decompression.

**Export:** The process of saving data or a subset of data in a format that can be used or imported by another system.

**Extended Partitions:** If a computer hard drive has been divided into more than four partitions, extended partitions are created. Under such circumstances each extended partition contains a partition table in the first sector that describes how it is further subdivided. See Disk Partition.

**Extensible Markup Language (XML):** A software coding language specification developed by the W3C (World Wide Web Consortium—the web development standards board). XML is a pared-down version of Standard Generalized Markup

Language (SGML), designed especially for web documents. It allows designers to create their own customized tag, enabling the definition, transmission, validation, and interpretation of data between applications and between organizations.

**Extraction:** The process of parsing a file into separate components for further analysis or to prepare for loading into a database. Text and metadata are commonly extracted from a file in order to prepare them for loading to a database.

**Extranet:** The portion of an intranet site that is accessible by users outside of a company or organization hosting the intranet. This type of access is often utilized in cases of joint defense, joint venture, and vendor-client relationships.

**False Negative:** A result from a search that is not correct because it fails to indicate a match or hit where one exists.

**False Positive:** A result from a search that is not correct because it indicates a match or hit where there is none.

**Fast Mode Parallel Port:** See Port.

**FAT:** See File Allocation Table.

**Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS):** A set of standards issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 111(d) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended by the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 100-235.

**Fiber Optics:** A method of transmitting information by sending light pulses over cables made from thin strands of glass.

**Field (or Data Field):** A defined area of a file or data table used to record an individual piece of standardized data, such as the author of a document, a recipient, or the date of a document.

**Field Mapping:** The process of normalizing data to the structure of an existing database for purposes of loading the data to the correct field, after validating the data type is the same. For example, mapping the data from a field called Date to an existing field in a database named DocDate.

**Field Separator or Field Delimiter:** A character in a text delimited file that separates the fields in an individual record. For example, the CSV format uses a comma as the field separator. See Text Delimited File.

**File:** A collection of related data or information stored as a unit under a specified name on storage medium.

**File Allocation Table (FAT):** An internal data table on hard drives that keeps track of where the files are stored. If a FAT is corrupt, a drive may be unusable, yet the data may be retrievable with forensics. See Cluster (File).

**File Compression:** See Compression.

**File Extension:** Many systems, including DOS and UNIX, allow a filename extension that consists of one or more characters following the proper filename. For example, image files are usually stored as .bmp, .gif, .jpg or .tiff. Audio files are often stored as .aud or .wav. There are a multitude of file extensions identifying file formats. The filename extension should indicate what type of file it is; however, users may change filename extensions to evade firewall restrictions or for other reasons. Therefore, file types should be identified at a binary level rather than relying on file extensions. To research file types, see <http://www.fileext.com>. Different applications can often recognize only a predetermined selection of file types. See Format (noun).

**File Format:** The organization or characteristics of a file that determine with which software programs it can be used. See Format (noun).

**File Header:** See Header.

**File-Level Binary Comparison:** A method of de-duplication using the digital fingerprint (hash) of a file to compare the individual content and location of bytes in one file against those of another file. See Data Verification; De-Duplication; Digital Fingerprint; and Hash Coding.

**File Plan:** A document containing the identifying number, title, description, and disposition authority of files held or used in an office.

**File Server:** A computer that serves as a storage location for files on a network. File servers may be employed to store electronically stored information, such as email, financial data, or word processing information or to back up the network. See Server.

**File Sharing:** Providing access to files or programs to multiple users on a network.

**File Signature:** See Digital Signature.

**File Slack:** See Slack Space.

**File System:** The means by which an operating system or program organizes and keeps track of electronically stored information in terms of logical structures and software routines to control access to the ESI, including the structure in which the files are named, stored, and organized. The file system also tracks data when a user copies, moves, or deletes a file or sub-directory.

**File Table:** A specific table in a Structured Query Language (SQL) database that allows for the storage of files and information that can be directly accessible from the Windows interface, as opposed to only from within SQL itself. See Master File Table; SQL.

**File Transfer:** The process of moving or transmitting a copy of a file from one location to another, as between two programs or from one computer to another.

**File Transfer Protocol (FTP):** An internet protocol that governs the transfer of files between computers over a network or the internet. The terms FTP server or FTP site are commonly used to refer to a location to upload/download and exchange data, particularly in large volume.

*Glossary definition cited: Balance Point Divorce Funding, LLC v. Scrantom, 305 F.R.D. 67, 75 (S.D.N.Y. 2015).*

**File Type:** The description of a file's contents based on the performance of a signature analysis, which analyzes the internal structure of the file, typically the header or footer, which contains information about the true program-related origin of the file, even where the file extension has been changed.

**Filename:** The name used to identify a specific file in order to differentiate it from other files, typically comprised of a series of characters, a dot, and a file extension (e.g., sample.doc). See File Extension and Full Path.

**Filter (verb):** See Data Filtering.

**Filtering:** See Data Filtering.

**FIPS:** See Federal Information Processing Standards.

**Firewall:** A set of related security programs and/or hardware that protects the resources of a private network from unauthorized access by users outside of an organization or user group. A firewall filters information to determine whether to forward the information toward its destination.

**Flash Drive:** A small, removable data storage device that uses flash memory and connects via a USB port. Also referred to as Jump Drive, Key Drive, and Thumb Drive.

**Flash Memory:** A type of computer memory used for storage of data to a physical disk by electrical impulses.

**Flat File:** A nonrelational, text-based file (i.e., a word processing document).

**Floppy Disk:** A thin magnetic film disk housed in a protective sleeve, used to copy and transport relatively small amounts of data.

**F-Measure:** Also known as the F1 Score or the F Score, a measure of a search's accuracy calculated by using precision and recall.  $(\text{Precision} \times \text{Recall}) / (\text{Precision} + \text{Recall})$ .

**Folder:** See Directory.

**Forensic Copy:** An exact copy of an entire physical storage media (hard drive, CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, tape, etc.), including all active and residual data and unallocated or slack space on the media. Forensic copies are often called images or imaged copies. See Bit Stream Backup; Mirror Image.

*Glossary definition cited: CBT Flint Partners, LLC v. Return Path, Inc.*, 737 F.3d 1320, 1328 (Fed. Cir. Dec. 13, 2013).  
*Javeler Marine Services LLC v. Cross*, 175 F. Supp. 3d 756, 762 (S.D. Tex. 2016).

**Forensics:** The scientific examination and analysis of data held on, or retrieved from, a computer in such a way that the information can be used as evidence in a court of law. It may include the secure collection of computer data; the examination of suspect data to determine details such as origin and content; the presentation of computer-based information to courts of law; and the application of a country's laws to computer practice. Forensics may involve recreating deleted or missing files from hard drives, validating dates and logged-in authors/editors of documents, and certifying key elements of documents and/or hardware for legal purposes.

**Form of Production:** The specifications for the exchange of documents and/or data between parties during a legal dispute. It is used to refer both to file format (e.g., native vs. imaged format, with agreed-upon metadata and extracted text in a load file) and the media on which the documents are produced (paper vs. electronic). See Load File; Native Format.

**Format (noun):** The internal structure of a file, which defines the way it is stored and used. Specific applications may define unique formats for their data (e.g., “MS Word document file format”). Many files may only be viewed or printed using their originating application or an application designed to work with compatible formats. There are several common email formats, such as Outlook and Lotus Notes. Computer storage systems commonly identify files by a naming convention that denotes the format (and therefore the probable originating application). For example, DOC for Microsoft Word document files; XLS for Microsoft Excel spreadsheet files; TXT for text files; HTM for HyperText Markup Language (HTML) files such as web pages; PPT for Microsoft PowerPoint files; TIF for tiff images; PDF for Adobe images; etc. Users may choose alternate naming conventions, but this will likely affect how the files are treated by applications.

*Glossary* definition cited: *EEOC v. BOK Financial Corp.*, 2013 WL 12330078 at \*1 (D.N.M. May 7, 2013).

**Format (verb):** To make a drive ready to store data within a particular operating system. Erroneously thought to “wipe” drive. Typically, formatting only overwrites the File Allocation Table, but not the actual files on the drive.

**Forms Processing:** A specialized imaging application designed for handling pre-printed forms. Forms processing systems often use high-end (or multiple) OCR engines and elaborate data

validation routines to extract handwritten or poor-quality print from forms that go into a database.

**Fragmentation:** The process by which parts of files are separately stored in different areas on a hard drive or removable disk in order to utilize available space. See Defragment.

**FTP:** See File Transfer Protocol.

**Full Duplex:** Data communications devices that allow full-speed transmission between computers in both directions at the same time.

**Full Path:** A file location description that includes the drive, starting or root directory, all attached subdirectories, and ending with the file or object name. Often referred to as the Path Name.

**Full-Text Indexing:** The extraction and compilation of text from a collection of ESI. Text is gathered both from the body of the data and selected metadata fields. See Index.

**Full-Text Search:** The ability to search an index of all the words in a collection of electronically stored information for specific characters, words, numbers, and/or combinations or patterns thereof in varying degrees of complexity.

**Fuzzy Search:** The method of searching an index that allows for one or more characters in the original search terms to be replaced by wild-card characters, so that a broader range of data hits will be returned. For example, a fuzzy search for “fell” could return “tell” “fall,” or “felt.”

**GAL:** See Global Address List.

**GB:** See Gigabyte.

**GDPR:** See General Data Protection Regulation.

**General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR):** The GDPR imposes a single set of data protection and privacy regulations and

rights for all data subjects of the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA), both residents and those performing regulated tasks within the EU or EEA. The Regulations consists of 99 Articles, grouped into 11 chapters, and 173 recitals with explanatory remarks.

**Genetic data (as used in the GDPR):** Personal data relating to the inherited or acquired genetic characteristics of a natural person which give unique information about the physiology or the health of that natural person and which result, in particular, from an analysis of a biological sample from the natural person in question. Information about a natural person's physical or mental health, past, present and future, including the provision of health care services is included.

**Geopbyte:** 1,024 brontobytes. See Byte.

**Ghost Imaging:** A data copying methodology that uses software to copy the entire content of a hard drive to a single compressed file or set of files. The copy includes all programs and configuration settings and is often used to restore a template copy to new computers or servers.

**GIF:** See Graphics Interchange Format.

**Gigabyte (GB):** 1,024 megabytes. See Byte.

**Global Address List (GAL):** A Microsoft Outlook directory of all Microsoft Exchange users and distribution lists to which messages can be addressed. The global address list may also contain public folder names. Entries from this list can be added to a user's personal address book.

**Global De-Deduplication:** See Case De-Duplication.

**Global Positioning System (GPS):** A technology used to track the location of ground-based objects using three or more orbiting satellites.

**GMT Timestamp:** Identification of a file using Greenwich Mean Time as the central time authentication method. See Normalization.

**GPS:** See Global Positioning System.

**GPS Generated Timestamp:** Timestamp that identifies time as a function of its relationship to Greenwich Mean Time.

**Graphical User Interface (GUI, pronounced “gooey”):** An interface to a computer or device comprised of pictures and icons, rather than words and numbers, by which users can interact with the device.

**Graphics Interchange Format (GIF):** A common file format for storing images first originated by CompuServe, an internet service provider, in 1987. Limited to 256 colors.

**Grayscale:** See Scale-to-Gray.

**Groupware:** Software designed to operate on a network and allow several people to work together on the same documents and files.

**GUI:** See Graphical User Interface.

**Half Duplex:** Transmission systems that can send and receive data between computers, but not at the same time.

**Handshake:** A transmission that occurs at the beginning of a communication session between computers to establish the technical format of the communication.

**Handwriting Recognition Software (HRS):** Software that interprets handwriting into machine readable form.

**Hard Drive:** A storage device consisting of one or more magnetic media platters on which digital data can be written and erased. See Platter.

**Harvesting:** The process of retrieving or collecting electronically stored information from any media; an eDiscovery vendor or specialist “harvests” ESI from computer hard drives, file servers, CDs, backup tapes, portable devices, and other sources for processing and loading to storage media or a database management system.

**Hash Coding (also Hash Value, Hash):** A mathematical algorithm that calculates a unique value for a given set of data, similar to a digital fingerprint, representing the binary content of the data to assist in subsequently ensuring that data has not been modified. Common hash algorithms include MD5 and SHA. See Data Verification; Digital Fingerprint; and File-Level Binary Comparison.

*Glossary definition cited: United States v. Life Care Centers Of America, Inc.*, 2015 WL 10987073, at \*18 (E.D. Tenn. Aug. 31, 2015). *United States v. Apple MacPro Computer*, 851 F.3d 238, 242 (3d Cir. 2017). *Digital Assurance Certification, LLC v. Pendolino*, 2017 WL 4342316, at \*7 (M.D. Fla. Sept. 29, 2017).

**HDMI:** See High-Definition Multimedia Interface.

**Head:** Devices which ride very closely to the surface of the platter on a hard drive and allow information to be read from and written to the platter.

**Header:** Data placed at the beginning of a file or section of data that in part identifies the file and some of its attributes. A header can consist of multiple fields, each containing its own value. See Message Header.

**Hexadecimal:** A number system with a base of 16. The digits are 0-9 and A-F, where F equals the decimal value of 15.

**Hidden Files or Data:** Files or data not readily visible to the user of a computer. Some operating system files are hidden to

prevent inexperienced users from inadvertently deleting or changing these essential files. See Steganography.

**Hierarchical Storage Management (HSM):** Software that automatically migrates files from online to less expensive near-line storage, usually on the basis of the age or frequency of use of the files.

**High-Definition Multimedia Interface (HDMI):** An interface for the transmittal of audio and video signals from a source to a device, like a television or computer display.

**High Technology Crime Investigation Association (HTCIA):** A computer forensics nonprofit association; resources include educational programs and Listservs. See <https://htcia.org/>.

**Hit Report or Hit List:** A report containing search terms or search phrases used on a set of data, which details the results of each term or phrase as applied to that data set, typically specifying the number of search hits per term or phrase across the entire search corpus, and the number of files returned by each term or phrase.

**Hold:** See Legal Hold.

**Honey Pot:** A computer system that acts as a decoy to lure cyber attackers by appearing to contain something of value, enabling those attacks to be more readily detected and studied.

**Horizontal De-Duplication:** A way to identify electronically stored information duplicated across multiple custodians or other production data sets, normally by comparing hash algorithms to identify duplicates and then removing or suppressing those duplicates. See Case De-Duplication; De-Duplication.

**Host:** In a network, the central computer that controls the remote computers and holds the central databases.

*Glossary definition cited: Hinterberger v. Catholic Health System, Inc.*, 2013 WL 2250591 at \*1 (W.D.N.Y. May 21, 2013).

**HRS:** See Handwriting Recognition Software.

**HSM:** See Hierarchical Storage Management.

**HTCIA:** See High Technology Crime Investigation Association.

**HTML:** See HyperText Markup Language.

**HTTP:** See HyperText Transfer Protocol.

**Hub:** A network device that connects multiple computers and peripherals together, allowing them to share network connectivity. A central unit that repeats and/or amplifies data signals being sent across a network.

**Hyperlink:** A pointer in a hypertext document—usually appearing as an underlined or highlighted word or picture—that, upon selection, sends a user to another location either within the current document or to another location accessible on the network or internet.

**HyperText:** Text that includes hyperlinks or shortcuts to other documents or views, allowing the reader to easily jump from one view to a related view in a nonlinear fashion.

**HyperText Markup Language (HTML):** Developed by CERN of Geneva, Switzerland; the most common programming language format used on the internet. HTML+ adds support for multimedia. The tag-based ASCII language used to create pages on the World Wide Web uses tags to tell a web browser to display text and images. HTML is a markup or “presentation” language, not a programming language. Programming code can be imbedded in an HTML page to make it interactive. See Java.

**HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP):** The underlying protocol used by the World Wide Web. HTTP defines how messages are

formatted and transmitted, and what actions servers and browsers should take in response to various commands. For example, when you enter a website URL in your browser, this sends an HTTP command to the web server directing it to fetch and transmit the requested site. HTTPS adds a layer of encryption to the protocol to protect the information that is being transmitted and is often used by application service providers to protect the data being viewed over the web.

**IaaS:** See Infrastructure as a Service.

**Icon:** In a graphical user interface (GUI), a picture or drawing that is activated by clicking a mouse to command the computer program to perform a predefined series of actions.

**ICR:** See Intelligent Character Recognition.

**IDE:** See Integrated Drive Electronics.

**IDS:** See Intrusion Detection System.

**IEEE:** See Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

**ILM:** See Information Lifecycle Management.

**IM:** See Instant Messaging.

**Image (noun):** An electronic or digital picture of a document (e.g., TIFF, PDF, etc.). See Image Processing; Processing Data; and Render Images.

**Image (verb):** To make an identical copy of a storage device, including empty sectors. Also known as creating a mirror image or mirroring the drive. See Bit Stream Backup; Forensic Copy; and Mirror Image.

*Glossary definition cited: CBT Flint Partners, LLC v. Return Path, Inc., 737 F.3d 1320, 1328 (Fed. Cir. Dec. 13, 2013). Colosi v. Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc., 781 F.3d 293, 297 (6th Cir. 2015). Javeler Marine Services LLC v. Cross, 175 F. Supp. 3d 756, 762 (S.D. Tex. 2016).*

**Image Copy or Imaged Copy:** See Forensic Copy.

**Image Enabling:** A software function that creates links between existing applications and stored images.

**Image File Format:** See File Format; Format (noun).

**Image Key:** The name of an image and cross reference to the image's file in a document load file, often the Bates number of the page. See Bates Number.

**Image Processing:** To convert data from its current/native format to a fixed image for the purposes of preserving the format of a document and facilitating the transfer between parties, typically with the addition of a Bates number to the face of each image. See Bates Number; Form of Production; Native Format; Processing Data; Render Images.

**Image Processing Card (IPC):** A board mounted in a computer, scanner or printer that facilitates the acquisition and display of images. The primary function of most IPCs is the rapid compression and decompression of image files.

**Import:** The process of bringing data into an environment or application that has been exported from another environment or application.

**Inactive Record:** Records related to closed, completed, or concluded activities. Inactive records are no longer routinely referenced but may be retained in order to fulfill reporting requirements or for purposes of audit or analysis. Inactive records generally reside in a long-term storage format, remaining accessible for purposes of business processing only with restrictions on alteration. In some business circumstances, inactive records may be reactivated.

**Incident Response (IR):** The workflow developed to address and manage the impact of a security breach or cyberattack.

**Incremental Backup:** A method of backing up data that is new or has been changed from that last backup of any kind, be it a full backup or the last incremental backup.

**Index:** A searchable catalog of information created to maximize storage efficiency and allow for improved search. Also called catalog. See Full-Text Indexing.

**Index/Coding Fields:** Database fields used to categorize and organize records. Often user-defined, these fields can be used for searching for and retrieving records. See Coding.

**Indexing:** (1) The process of organizing data in a database to maximize storage efficiency and optimize searching; (2) Objective coding of documents to create a list similar to a table of contents. See Coding.

**Information:** For the purposes of this document, information is used to mean hard-copy documents and electronically stored information.

**Information Governance:** The comprehensive, interdisciplinary framework of policies, procedures, and controls used by mature organizations to maximize the value of an organization's information while minimizing associated risks by incorporating the requirements of: (1) eDiscovery, (2) records and information management, and (3) privacy/security, into the process of making decisions about information. See *The Sedona Conference, Commentary on Information Governance, Second Edition*, 20 SEDONA CONF. J. 95 (2019), available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary\\_on\\_Information\\_Governance](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary_on_Information_Governance).

**Information Lifecycle Management (ILM):** A phrase used to discuss the policies and procedures governing the management of data within an organization, from creation through destruction. See Disposition; Electronic Document Management; Information Governance.

**Information Retrieval:** The process of searching for and finding relevant electronically stored information within an information system using a variety of methods, processes, and technologies, including keyword search, categorization, concept clustering, machine learning, and technology-assisted review.

**Information Systems (IS) or Information Technology (IT):** Usually refers to the department of an entity that designs, maintains, and assists users with regard to the computer infrastructure.

**Information Technology (IT) Infrastructure:** The overall makeup of business-wide technology operations, including mainframe operations, standalone systems, email, networks (WAN and LAN), internet access, customer databases, enterprise systems, and application support, regardless of whether managed, utilized, or provided locally, regionally, globally, etc., or whether performed or located internally or by outside providers (outsourced to vendors). The IT infrastructure also includes applicable standard practices and procedures, such as backup procedures, versioning, resource sharing, retention practices, system cleanup, and the like. See Enterprise Architecture.

**Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS):** A form of cloud computing whereby a third-party service provider offers, on demand, a part of its computer infrastructure remotely. Specific services may include servers, software, or network equipment resources that can be provided on an as-needed basis without the purchase of the devices or the resources needed to support them. See Cloud Computing.

**Inline Image:** Images that appear on a web page.

**Input device:** Any peripheral that allows a user to communicate with a computer by entering information or issuing commands (e.g., keyboard).

**Instant Messaging (IM):** A form of electronic communication involving immediate correspondence between two or more online users. Instant messages differ from email in their limited metadata and in that messages are not stored past the messaging session.

**Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE):** An international association that advocates the advancement of technology as it relates to electricity. IEEE sponsors meetings, publishes a number of journals, and establishes standards. See <https://www.ieee.org>.

**Integrated Drive Electronics (IDE):** An engineering standard for interfacing computers and hard disks.

**Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN):** An all-digital network that can carry data, video, and voice.

**Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR):** The conversion of scanned images (bar codes or patterns of bits) to computer recognizable codes (ASCII characters and files) by means of software/programs that define the rules of and algorithms for conversion; helpful for interpreting handwritten text. See Handwriting Recognition Software (HRS); Optical Character Recognition (OCR).

**Interlaced:** To refresh only every other line of a display once per refresh cycle. Since only half the information displayed is updated each cycle, interlaced displays are less expensive than noninterlaced. However, interlaced displays are subject to jitters. The human eye/brain can usually detect displayed images that are completely refreshed less than 30 times per second.

**Interleave:** To arrange data in a noncontiguous way to increase performance. When used to describe disk drives, it refers to the way sectors on a disk are organized. In one-to-one interleaving, the sectors are placed sequentially around each track. In two-to-one interleaving, sectors are staggered so that consecutively

numbered sectors are separated by an intervening sector. The purpose of interleaving is to make the disk drive more efficient. The disk drive can access only one sector at a time, and the disk is constantly spinning beneath.

**International Organization for Standardization (ISO):** A worldwide federation of national standards organizations, founded to promote industrial and commercial standards. See <https://www.iso.org>.

**International Telecommunication Union (ITU):** An international organization under the UN, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, concerned with developing international data communications standards for the telecommunications industry; known as CCITT prior to March 1, 1993. See <http://www.itu.int>.

**Internet:** A worldwide interconnected system of networks that all use the TCP/IP communications protocol and share a common address space. The internet supports services such as email, the World Wide Web, file transfer (FTP), and Internet Relay Chat (IRC). Also known as “the net,” “the information superhighway,” and “cyberspace.” See Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP).

**Internet of Things (IoT):** A catchall term used to describe a broad array of electronic devices, such as computers or sensors in cars, refrigerators, lights, or security systems, that are connected to the internet and may collect, store, and/or share information.

**Internet Protocol (IP):** The principal communications protocol for data communications across the internet.

**Internet Protocol (IP) Address:** A unique name that identifies the physical location of a server on a network, expressed by a numerical value (e.g., 128.24.62.1). See Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP).

**Internet Publishing Software:** Specialized software that allows materials to be published to the internet. The term internet publishing is sometimes used to refer to the industry of online digital publication as a whole.

**Internet Relay Chat (IRC):** A system allowing internet users to chat in real time.

**Internet Service Provider (ISP):** A business that provides access to the internet, usually for a fee.

**Inter-Partition Space:** Unused sectors on a track located between the start of the partition and the partition boot record of a hard drive. This space is important because it is possible for a user to hide information here. See Partition; Track.

**Intranet:** A secure, private network that uses internet-related technologies to provide services within an organization or defined infrastructure.

*Glossary definition cited: Small v. University Medical Center of Southern Nevada, 2014 WL 4079507, at \*21 (D. Nev. Aug. 18, 2014).*

**Intrusion Detection System (IDS):** A platform, device, or software designed to monitor systems and detect unauthorized or malicious activity.

**Intrusion Prevention System (IPS):** A platform, device, or software designed to monitor systems and prevent malicious or other unauthorized activity.

**IoT:** See Internet of Things.

**IP:** See Internet Protocol.

**IPC:** See Image Processing Card.

**IPS:** See Intrusion Prevention System.

**IR:** See Incident Response.

**IRC:** See Internet Relay Chat.

**IS:** See Information Systems.

**ISDN:** See Integrated Services Digital Network.

**ISO:** See International Organization for Standardization.

**ISO 8859-1:** Also called Latin-1. A standard character encoding of the Latin alphabet used for most Western European languages. ISO 8859-1 is considered a legacy encoding in relation to Unicode, yet it is still in common use today. The ISO 8859-1 standard consists of 191 printable characters from the Latin script. It is essentially a superset of the ASCII character encoding and a subset of the Windows-1252 character encoding. See ASCII; Windows-1252.

**ISO 9660 CD Format:** The ISO format for creating CD-ROMs that can be read worldwide.

**ISO 15489-1:** The ISO standard addressing international best practices in records management.

**ISO 27000:** An ISO standard that describes the use and parameters of an Information Security Management System.

**ISO 27001:** AN ISO standard that formally specifies an Information Security Management System (ISMS), a suite of activities concerning the management of information security risks. The ISMS is an overarching management framework through which an organization identifies, analyzes, and addresses its information risks.

**ISO 27050:** An ISO standard to promote methods and processes for forensic capture and investigation of digital evidence/electronically stored information for eDiscovery.

**ISP:** See Internet Service Provider.

**IT:** See Information Technology.

**ITU:** See International Telecommunication Union.

**Jailbreak:** A process of bypassing security restrictions of an operating system to take full control of a device.

**Janitor Program:** A category of software designed to automate data organization or disposition tasks. See Auto-Delete.

**Java:** A platform-independent programming language for adding animation and other actions to websites.

**Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG):** A compression algorithm for still images that is commonly used on the web.

**Journal:** A chronological record of data processing operations that may be used to reconstruct a previous or an updated version of a file. In database management systems, it is the record of all stored data items that have values changed as a result of processing and manipulation of the data.

**Journaling:** A function of electronic communication systems (such as Microsoft Exchange and Lotus Notes) that copies items that are sent and received into a second information store for retention or preservation. Because journaling takes place at the information store (server) level when the items are sent or received, rather than at the mailbox (client) level, some message-related metadata, such as user foldering (what folder the item is stored in within the recipient's mailbox) and the status of the "read" flag, is not retained in the journaled copy. The journaling function stores items in the system's native format, unlike email archiving solutions, which use proprietary storage formats designed to reduce the amount of storage space required. Journaling systems may also lack the sophisticated search and retrieval capabilities available with many email archiving solutions. See Email Archiving.

**JPEG:** See Joint Photographic Experts Group.

**Judgmental Sampling:** The human selection of a subset of documents from a larger population based on some logical criteria, such as search-term hits or the searcher's own experience and knowledge.

**Jukebox:** A mass storage device that holds optical disks and automatically loads them into a drive.

**Jump Drive:** See Flash Drive.

**KB:** See Kilobyte.

**Kerning:** Adjusting the spacing between two letters.

**Key Drive:** See Flash Drive.

**Key Field:** See Primary Key.

**Keyword:** Any specified word, or combination of words, used in a search, with the intent of locating certain results.

**Kilobyte (KB):** A unit of 1,024 bytes. See Byte.

**Kofax Board:** The generic term for a series of image processing boards manufactured by Kofax Imaging Processing. These are used between the scanner and the computer and perform real-time image compression and decompression for faster image viewing, image enhancement, and corrections to the input to account for conditions such as document misalignment.

**LAN:** See Local Area Network.

**Landscape Mode:** A page orientation or display such that the width exceeds the height (horizontal).

**Language Identification or Detection:** A form of textual analytics that identifies the languages present in each record.

**Laser Disk:** Same as an optical CD, except 12 inches in diameter.

**Laser Printing:** A printing process by which a beam of light hits an electrically charged drum and causes a discharge at that point. Toner is then applied, which sticks to the non-charged

areas. Paper is pressed against the drum to form the image and is then heated to dry the toner.

**Latency:** The time it takes to read a disk (or jukebox), including the time to physically position the media under the read/write head, seek the correct address, and transfer it.

**Latent Data:** Deleted files and other electronically stored information that are inaccessible without specialized forensic tools and techniques. Until overwritten, these data reside on media such as a hard drive in unused space and other areas available for data storage. Also known as ambient data. See Residual Data.

**Latent Semantic Indexing and Analysis:** A method of processing data that identifies relationships between data sets by analyzing terms and term frequency. Common applications include grouping documents together based on the documents' concepts and meanings instead of by simple searching.

**Latin-1:** See ISO 8859-1.

**LCD:** See Liquid Crystal Display.

**Leading:** The amount of space between lines of printed text.

**Least Privilege:** A security principle requiring each entity to have only the most restrictive access to a system or network to perform its authorized work.

**Legacy Data, Legacy System:** Electronically stored information that can only be accessed via software and/or hardware that has become obsolete or replaced. Legacy data may be costly to restore or reconstruct when required for investigation or litigation analysis or discovery.

**Legal Hold:** A communication issued as a result of current or reasonably anticipated litigation, audit, government investigation, or other such matter that suspends the normal disposition or processing of records. Legal holds may encompass

procedures affecting data that is accessible as well as data that is not reasonably accessible. The specific communication to business or IT organizations may also be called a hold, preservation order, suspension order, freeze notice, hold order, litigation hold, or hold notice. See The Sedona Conference, *Commentary on Legal Holds, Second Edition: The Trigger & The Process*, 20 SEDONA CONF. J. 341 (2019), available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary\\_on\\_Legal\\_Holds](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary_on_Legal_Holds).

**Lempel-Ziv & Welch (LZW):** A common, lossless compression standard for computer graphics, used for most TIFF files. Typical compression ratios are 4/1.

**Level Coding:** Used in bibliographical coding to facilitate different treatment, such as prioritization or more thorough extraction of data, for different categories of documents, such as by type or source. See Coding.

**LFP:** IPRO Tech Inc.'s image cross reference file; an ASCII delimited text file that cross references an image's Bates number to its location and file name. See Bates Number.

**Lifecycle:** A record's lifecycle is the life span of a record from its creation or receipt to its final disposition. Usually described in three stages: (1) creation, (2) maintenance and use, and (3) archive to final disposition. See Information Lifecycle Management.

**Linear and Nonlinear Review:** Performed by humans. Linear review workflow begins at the beginning of a collection and addresses information in order until a full review of all information is complete. Nonlinear review workflow is to prepare only certain portions for review, based either on the results of criteria, such as search terms, technology-assisted review results, or some other method, to isolate only information likely to be responsive. See Review.

**Linear Tape-Open (LTO):** A type of magnetic backup tape that can hold as much as 800 GB of data, or 1200 CDs, depending on the data file format.

**Link:** See Hyperlink.

**Liquid Crystal Display (LCD):** Two polarizing transparent panels with a liquid crystal surface between them; the application of voltage to certain areas causes the crystal to turn dark, and a light source behind the panel transmits though crystals not darkened.

**Litigation Hold:** See Legal Hold.

**Load File:** A file that relates to a set of scanned images or electronically processed files, and that indicates where individual pages or files belong together as documents, to include attachments, and where each document begins and ends. A load file may also contain data relevant to the individual documents, such as selected metadata, coded data, and extracted text. Load files should be obtained and provided in prearranged or standardized formats to ensure transfer of accurate and usable images and data.

*Glossary definition cited: Aguilar v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Division of the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, 255 F.R.D. 350, 353 (S.D.N.Y. 2008). National Day Laborer Organization Network v. U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement Agency, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11655 (S.D.N.Y. February 7, 2011). CBT Flint Partners, LLC v. Return Path, Inc., 737 F.3d 1320, 1332 (Fed. Cir. Dec. 13, 2013). EEOC v. SVT, LLC, 2014 WL 1411775, at \*3 (N.D. Ind. Apr. 10, 2014).*

**Local Area Network (LAN):** A group of computers at a single location (usually an office or home) that are connected by phone lines, coaxial cable, or wireless transmission. See Network.

**Location Services:** A term used to describe a program or applications function of using the global positioning services (GPS) on a device to ascertain the location of a user at a given time.

**Log File:** A text file created by an electronic device or application to record activity of a server, website, computer, or software program.

**Logical Entities:** An abstraction of a real-world object or concept that is both independent and unique. Conceptually, a logical entity is a noun, and its relationships to other entities are verbs. In a relational database, a logical entity is represented as a table. Attributes of the entity are in columns of the table, and instances of the entity are in rows of the table. Examples of logical entities are employees of a company, products in a store's catalog, and patients' medical histories.

**Logical File Space:** The actual amount of space occupied by a file on a hard drive. The amount of logical file space differs from the physical file space because when a file is created on a computer, a sufficient number of clusters (physical file space) are assigned to contain the file. If the file (logical file space) is not large enough to completely fill the assigned clusters (physical file space), then some unused space will exist within the physical file space.

**Logical Unitization:** See Unitization—Physical and Logical.

**Logical Volume:** An area on the hard drive that has been formatted for file storage. A hard drive may contain single or multiple volumes.

**Loose File:** A file that is not attached to or embedded in another file or email.

**Lossless Compression:** A method of compressing an image file, bit by bit, that results in no loss of information either during compression or extraction.

**Lossy Compression:** A method of image compression whereby storage size of image is reduced by decreasing the resolution and color fidelity while maintaining minimum acceptable standard for general use. A lossy image is one where the image after compression is different from the original image due to lost information. The differences may or may not be noticeable, but a lossy conversion process does not retain all the original information. JPEG is an example of a lossy compression method.

**Lotus Domino:** An IBM server product providing enterprise-level email, collaboration capabilities, and custom application platform; it began as Lotus Notes Server, the server component of Lotus Development Corporation's client-server messaging technology. Can be used as an application server for Lotus Notes applications and/or as a web server. Has a built-in database system in the format of .nsf.

**LTO:** See Linear Tape-Open.

**LZW:** See Lempel-Ziv & Welch.

**Machine Learning:** A subset of artificial intelligence enabling a system to automatically improve at a task on its own based upon experience and data, without being explicitly programmed for that task. See Artificial Intelligence.

**Magnetic/Optical Storage Media:** The physical piece of material that receives data that has been recorded using a number of different magnetic recording processes. Examples include hard drives, backup tapes, CD-ROMs, DVD-ROMs, Jaz, and Zip drives.

**Magneto-Optical Drive:** A drive that combines laser and magnetic technology to create high-capacity erasable storage.

**Mail Application Programming Interface (MAPI):** A Windows-based software standard that enables a program to send

and receive email by connecting the program to selected email servers. See API.

**Mailbox:** A term used to describe all email associated with an individual email account, whether located physically together on one server, across a server array, or in cloud-based storage.

**Make-Available Production:** Process by which a generally large universe of potentially responsive documents is made available to a requestor; the requestor selects or tags desired documents, and the producing party produces only the selected documents. See Quick Peek.

**Malware:** Any type of malicious software program, typically installed illicitly, including viruses, Trojans, worms, key loggers, spyware, adware, and others.

**Managed Services:** A business relationship whereby a company signs a contract with a service provider for the provision of specific services at a set price for a period of time.

**Management Information Systems (MIS):** A phrase used to describe the resources, people, and technology used to manage the information of an organization.

**Manual Review:** See Linear and Nonlinear Review.

**MAPI:** See Mail Application Programming Interface.

**MAPI Mail Near-Line:** Documents stored on optical disks or compact disks that are housed in a jukebox or CD changer and can be retrieved without human intervention.

**Margin of Error (MOE):** The percentage points that the results of a sample may vary from the actual number in the real population. For example, if the actual recall of responsive documents is 75 percent, then sampling responsive documents to a 95 percent confidence with a 5 percent margin of error means there is a 95 percent chance the sample will show between 70 (75 minus 5) and 80 (75 plus 5) percent. See Confidence Level.

**Marginalia:** Handwritten notes on documents.

**Master Boot Sector/Record:** The sector on a hard drive that contains the computer code (boot strap loader) necessary for the computer to start up and the partition table describing the organization of the hard drive.

**Master File Table (MFT):** The primary record of file storage locations on a Microsoft Windows-based computer employing NTFS filing systems.

*Glossary* definition cited: *Digital Assurance Certification, LLC v. Pendolino*, 2017 WL 4342316, at \*3 (M.D. Fla. Sept. 29, 2017).

**Mastering:** Making many copies of a disk from a single master disk.

**MB:** See Megabyte.

**MBOX:** The format in which email is stored on traditional UNIX email systems.

**MD5:** See Message-Digest Algorithm 5.

**Media:** An object or device, such as a disk, tape, or other device, on which data is stored.

**Megabyte (MB):** 1,024 kilobytes. See Byte.

**Meme:** A popular-culture term used to refer to a graphic, audio file, video file, or text that is used to parody something else, which is then often parodied itself with slight variations.

**Memory:** Data storage in the form of chips, or the actual chips used to hold data; storage is used to describe memory that exists on tapes, disks, CDs, DVDs, flash drives, and hard drives. See Random Access Memory (RAM); Read-Only Memory (ROM).

**Menu:** A list of options, each of which performs a desired action such as choosing a command or applying a particular format to a part of a document.

**Message-Digest Algorithm 5 (MD5):** A hash algorithm used to give a numeric value to a digital file or piece of data. Commonly used in eDiscovery to find duplicates in a data collection. See Hash Coding.

**Message Header:** The text portion of an email that contains routing information of the email and may include author, recipient, and server information, which tracks the path of the email from its origin server to its destination mailbox.

**Message Unit:** An email and any attachments associated with it.

**Metadata:** The generic term used to describe the structural information of a file that contains data about the file, as opposed to describing the content of a file. See System-Generated Metadata and User-Created Metadata. For a more thorough discussion, see The Sedona Conference, *The Sedona Guidelines: Best Practice Guidelines & Commentary for Managing Information & Records in the Electronic Age, Second Edition* (November 2007), available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Guidelines\\_for\\_Managing\\_Information\\_and\\_Electronic\\_Records](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Guidelines_for_Managing_Information_and_Electronic_Records), and The Sedona Conference, *Commentary on Ethics & Metadata*, 14 SEDONA CONF. J. 169, available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary\\_on\\_Ethics\\_and\\_Metadata](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary_on_Ethics_and_Metadata).

*Glossary definition cited: Race Tires America, Inc. v. Hoosier Racing Tire Corp.*, 674 F.3d 158, 161 (3d Cir. 2012). *EEOC v. BOK Financial Corp.*, 2013 WL 12330078, at \*1 (D.N.M. May 7, 2013). *CBT Flint Partners, LLC v. Return Path, Inc.*, 737 F.3d 1320, 1328 (Fed. Cir. Dec. 13, 2013). *Selectica, Inc. v. Novatus, Inc.*, 2015 WL 1125051, at \*3 (M.D. Fla. Mar. 12, 2015). *United States v. Life Care Centers of America, Inc.*,

2015 WL 10987073, at \*10 (E.D. Tenn. Aug. 31, 2015). *United States v. Brown*, 843 F.3d 74, 76 (2d Cir. 2016). *Javeler Marine Services LLC v. Cross*, 175 F. Supp. 3d 756, 762 (S.D. Tex. 2016). *Morgan Hill Concerned Parents Ass'n v. California Dept. of Education*, 2017 WL 445722 at \*2 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 2, 2017).

**Metadata Comparison:** A comparison of specified metadata as the basis for de-duplication without regard to content. See De-Duplication.

**MFT:** See Master File Table.

**Microfiche:** Sheet microfilm (4 inches by 6 inches) containing reduced images of 270 pages or more in a grid pattern.

**Microprocessor:** See Central Processing Unit (CPU).

**Microsoft-Disk Operating System (MS-DOS):** Used in Windows-based personal computers as the control system prior to the introduction of 32-bit operating systems.

**Microsoft Outlook:** A personal information manager from Microsoft, part of the Microsoft Office suite. Although often used mainly as an email application, it also provides calendar, task, and contact management; note taking; a journal; and web browsing. Can be used as a stand-alone application or operate in conjunction with Microsoft Exchange Server to provide enhanced functions for multiple users in an organization, such as shared mailboxes and calendars, public folders, and meeting-time allocation.

**MiFi:** A portable wireless hub that allows users with the correct credentials to access the internet.

**Migrated Data:** Electronically stored information that has been moved from one database or format to another.

**Migration:** Moving electronically stored information from one computer application or platform to another; may require conversion to a different format.

**Mirror Image:** A bit-by-bit copy of any storage media. Often used to copy the configuration of one computer to another computer or when creating a preservation copy. See Forensic Copy and Image.

*Glossary definition cited: White v. Graceland College Center for Professional Development & Lifelong Learning, Inc., 2009 WL 722056 at \*6 (D. Kan. March 18, 2009). Crosmun v. Fayetteville Technical Community College, 832 S.E.2d 223, 229 (N.C. Ct. App. 2019).*

**Mirroring:** The duplication of electronically stored information for purposes of backup or to distribute internet or network traffic among several servers with identical ESI. See Bit Stream Backup, Disk Mirroring, Image.

**MIS:** See Management Information Systems.

**MMS:** See Multimedia Messaging Service.

**Modem (Modulator-Demodulator):** A device that can encode digital information into an analog signal (modulates) or decode the received analog signal to extract the digital information (demodulate).

**MOE:** See Margin of Error.

**Mount or Mounting:** The process of making off-line electronically stored information available for online processing. For example, placing a magnetic tape in a drive and setting up the software to recognize or read that tape. The terms load and loading are often used in conjunction with, or synonymously with, mount and mounting (as in “mount and load a tape”). Load may also refer to the process of transferring ESI from mounted media to another media or to an online system.

**MPEG-1, -2, -3 and -4:** Different standards for full motion video to digital compression/decompression techniques advanced by the Moving Pictures Experts Group.

**MS-DOS:** See Microsoft-Disk Operating System.

**MSG:** A common file format in which emails can be saved, often associated with a Microsoft Outlook email program, which preserves both the format and any associated attachment information.

**Multimedia:** The combined use of different media; integrated video, audio, text, and data graphics in digital form.

**Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS):** A protocol of messaging that allows for the transmission of multimedia content such as pictures, video, or sound over mobile networks. See Text Message.

**National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST):** A federal technology agency that works with industry to develop and apply technology measurements and standards. See NIST List.

**Native Format:** Electronic documents have an associated file structure defined by the original creating application. This file structure is referred to as the native format of the document. Because viewing or searching documents in the native format may require the original application (for example, viewing a Microsoft Word document may require the Microsoft Word application), documents may be converted to a neutral format as part of the record acquisition or archive process. Static format (often called imaged format), such as TIFF or PDF, is designed to retain an image of the document as it would look viewed in the original creating application but does not allow metadata to be viewed or the document information to be manipulated unless agreed-upon metadata and extracted text are preserved. In the conversion to static format, some metadata can be processed,

preserved, and electronically associated with the static format file. However, with technology advancements, tools and applications are increasingly available to allow viewing and searching of documents in their native format while still preserving pertinent metadata. It should be noted that not all electronically stored information may be conducive to production in either the native format or static format, and some other form of production may be necessary. Databases, for example, often present such issues. See Form of Production; Load File.

*Glossary* definition cited: *Covad Communications Co. v. Revonet, Inc.*, 254 F.R.D. 147, 148 (D.D.C. 2008). *Race Tires America, Inc. v. Hoosier Racing Tire Corp.*, 674 F.3d 158, 161 (3d Cir. 2012). *Palar v. Blackhawk Bancorporation Inc.*, 2013 WL 1704302, at \*1 (C.D. Ill. Mar. 19, 2013). *EEOC v. BOK Financial Corp.*, 2013 WL 12330078 at \*1 (D.N.M. May 7, 2013). *Akanthos Capital Mgmt., LLC v. CompuCredit Holdings Corp.*, 2 F. Supp. 3d 1306, 1315 (N.D. Ga. 2014). *Life Plans, Inc. vs. Security Life of Denver Insurance Co.*, 52 F. Supp. 3d 893, 903 (N.D. Ill. 2014). *Morgan Hill Concerned Parents Ass'n v. California Dept. of Education*, 2017 WL 445722 at \*1 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 2, 2017). *Carter v. Franklin Fire District*, 2019 WL 1224623 at 2\* (N.J. Super. Ct. App. Div. Mar. 15, 2019).

**Native Format Review:** Review of electronically stored information in its native format using either a third-party viewer application capable of rendering native files in close approximation to their original application or the actual original application in which the ESI was created. See Review.

**Natural Language Search:** A manner of searching that permits the use of plain language without special connectors or precise terminology, such as “Where can I find information on William Shakespeare?” as opposed to formulating a search statement,

such as “information” and “William Shakespeare.” See Boolean Search.

**Near Duplicates:** (1) Two or more files that are similar to a certain percentage, for example, files that are 90 percent similar may be identified as near duplicates; used for review to locate similar documents and review all near duplicates at one time; (2) The longest email in an email conversation where the subparts are identified and suppressed in an email collection to reduce review volume.

**Near-Line Data Storage:** A term used to refer to a data storage system where data is not actively available to users, but is available through an automated system that enables the robotic retrieval of removable storage media or tapes. Data in near-line storage is often stored on servers that do not have as high performance as active servers. Making near-line data available will not require human intervention (as opposed to off-line data, which can only be made available through human actions).

**Network:** A group of two or more computers and other devices connected together (“networked”) for the exchange and sharing of resources. See Local-Area Network (LAN) and Wide-Area Network (WAN).

**Network Operating System (NOS):** See Operating System.

**Network Operations Center (NOC):** The location where a network or computer array is monitored and maintained.

**Network Segmentation:** A security principle of splitting a network into smaller segments separated by devices as a method of improving security by limiting access to those segments.

**Neural Network:** Neural networks are made up of interconnected elements called neurons, which respond in parallel to a set of input signals given to each.

**New Technology File System (NTFS):** A high-performance and self-healing file system proprietary to Microsoft, used in Windows NT, Windows 2000, Windows XP, and Windows Vista Operating Systems, that supports file-level security, compression, and auditing. It also supports large volumes and powerful storage solutions such as Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks (RAID). An important feature of NTFS is the ability to encrypt files and folders to protect sensitive data. See Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks (RAID).

**NIST:** See National Institute of Standards and Technology.

**NIST List:** A hash database of computer files developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to identify files that are system generated and generally accepted to have no substantive value in most instances. See De-NIST.

**NOC:** See Network Operations Center.

**Node:** Any device connected to a network. PCs, servers, and printers are all nodes on the network.

**Noise Words:** See Stop Words.

**Noninclusive Emails:** Emails that are subparts of larger email chains and therefore redundant with regard to information that can be found in the larger email chain.

**Noninterlace:** When each line of a video image is scanned separately. Older cathode-ray tube (CRT) computer monitors use noninterlaced video.

**Normalization:** The process of reformatting data so that it is stored in a standardized form, such as setting the date and time stamp of a specific volume of electronically stored information to a specific zone, often GMT, to permit advanced processing of the ESI, such as de-duplication. See Coordinated Universal Time.

**NOS:** See Network Operating System.

**NoSQL Database:** A NoSQL database is a type of database management system using a form of unstructured storage that is optimized for handling big data. Unlike relational databases, NoSQL databases do not have a fixed table structure, allowing data to be distributed across many “nodes.” Additional nodes can readily be created as data volume grows. Some examples of NoSQL databases include Cassandra, Redis, Elasticsearch, MongoDB, and Hadoop. See Big Data; Database.

**Notes Server:** See Lotus Domino.

**NSF:** A Lotus Notes container file (i.e., database.nsf); can be either an email database or the traditional type of fielded database. See Lotus Domino.

**NTFS:** See New Technology File System.

**Null Set:** A set of files that are not positive results of a search.

**Null Set Testing:** Sampling a null set to search for false negatives of the search that created the null set.

**Object:** In personal computing, an object is a representation of something that a user can work with to perform a task and can appear as text or an icon. In a high-level method of programming called object-oriented programming (OOP), an object is a freestanding block of code that defines the properties of something.

**Object Linking and Embedding (OLE):** A feature in Microsoft Windows that allows the linking of different files, or parts of files, together into one file without forfeiting any of the original file’s attributes or functionality. See Compound Document.

**Objective Coding:** See Coding.

**OCR:** See Optical Character Recognition.

**Official Record Owner:** See Record Owner.

**Off-line Data:** Electronically stored information that is stored outside the network in daily use (e.g., on backup tapes) and is only accessible through the off-line storage system, not the network.

**Off-line Storage:** Electronically stored information stored on removable disk (optical, compact, etc.) or magnetic tape and not accessible by the active software or server. Often used for making disaster-recovery copies of records for which retrieval is unlikely. Accessibility to off-line media usually requires restoring the data back to the active server.

**OLE:** See Object Linking and Embedding.

**Online:** Connected to a network or the internet.

**Online Review:** The review of data on a computer, either locally on a network or via the internet. See Review.

**Online Storage:** The storage of electronically stored information as fully accessible information in daily use on the network or elsewhere.

**Ontology:** A collection of categories and their relationships to other categories and to words. An ontology is one of the methods used to find related documents when given a specific query.

**Open Source:** Refers to software that is distributed with access to the software's source code, so that it can be freely modified by users.

**Operating System (OS):** The operating system provides the software platform that directs the overall activity of a computer, network, or system and on which all other software programs and applications run. In many ways, choice of an operating system will affect which applications can be run. Operating systems perform basic tasks, such as recognizing input from the keyboard, sending output to the display screen, keeping track of files and directories on the disk, and controlling peripheral

devices such as disk drives and printers. For large systems, the operating system has even greater responsibilities and powers—becoming a traffic cop to make sure different programs and users running at the same time do not interfere with each other. The operating system is also responsible for security, ensuring that unauthorized users do not access the system. Examples of computer operating systems are UNIX, DOS, Microsoft Windows, LINUX, Mac OS, and IBM z/OS. Examples of portable device operating systems are iOS, Android, Microsoft Windows, and BlackBerry. Operating systems can be classified in a number of ways, including: multi-user (allows two or more users to run programs at the same time; some operating systems permit hundreds or even thousands of concurrent users); multiprocessing (supports running a program on more than one CPU); multitasking (allows more than one program to run concurrently); multithreading (allows different parts of a single program to run concurrently); and real time (instantly responds to input; general-purpose operating systems, such as DOS and UNIX, are not real time).

**OPT File:** A file format that associates a Bates number to the path of an image file and is used to load images to a document review database. See Bates Number.

**Optical Character Recognition (OCR):** A technology process that captures text from an image for the purpose of creating a parallel text file that can be associated with the image and searched in a database. OCR software evaluates scanned data for shapes it recognizes as letters or numerals. See Handwriting Recognition Software (HRS); Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR).

*Glossary definition cited: Race Tires America, Inc. v. Hoosier Racing Tire Corp.*, 674 F.3d 158, 161 (3d Cir. 2012). *Hinterberger v. Catholic Health System, Inc.*, 2013 WL 2250591 at \*9 (W.D.N.Y. May 21, 2013). *Gordon v. Kaleida Health*, 2013

WL 2250506 at \*1 (W.D.N.Y. May 21, 2103). *Country Vintner of North Carolina, LLC v. E. & J. Gallo Winery, Inc.*, 718 F.3d 249, 252 (4th Cir. 2013). *Life Plans, Inc. vs. Security Life of Denver Insurance Co.*, 52 F. Supp. 3d 893, 903 (N.D. Ill. 2014). *Balance Point Divorce Funding, LLC v. Scrantom*, 305 F.R.D. 67, 74 (S.D.N.Y. 2015).

**Optical Disks:** Computer media similar to a compact disk that cannot be rewritten. An optical drive uses a laser to read the electronically stored information.

**Originator:** See Author.

**OS:** See Operating System.

**OST:** A Microsoft Outlook information store used to save folder information that can be accessed off-line.

*Glossary definition cited: White v. Graceland College Center for Professional Development & Lifelong Learning, Inc.*, 2009 WL 722056 at \*5 (D. Kan. March 18, 2009).

**Outlook:** See Microsoft Outlook.

**Overinclusive:** When referring to data sets returned by some method of query, search, filter, or cull, results that are overly broad.

**Overlay File:** A type of text-delimited load file used to add, modify, or remove information from existing records in a database.

**Overwrite:** To record or copy new data over existing data, as in when a file or directory is updated.

**PaaS:** See Platform as a Service.

**PAB:** See Personal Address Book.

**Packet:** A unit of data sent across a network that may contain identity and routing information. When a large block of data is

to be sent over a network, it is broken up into several packets, sent, and then reassembled at the other end. The exact layout of an individual packet is determined by the protocol being used.

**Page File/Paging File:** Also referred to as a swap file, a method to temporarily store data outside of the main memory but quickly retrievable. This data is left in the swap file after the programs are terminated and may be retrieved using forensic techniques. See Swap File.

**Parallel Port:** See Port.

**Parent:** See Document.

**Parsing:** In eDiscovery, the process by which a file is broken apart into its individual components for indexing, processing, or to prepare for loading into a review database.

**Partition:** An individual section of computer storage media such as a hard drive. For example, a single hard drive may be divided into several partitions in order that each partition can be managed separately for security or maintenance purposes. When a hard drive is divided into partitions, each partition is designated by a separate drive letter, i.e., C, D, etc.

**Partition Table:** Indicates each logical volume contained on a disk and its location.

**Partition Waste Space:** After the boot sector of each volume or partition is written to a track, it is customary for the system to skip from the rest of that track to the actual useable area of the volume on the next track. This results in unused or wasted space on the initial track where information can be hidden. This wasted space can only be viewed with a low-level disk viewer. However, forensic techniques can be used to search these wasted space areas for hidden information.

**Passive Learning.** A technology-assisted review workflow in which documents are randomly selected for training by human review. See also Active Learning.

**Password:** A text or alphanumeric string that is used to authenticate a specific user's access to a secure program, network, or part of a network.

**Patching:** The practice of updating software (or firmware) to a more recent version that updates, fixes, or improves the software, often to repair security vulnerabilities.

**Path:** (1) The hierarchical description of where a directory, folder, or file is located on a computer or network; (2) A transmission channel, the path between two nodes of a network that a data communication follows, and the physical cabling that connects the nodes on a network.

**Pattern Matching:** A generic term that describes any process that compares one file's content with another file's content.

**Pattern Recognition:** Technology that searches electronically stored information for like patterns and flags and extracts the pertinent data, usually utilizing an algorithm. For instance, in looking for addresses, alpha characters followed by a comma and a space, followed by two capital alpha characters, followed by a space, followed by five or more digits, are usually the city, state, and zip code. By programming the application to look for a pattern, the information can be electronically identified, extracted, or otherwise utilized or manipulated.

**PB:** See Petabyte.

**PC:** See Personal Computer.

**PC Card:** Plug-in cards for computers (usually portables) that extend the storage and/or functionality. Originally introduced as the PCMCIA, the PC Card standard was developed by the Personal Computer Memory Card International Association.

**PDA:** See Personal Digital Assistant.

**PDF:** See Portable Document Format.

**PDF/A:** An electronic document file format for long-term archival preservation. ISO 19005 defined the file format PDF/A, which preserves electronic documents visual appearance over time, independent of the tools and systems used for creating, storing, or rendering the files.

**Peer-to-Peer or P2P:** A form of network organization that uses portions of each user's resources, like storage space or processing power, for use by others on the network. Notorious examples include the storage sharing of Napster or BitTorrent.

**Penetration Test:** Testing that attempts to find security weaknesses and vulnerabilities in a network or system so that they can be remedied before they are used and located by a malicious party. Often referred to as "Pen Test."

**Peripheral:** Any accessory device attached to a computer, such as a disk drive, printer, modem, or joystick.

**Peripheral Component Interconnect or Interface (PCI):** A high-speed interconnect local bus used to support multimedia devices.

**Personal Address Book (PAB):** A file type to describe a Microsoft Outlook list of contacts created and maintained by an individual user for personal use.

**Personal Computer (PC):** A computer based on a microprocessor and designed to be used by one person at a time.

**Personal Data (as used in the GDPR):** Any information relating to a natural person who can be identified from the data, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identification number, location data, online identifier, or to one or more factors specific to his or her physical, physiological, genetic, mental,

economic, cultural or social identity. Also referred to as PII (Personally Identifiable Information).

**Personal Digital Assistant (PDA):** A portable device used to perform communication and organizational tasks.

**Personal Filing Cabinet (PFC):** The AOL proprietary email storage container file used for the local storage of emails, contacts, calendar events, and other personal information.

**Personally Identifiable Information (PII):** Information, such as social security number, physical characteristics, address, or date of birth, from which an individual's identity can be determined.

**Petabyte (PB):** 1,024 terabytes (approximately one million gigabytes). See Byte.

**PFC:** See Personal Filing Cabinet.

**PHI:** See Protected Health Information.

**Phishing:** The practice of sending email messages to targeted users in an effort to extract private information, often security related, such as passwords, to assist in circumventing network security.

**Physical Disk:** An actual piece of computer media, such as the hard disk or drive, floppy disks, CD-ROM disks, zip drive, etc.

**Physical File Storage:** When a file is created on a computer, a sufficient number of clusters are assigned to contain the file. If the file is not large enough to completely fill the assigned clusters, then some unused space will exist within the physical file space. This is referred to as file slack and can contain unused space, previously deleted/overwritten files, or fragments thereof. See Slack Space.

**Physical Unitization:** See Unitization—Physical and Logical.

**Picture Element:** The smallest addressable unit on a display screen. The higher the resolution (the more rows and columns), the more information that can be displayed.

**PII:** See Personally Identifiable Information.

**Ping:** Executable command, used as a test for checking network connectivity.

**Pitch:** Characters (or dots) per inch, measured horizontally.

**Pixel:** A single unit of a raster image that allows a picture to be displayed on an electronic screen or computer monitor.

**PKI:** See Public Key Infrastructure Digital Signature.

**Plaintext or Plain Text:** The least formatted and therefore most portable form of text for computerized documents.

**Plasma Display:** A type of flat-panel display commonly used for large televisions in which many tiny cells are located between two panels of glass holding an inert mixture of gases, which are then electronically charged to produce light.

**Platform as a Service (PaaS):** A form of cloud computing that describes the outsourcing of the computer platform upon which development and other workflows can be performed without the costs of hardware, software, and personnel. See Cloud Computing.

**Platter:** One of several components that make up a computer hard drive. Platters are thin, rapidly rotating disks that have a set of read/write heads on both sides. Each platter is divided into a series of concentric rings called tracks. Each track is further divided into sections called sectors, and each sector is subdivided into bytes.

**Plug and Play (PNP):** A method by which new hardware may be detected, configured, and used by existing systems upon connection with little or no user intervention.

**Plug-In:** An application developed to be used as an add-on to another program and cannot usually be used without the program it was designed to augment.

**PNP:** See Plug and Play.

**POD:** See Print On Demand.

**Point Estimate:** The result of a sample that estimates prevalence in the specific population being sampled.

**Pointer:** An index entry in the directory of a disk (or other storage medium) that identifies the space on the disk in which an electronic document or piece of electronic data resides, thereby preventing that space from being overwritten by other data. In most cases, when an electronic document is deleted, the pointer is deleted, allowing the document to be overwritten, but the document is not actually erased until overwritten.

**Port:** An interface between a computer and other computers or devices. Ports can be divided into two primary groups based on signal transfer. Serial ports send and receive one bit at a time via a single pair of wires, while parallel ports send multiple bits at the same time over several sets of wires. See Universal Serial Bus (USB) Port. Software ports are virtual data connections used by programs to exchange data directly instead of going through a file or other temporary storage locations; the most common types are Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) and User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

**Portable Document Format (PDF):** A file format technology developed by Adobe Systems to facilitate the exchange of documents between platforms regardless of originating application by preserving the format and content.

*Glossary definition cited: EEOC v. BOK Financial Corp., 2013 WL 12330078 at \*1 (D.N.M. May 7, 2013). Country Vintner of North Carolina, LLC v. E. & J. Gallo Winery, Inc.,*

718 F.3d 249, 253 (4th Cir. 2013). *Saliga v. Chemtura Corp.*, 2013 WL 6182227, at \*2 (D. Conn. Nov. 25, 2013). *Balance Point Divorce Funding, LLC v. Scrantom*, 305 F.R.D. 67, 74 (S.D.N.Y. 2015). *Carter v. Franklin Fire District*, 2019 WL 1224623 at 2\* (N.J. Super. Ct. App. Div. Mar. 15, 2019).

**Portable Volumes:** A feature that facilitates the moving of large volumes of documents without requiring copying multiple files. Portable volumes enable individual CDs to be easily regrouped, detached, and reattached to different databases for a broader information exchange.

**Portrait Mode:** A page orientation or display such that the height exceeds the width (vertical).

**Precision:** When describing search results, precision is the number of true positives retrieved from a search divided by the total number of results returned. For example, in a search for documents relevant to a document request, it is the percentage of documents returned that are actually relevant to the request. See *The Sedona Conference, Best Practices Commentary on the Use of Search and Information Retrieval Methods in E-Discovery*, 15 SEDONA CONF. J. 217 (2014), available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary\\_on\\_Search\\_and\\_Retrieval\\_Methods](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary_on_Search_and_Retrieval_Methods).

**Predictive Coding/Ranking:** See Technology-Assisted Review.

**Preservation:** The process of retaining documents and electronically stored information, including document metadata, for legal purposes and includes suspension of normal document destruction policies and procedures. See Spoliation.

**Preservation Notice, Preservation Order:** See Legal Hold.

**Prevalence:** The percent of a population that has a specific characteristic, such as responsiveness.

**Primary Key:** A unique value stored in a field or fields of a database record that is used to identify the record and, in a relational database, to link multiple tables together.

**Print On Demand (POD):** A term referring to document images stored in electronic format and available to be quickly printed.

**Printout:** Printed data, also known as hard copy.

**Private Key Encryption:** A method of securing data whereby data is made unreadable using an algorithm and can only be unscrambled using a key that is held only by the originator and those he or she chooses to share it with.

**Private Network:** A network that is connected to the internet but is isolated from the internet with security measures, allowing use of the network only by persons within the private network.

**Privilege Data Set:** The universe of documents identified as responsive and/or relevant but withheld from production on the grounds of legal privilege, a log of which is usually required to notify of withheld documents and the grounds on which they were withheld (e.g., work product, attorney-client privilege).

**Process/processing (as used in the GDPRP):** Any controller delegated operation or set of operations at the instruction of and on behalf of the controller which is performed on personal data, or on sets of personal data, whether or not by automatic means, such as collection, recording, organization, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction.

**Processing Data:** The automated ingestion of electronically stored information into a program for the purpose of extracting metadata and text; and in some cases, the creation of a static image of the source ESI files according to a predetermined set of

specifications, in anticipation of loading to a database. Specifications can include the de-duplication of ESI, or filtering based on metadata contents such as date or email domain and specific metadata fields to be included in the final product.

*Glossary definition cited: Balance Point Divorce Funding, LLC v. Scrantom, 305 F.R.D. 67, 74 (S.D.N.Y. 2015).*

**Processing Exception:** Files that a given processing software is not able to access in order to extract metadata and text or to convert to a static form. Processing exceptions may occur due to file corruption, password protection, or a file format that the processing software does not recognize.

**Processor (as used in the GDPR):** A natural or legal person, public authority, agency or other body which processes personal data on behalf and at the direction of the controller. The person is a separate legal entity with respect to the controller, and the person processes personal data on behalf of the controller. Processors have direct obligations with regard to “the how”: security, record keeping, notifying controllers of data breach, and ensuring compliance of restrictions on data transfers. Obligations relating to “purpose” are only imposed on the controller. See Controller.

**Production:** The process of delivering to another party, or making available for that party’s review, documents and/or electronically stored information deemed responsive to a discovery request.

**Production Data Set:** The universe of documents and/or electronically stored information identified as responsive to document requests and not withheld on the grounds of privilege.

**Production Number:** See Bates Number and Beginning Document Number.

**Program:** See Application and Software.

**Properties:** File-level metadata describing attributes of the physical file, i.e., size, creation date, and author. See Metadata.

**Protected Health Information (PHI):** Information concerning personal mental or physical health protected under U.S. and/or foreign laws.

**Protocol:** A common series of rules, signals, and conventions that allow different kinds of computers and applications to communicate over a network. One of the most common protocols for networks is called Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP).

**Protodigital:** Primitive or first-generation digital. Applied as an adjective to systems, software, documents, or ways of thinking. The term was first used in music to refer to early computer synthesizers that attempted to mimic the sound of traditional musical instruments and to early jazz compositions written on computers with that instrumentation in mind. In eDiscovery, this term is most often applied to systems or ways of thinking that—on the surface—appear to embrace digital technology, but attempt to equate electronically stored information to paper records, ignoring the unique attributes of ESI. When someone says, “What’s the big deal with eDiscovery? Sure we have a lot of email. You just print it all out and produce it like you used to,” that is an example of protodigital thinking. Likewise, when someone says, “We embrace electronic discovery. We scan everything to PDF before we produce it,” that person is engaged in protodigital thinking—attempting to fit electronically stored information into the paper discovery paradigm.

**Proximity Search:** A search syntax written to find two or more words within a specified distance from each other.

**PST:** A Microsoft Outlook email storage file containing archived email messages in a compressed format.

*Glossary definition cited: White v. Graceland College Center for Professional Development & Lifelong Learning, Inc., 2009 WL 722056 at \*5 (D. Kan. March 18, 2009).*

**Pseudonymization (as used in the GDPR):** The processing of personal data in such a manner that the personal data can no longer be attributed to a specific data subject without the use of additional information, provided that such additional information is kept separately and is subject to technical and organizational measures to ensure that the personal data are not attributed to an identified or identifiable natural person.

**Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Digital Signature:** A system, including hardware, software, and policies, designed to manage digital certificates and match those certificates to specific users so that data can be validated as authentic. See Certificate; Digital Certificate; and Digital Signature.

**Public Network:** A network that is part of the public internet.

**Purge:** A process of permanently deleting data that does not allow for recovery.

**QBIC:** See Query By Image Content.

**QC:** See Quality Control.

**QIC:** See Quarter Inch Cartridge.

**QR:** See Quick Response Code.

**Quality Control (QC):** Steps taken to ensure that results of a given task, product, or service are of sufficiently high quality; the operational techniques and activities that are used to fulfill requirements for quality. In document handling and management processes, this includes image quality (resolution, skew, speckle, legibility, etc.), and data quality (correct information in appropriate fields, validated data for dates, addresses, names/issues lists, etc.).

**Quarter Inch Cartridge (QIC):** Digital recording tape, 2000 feet long, with an uncompressed capacity of 5 GB.

**Query:** An electronic search request for specific information from a database or other electronically stored information.

**Query By Image Content (QBIC):** An IBM search system for stored images that allows the user to sketch an image and then search the image files to find those which most closely match. The user can specify color and texture—such as sandy beaches or black clouds.

**Queue:** A sequence of items such as packets or print jobs waiting to be processed. For example, a print queue holds files that are waiting to be printed.

**Quick Peek:** An initial production whereby documents and/or electronically stored information are made available for review or inspection before being reviewed for responsiveness, relevance, privilege, confidentiality, or privacy. See Make-Available Production.

**Quick Response (QR) Code:** A small, square matrix pattern that can be read by an optical scanner or mobile phone camera; it can store thousands of alphanumeric characters and may be affixed to business cards, advertising, product parts, or other objects in order to convey information, commonly an internet URL.

**RAID:** See Redundant Array of Independent Disks.

**RAM:** See Random Access Memory.

**Random Access Memory (RAM):** Hardware inside a computer that retains memory on a short-term basis and stores information while the computer is in use. It is the working memory of the computer into which the operating system, startup applications, and drivers are loaded when a computer is turned on, or where a program subsequently started up is loaded, and

where thereafter, these applications are executed. RAM can be read or written in any section with one instruction sequence. When running advanced operating systems and applications, it helps increase operating efficiency to have more of this working space installed. RAM content is erased each time a computer is turned off. See Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM).

**Random Sampling:** The process of selecting data from a population with no bias or input from the person performing the sampling, in which each item has an equal chance of being selected as any other item. See also Sampling.

**Ransomware:** A form of malware that seeks to encrypt data without the knowledge of the user or administrator, providing keys for decryption only upon payment of a ransom. See Malware.

**RAR:** A proprietary compressed archive container file.

**Raster/Rasterized (Raster or Bitmap Drawing):** A method of representing an image with a grid (or map) of dots. Common raster file formats are GIF, JPEG, TIFF, PCX, BMP, etc., and they typically have jagged edges.

**RBAC:** See Role-based Access Controls.

**Read-Only Memory (ROM):** Random memory that can be read but not written or changed. Also, hardware, usually a chip, within a computer containing programming necessary for starting the computer and essential system programs that neither the user nor the computer can alter or erase. Information in the computer's ROM is permanently maintained even when the computer is turned off.

**Recall:** When describing search results, recall is the number of documents retrieved from a search divided by all of the responsive documents in a collection. For example, in a search for documents relevant to a document request, it is the percentage of

documents returned compared against all documents that should have been returned and exist in the data set. See The Sedona Conference, *Best Practices Commentary on the Use of Search and Information Retrieval Methods in E-Discovery*, 15 SEDONA CONF. J. 217 (2014), available at [https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary\\_on\\_Search\\_and\\_Retrieval\\_Methods](https://thesedonaconference.org/publication/Commentary_on_Search_and_Retrieval_Methods).

**Record:** (1) Information, regardless of medium or format, that has value to an organization. (2) A single row of information or subset of data elements in a database.

**Record Custodian:** An individual responsible for the physical storage of records throughout their retention period. In the context of electronic records, custodianship may not be a direct part of the records management function in all organizations. For example, some organizations may place this responsibility within their information technology department, or they may assign responsibility for retaining and preserving records with individual employees. See Record Owner.

*Glossary definition cited: National Jewish Health v. WebMD Health Services Group, Inc.*, 305 F.R.D. 247, 255 (D. Colo. 2014).

**Record Lifecycle:** The time period from which a record is created until it is disposed. See Information Lifecycle Management.

**Record Owner:** The physical custodian or subject-matter expert on the contents of the record who is responsible for the lifecycle management of the record. This may be, but is not necessarily, the author of the record. See Record Custodian.

**Record Series:** A description of a particular set of records within a file plan. Each category has retention and disposition data associated with it, applied to all record folders and records within the category. See DoD 5015.

**Record Submitter:** The person who enters a record in an application or system. This may be, but is not necessarily, the author or the record owner.

**Records Archive:** See Repository for Electronic Records.

**Records Hold:** See Legal Hold.

**Records Management:** The planning, controlling, directing, organizing, training, promoting and other managerial activities involving the lifecycle of information, including creation, maintenance (use, storage, retrieval) and disposition, regardless of media. See Disposition; Information Governance; Information Lifecycle Management.

**Records Manager:** The person responsible for the implementation of a records management program in keeping with the policies and procedures that govern that program, including the identification, classification, handling and disposition of the organization's records throughout their retention lifecycle. The physical storage and protection of records may be a component of this individual's functions, but it may also be delegated to someone else. See Record Custodian.

**Records Retention Period:** The length of time a given record series should be kept, expressed as either a time period (e.g., four years), an event or action (e.g., audit), or a combination (e.g., six months after audit).

**Records Retention Schedule:** A plan for the management of records, listing types of records and how long they should be kept; the purpose is to provide continuing authority to dispose of or transfer records to historical archives. See Information Lifecycle Management.

**Records Store:** See Repository for Electronic Records.

**Recover, Recovery:** See Restore.

**Redaction:** A portion of an image or document is intentionally obscured or removed to prevent disclosure of the specific portion. Done to protect privileged or irrelevant portions, including highly confidential, sensitive, or proprietary information.

**Redundant Array of Independent Disks (RAID):** A method of storing data on servers that usually combines multiple hard drives into one logical unit, thereby increasing capacity, reliability, and backup capability. RAID systems may vary in levels of redundancy, with no redundancy being a single, non-mirrored disk as level 0, two disks that mirror each other as level 1, on up, with level 5 being one of the most common. RAID systems are more complicated to restore and copy.

**Refresh Rate:** The number of times per second a computer display is updated.

**Region (of an image):** An area of an image file that is selected for specialized processing. Also called a zone.

**Registration:** (1) In document coding, the process of lining up an image of a form to determine the location of specific fields. See Coding; (2) entering pages into a scanner such that they are correctly read.

**Relational Database:** A model of databases where data is stored in two or more tables and the tables are linked to each other by a field common to the tables, sometimes referred to as a primary key.

**Relative Path:** The electronic path on a network or computer to an individual file from a common point on the network.

**Remote Access:** The ability to access and use digital information from a location off-site from where the information is physically located; e.g., to use a computer, modem, and some remote access software to connect to a network from a distant location.

**Render Images:** To take a native-format electronic file and convert it to an image that appears as if the original format file were printed to paper. See Image Processing.

**Replication:** See Disk Mirroring.

**Report:** Formatted output of a system providing specific information.

**Repository for Electronic Records:** A direct access device on which the electronic records and associated metadata are stored. Sometimes called a records store or records archive.

**Residual Data:** Sometimes referred to as ambient data; data that is not active on a computer system as the result of being deleted or moved to another location and is unintentionally left behind. Residual data includes: (1) data found on media free space; (2) data found in file slack space; and (3) data within files that has functionally been deleted in that it is not visible using the application with which the file was created, without use of undelete or special data-recovery techniques. May contain copies of deleted files, internet files, and file fragments. See Latent Data.

**Resolution:** Refers to the sharpness and clarity of an image. The term is most often used to describe monitors, printers, and graphic images.

**Restore:** To transfer data from a backup medium (such as tapes) to an active system, often for the purpose of recovery from a problem, failure, or disaster. Restoration of archival media is the transfer of data from an archival store to an active system for the purposes of processing (such as query, analysis, extraction, or disposition of that data). Archival restoration of systems may require not only data restoration but also replication of the original hardware and software operating environment. Restoration of systems is often called recovery.

**Retention Schedule:** See Records Retention Schedule.

**Reverse Engineering:** The process of analyzing a system or piece of software to identify how it was created in order to recreate it in a new or different form. Reverse engineering is usually undertaken in order to redesign the system for better maintainability or to produce a copy of a system without utilizing the design from which it was originally produced. For example, one might take the executable code of a computer program, run it to study how it behaved with different input, and then attempt to write a program that behaved the same or better.

**Review:** The process of reading or otherwise analyzing documents to determine the document's applicability to some objective or subjective standard. Often used to describe the examination of documents in a legal context for their responsiveness or relevance to specific issues in a matter. See Native Format Review; Online Review.

**Review Batch:** See Linear and Nonlinear Review.

**Rewriteable Technology:** Storage devices where the data may be written more than once—typically hard drives, floppy disks, and optical disks.

**RFC822:** A standard that specifies a syntax for text messages sent between one or more computer users, within the framework of email.

**Rich Text Format (RTF):** A standard text file format that preserves minimal stylistic formatting of document files for ease in exchange between various parties with different software.

**Richness:** See Prevalence.

**RIM:** Records and information management. (RIM is also used as the acronym of the company that developed and sells BlackBerry devices, Research In Motion.)

**Rip:** To extract electronically stored information from container files, e.g., to unbundle email collections into individual emails,

during the eDiscovery process while preserving metadata, authenticity, and ownership. Also used to describe the extraction or copying of data to or from an external storage device.

**RLE:** See Run Length Encoded.

**Role-based Access Controls (RBAC):** The capability of a program or platform to limit access to certain functions based upon user roles.

**ROM:** See Read-Only Memory.

**Root Directory:** The top level in a hierarchical file system. For example, on a personal computer, the root directory of the hard drive (usually C:) contains all the second-level subdirectories on that drive.

**Root Expander:** A search tool that identifies words with multiple endings of the term searches. For example, applying a root expander to “appl” would identify documents hitting the terms apply, applied, application, and applies. However, unlike stemming, if a root expander was added to “apply,” documents with applied, application, and applies would not be identified. See Stemming.

**Router:** A device that forwards data packets along networks. A router is connected to at least two networks, commonly two LANs or WANs, or a LAN and its ISP network. Routers are located at gateways, the places where two or more networks connect. See Wireless Router.

**RTF:** See Rich Text Format.

**Run Length Encoded (RLE):** A compressed image format that supports only 256 colors; most effective on images with large areas of black or white.

**SaaS:** See Software as a Service.

**Sampling:** The process of taking a subset of data from a larger set of data to test for the existence or frequency of a specific target or set of information that may be contained in the larger set of data. It can be a useful technique in addressing a number of issues relating to litigation, including decisions about what repositories of data are appropriate to search in a particular litigation, and determinations of the validity and effectiveness of searches or other data extraction procedures. See also Random Sampling, Stratified Sampling, and Statistical Sampling.

**SAN:** See Storage Area Network.

**SAR:** See Subject Access Request.

**SAS-70 (Statement on Auditing Standards No. 70, Service Organizations):** An auditing standard developed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants that includes an examination of an entity's controls over information technology, security, and related processes. There are two types of examinations: Type I examines the policies and procedures in place for their effectiveness to the stated objective; Type II reports on how the systems were actually used during the period of review. The SAS-70 Type II assessment is often used by hosting vendors and storage co-locations as a testament to their internal controls.

**Scalability:** The capacity of a system to expand without requiring major reconfiguration or reentry of data. For example, multiple servers or additional storage can be easily added.

**Scale-to-Gray:** An option to display a black-and-white image file in an enhanced mode, making it easier to view. A scale-to-gray display uses gray shading to fill in gaps or jumps (known as aliasing) that occur when displaying an image file on a computer screen. Also known as grayscale.

**Schema:** A set of rules or a conceptual model for data structure and content, such as a description of the data content and relationships in a database.

**Script.** A series of commands written to instruct a computer or other electronic computing device to perform an action or series of actions.

**Scroll Bar:** The bar on the side or bottom of a window that allows the user to scroll up and down through the window's contents. Scroll bars have scroll arrows at both ends and a scroll box, all of which can be used to scroll around the window.

**SCSI:** See Small Computer System Interface.

**SDLT:** See Super DLT.

**Search:** See Bayesian Search; Boolean Search; Concept Search; Contextual Search; Full-Text Search; Fuzzy Search; Index; Keyword; Pattern Recognition; Proximity Search; Query By Image Content (QBIC); Sampling; Search Engine; and Search Syntax.

**Search Engine:** A program that enables a search for keywords or phrases, such as on web pages throughout the World Wide Web, e.g., Google, Bing, etc.

**Search Syntax:** The grammatical formatting of a search string, which is particular to the search program. Includes formatting for proximity searches, phrase searches, or any other options that are supported by the search program.

**Sector:** A sector is normally the smallest individually addressable unit of information stored on a hard-drive platter and usually holds 512 bytes of information. Sectors are numbered sequentially starting with 1 on each individual track. Thus, Track 0, Sector 1 and Track 5, Sector 1 refer to different sectors on the same hard drive. The first PC hard disks typically held 17 sectors per track.

**Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA-1 and SHA-2):** A family of cryptographic hash functions published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as a U.S. Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS). Similar to MD5, SHA hash

algorithms are used to give a numeric value to a digital file or piece of data. In the context of eDiscovery, they are used to find duplicates in a data collection. See Hash Coding.

**Security Information and Event Management (SIEM):** Products and services designed to provide real-time information about security threats based upon analyzing data and logs from various sources in an enterprise.

**Seed Set:** A manually compiled set of documents used to train an analytic index for the purposes of performing some form of technology-assisted review. The set of documents can be gathered using various forms of sampling.

**Sentiment Analysis:** Sometimes referred to as opinion mining or emotion AI, sentiment analysis uses natural language processing to determine the emotional tenor of each component (phrase, sentences, segments). Basic examples would be positive or negative sentiment.

**Serial Line Internet Protocol (SLIP):** A connection to the internet in which the interface software runs in the local computer, rather than the internet's.

**Serial Port:** See Port.

**Server:** Any central computer on a network that contains electronically stored information or applications shared by multiple users of the network on their client computers; servers provide information to client machines. For example, there are web servers that send out web pages, mail servers that deliver email, list servers that administer mailing lists, FTP servers that hold FTP sites and deliver ESI to requesting users, and name servers that provide information about internet host names. See File Server.

*Glossary definition cited: Rosehoff, Ltd. v. Truscott Terrace Holdings LLC, 2016 WL 2640351, at \*5 (W.D.N.Y. May 10, 2016).*

**Server Farm:** A cluster of servers.

**Service-Level Agreement:** A contract that defines the technical support or business parameters that a service provider or outsourcing firm will provide its clients. The agreement typically spells out measures for performance and consequences for failure.

**Session:** A lasting connection, usually involving the exchange of many packets between a user or host and a server, typically implemented as a layer in a network protocol, such as Telnet or File Transfer Protocol (FTP).

**SGML/HyTime:** A multimedia extension to Standard Generalized Markup Language, sponsored by the Department of Defense.

**SHA:** See Secure Hash Algorithm.

**Short Message Service (SMS):** The most common data application for text messaging communication, SMS allows users to send text messages to phones and other mobile communication devices. See Text Message.

**SIEM:** See Security Information and Event Management.

**Signature:** See Certificate.

**SIMM:** See Single, In-Line Memory Module.

**Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP):** The protocol widely implemented on the internet for exchanging email messages.

**Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP):** A standard, application-level protocol used to manage and monitor devices on an internet protocol network.

**Simplex:** One-sided page(s).

**Single, In-Line Memory Module (SIMM):** A mechanical package (with “legs”) used to attach memory chips to printed circuit boards.

**Single Instance Storage:** The method of de-duplication that is undertaken on a storage device to maximize space by eliminating multiple copies of a single file by retaining only one copy. This system of storage can occur either on a file level or on a field level, where individual components of files are disassembled so that only unique parts are retained across an entire population and the reassembly of the original files is managed upon demand.

**Slack Space:** The unused space that exists on a hard drive when the logical file space is less than the physical file space. Also known as file slack. A form of residual data, the amount of on-disk file space from the end of the logical record information to the end of the physical disk record. Slack space can contain information soft-deleted from the record, information from prior records stored at the same physical location as current records, metadata fragments, and other information useful for forensic analysis of computer systems. See Cluster Bitmap; Cluster (File); Physical File Storage.

*Glossary definition cited: Javeler Marine Services LLC v. Cross*, 175 F. Supp. 3d 756, 762 (S.D. Tex. 2016).

**SLIP:** See Serial Line Internet Protocol.

**Small Computer System Interface (SCSI, pronounced “skuzzy”):** A common, industry standard connection type between computers and peripherals, such as hard disks, CD-ROM drives, and scanners. SCSI allows for up to seven devices to be attached in a chain via cables.

**Smart Card:** A credit-card-size device that contains a microprocessor, memory, and a battery.

**SMS:** See Short Message Service.

**SMTP:** See Simple Mail Transfer Protocol.

**Snapshot:** See Bit Stream Backup.

**SNMP:** See Simple Network Management Protocol.

**SOC1 and SOC2 Reports.** Reports on an organization's compliance regarding their control of data security and management as detailed in the organization's SSAE16 standards. SOC1 reports on controls at a point in time, while SOC2 details compliance with controls over time, usually six months. See also SSAE16.

**Social Media:** Internet applications that permit individuals or organizations to interactively share content and communicate.

**Social Network:** A group of people that use the internet to share and communicate, either professionally or personally, in a public setting typically based on a specific theme or interest. For example, Facebook is a popular social network that allows people to connect to friends and acquaintances anywhere in the world in order to share personal updates, pictures and experiences, and is used by entities as a public-facing presence.

**Software:** Any set of coded instructions (programs) stored on computer-readable media that control what a computer does or can do. Includes operating systems and software applications.

**Software Application:** See Application; Software.

**Software as a Service (SaaS):** Software application delivery model where a software vendor develops a web-native software application and hosts and operates (either independently or through a third-party) the application for use by its customers over the internet. Customers pay not for owning the software itself, but for using it. See Application Service Provider (ASP); Cloud Computing.

**Speckle:** Imperfections in an image, as a result of scanning paper documents, that do not appear on the original.

**Spoliation:** The destruction of records or properties, such as metadata, that may be relevant to ongoing or anticipated litigation, government investigation, or audit. Courts differ in their interpretation of the level of intent required before sanctions may be warranted.

*Glossary definition cited: Victor Stanley, Inc. v. Creative Pipe, Inc.*, 269 F.R.D. 497, 516 (D. Md., 2010). *Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc. v. Cammarata*, 688 F. Supp. 2d 598, 612 (S.D. Tex., 2010). *Quantlab Technologies Ltd. (BGI) v. Godlevsky*, 2014 WL 651944, at \*8 (S.D. Tex. Feb. 19, 2014). *Castano v. Wal-Mart Stores Texas, LLC*, 2015 WL 2180573, at \*2 (S.D. Tex. May 7, 2015).

**SPP:** See Standard Parallel Port.

**Spyware:** A data collection program that secretly gathers information about the user and relays it to advertisers or other interested parties. Adware usually displays banners or unwanted pop-up windows but often includes spyware as well. See Malware.

**SQL:** See Structured Query Language.

**SQL Injection:** A database attack process hackers implement to execute SQL commands against a database server through fields presented by a web browser application. See also Structured Query Language.

**SSAE16:** The successor to the Statement on Auditing Standards No. 70 (SAS 70) auditing standard, which details the parameters and policies of data security and handling for an organization. The reports regarding performance to the SSAE16 standards are identified as SOC1 and SOC 2 reports. See also SOC 1 and SOC 2 Reports.

**Stand-Alone Computer:** A personal computer that is not connected to any other computer or network.

**Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML):** An informal industry standard for open systems document management that specifies the data encoding of a document's format and content. Has been virtually replaced by Extensible Markup Language (XML).

**Standard Parallel Port (SPP):** See Port.

**Static Search:** A search that is constructed to return the same records regardless of ongoing activity in the database, such as newly added documents or updated tagging. See Dynamic Search.

**Statistical Sampling:** A process used while sampling data to ensure that a sample is accurately representative of the entire population and is not affected by any kind of bias toward a specific attribute of the underlying data. See also Sampling.

**Steganography:** The hiding of information within a more obvious kind of communication. Although not widely used, digital steganography involves the hiding of data inside a sound or image file. Steganalysis is the process of detecting steganography by looking at variances between bit patterns and unusually large file sizes.

**Stemming:** A search logic whereby the search engine identifies other terms based on the natural language root of the term being search. For example, stemming "apply" would identify documents hitting the terms apply, applied, application, and applies. See Root Expander.

**Stop Words:** Common words (e.g., all, the, of, but, not) that are purposefully excluded from a search index when it is created in order to make the index more efficient. Also known as Noise Words.

**Storage Area Network (SAN):** A high-speed subnetwork of shared storage devices. A storage device is a machine that contains nothing but a disk or disks for storing data. A SAN's architecture works in a way that makes all storage devices available to all servers on a local-area network (LAN) or wide-area network (WAN). As more storage devices are added to a SAN, they too will be accessible from any server in the larger network. The server merely acts as a pathway between the end user and the stored data. Because stored data does not reside directly on any of a network's servers, server power is utilized for business applications, and network capacity is released to the end user. See Network.

**Storage Device:** A device capable of storing ESI.

**Storage Media:** See Magnetic/Optical Storage Media.

**Stratified Sampling:** A method of data sampling where data is initially divided into subgroups (e.g., by age range or a geographic criteria) or strata, and then each group is sampled in order to ensure that each subgroup is properly represented. See also Sampling.

**Streaming Indexing:** Real-time or near-real-time indexing of data as it being moved from one storage medium to another.

**Structured Data:** Data stored in a structured format, such as databases or data sets according to specific form and content rules as defined by each field of the database. Contrast to Unstructured Data.

**Structured Query Language (SQL):** A database computer language used to manage the data in relational databases. A standard fourth generation programming language (4GL—a programming language that is closer to natural language and easier to work with than a high-level language).

**Subject Access Request (SAR):** See DSAR.

**Subjective Coding:** Recording the judgments of a reviewer as to a document's relevancy, privilege, or importance with regard to factual or legal issues in a legal matter. See Coding.

**Super DLT (SDLT):** A type of backup tape that can hold up to 300 GB or 450 CDs, depending on the data file format. See Digital Linear Tape (DLT).

**Supervised Learning:** Use of machine learning to analyze data, using training examples that have been coded by humans, such as categorization. See also Unsupervised Learning.

**Support Vector Machine (SVM):** A machine-learning algorithm used to classify sets of data, distinguished from other machine-learning algorithms by its need for less exemplar input for its calculations and its use of less computing power.

**Suspension Notice or Suspension Order:** See Legal Hold.

**SVM:** See Support Vector Machine.

**Swap File:** A file used to temporarily store code and data for programs that are currently running. This information is left in the swap file after the programs are terminated and may be retrieved using forensic techniques. See also Page File/Paging File.

*Glossary* definition cited: *Javeler Marine Services LLC v. Cross*, 175 F. Supp. 3d 756, 762 (S.D. Tex. 2016).

**Switch (Network Switch):** A network device that accepts incoming data packets and distributes them to their destination on a Local Area Network (LAN).

**Symmetric Key Encryption:** The same key both encrypts and decrypts messages, often used in email encryption.

**System:** (1) A collection of people, machines, and methods organized to perform specific functions; (2) An integrated whole composed of diverse, interacting, specialized structures, and subfunctions; and/or (3) A group of subsystems united by some

interaction or interdependence, performing many duties but functioning as a single unit.

**System Administrator (sysadmin or sysop):** The person responsible for and/or in charge of keeping a network or enterprise resource, such as a large database, operational.

**System Files:** Files allowing computer systems to run; non-user-created files.

**System-Generated Metadata:** Information about a file that is created and applied to a file by a computer process or application. Information could include the data a file was saved, printed or edited, and can include where a file was stored and how many times it has been edited. See Metadata.

*Glossary definition cited: CBT Flint Partners, LLC v. Return Path, Inc., 737 F.3d 1320, 1328 (Fed. Cir. 2013).*

**T1:** A high-speed, high-bandwidth leased line connection to the internet. T1 connections deliver information at 1.544 megabits per second.

**T3:** A high-speed, high-bandwidth leased line connection to the internet. T3 connections deliver information at 44.746 megabits per second.

**Tabletop Exercise:** In an information security data breach context, a tabletop exercise is a meeting to discuss the incident response policy, plan, and procedures. Attendees are typically key personnel, each of whom is responsible for specific tasks before, during, and after a data breach incident.

**Tagged Image File Format (TIFF):** A widely used and supported graphic file format for storing bit-mapped images, with many different compression formats and resolutions. File name has .TIF extension. Can be black and white, gray-scaled or color. Images are stored in tagged fields, and programs use the tags to

accept or ignore fields, depending on the application. The format originated in the early 1980s.

*Glossary* definition cited: *Williams v. Sprint/United Management Co.*, 230 F.R.D. 640, 643 (D. Kan. 2005). *In re Seroquel Products Liability Litigation*, 244 F.R.D. 650, 652 (M.D. Fla., Aug. 21, 2007). *Race Tires America, Inc. v. Hoosier Racing Tire Corp.*, 674 F.3d 158, 161 (3d Cir. 2012). *Country Vintner of North Carolina, LLC v. E. & J. Gallo Winery, Inc.*, 718 F.3d 249, 253 (4th Cir. 2013). *Saliga v. Chemtura Corp.*, 2013 WL 6182227, at \*2 (D. Conn. Nov. 25, 2013). *Akanthos Capital Mgmt., LLC v. CompuCredit Holdings Corp.*, 2 F. Supp.3d 1306, 1315 (N.D. Ga. 2014). *E.E.O.C. v. SVT, LLC*, 2014 WL 1411775 (N.D. Ind. Apr. 10, 2014). *Balance Point Divorce Funding, LLC v. Scrantom*, 305 F.R.D. 67, 74 (S.D.N.Y. 2015).

**Tape Drive:** A hardware device used to store or back up electronically stored information on a magnetic tape. Tape drives are sometimes used to back up large quantities of ESI due to their large capacity and cheap cost relative to other storage options.

**TAR:** See Technology-Assisted Review.

**Taxonomy:** The science of categorization, or classification, of things based on a predetermined system. In reference to websites and portals, a site's taxonomy is the way it organizes its electronically stored information into categories and subcategories, sometimes displayed in a site map. Used in information retrieval to find documents related to a query by identifying other documents in the same category.

**TCP/IP:** See Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol.

**Technology-Assisted Review (TAR)**<sup>1</sup>: A process for prioritizing or coding a collection of electronically stored information using a computerized system that harnesses human judgments of subject-matter experts on a smaller set of documents and then extrapolates those judgments to the remaining documents in the collection. Some TAR methods use algorithms that determine how similar (or dissimilar) each of the remaining documents is to those coded as relevant (or nonrelevant) by the subject-matter experts, while other TAR methods derive systematic rules that emulate the experts' decision-making processes. TAR systems generally incorporate statistical models and/or sampling techniques to guide the process and to measure overall system effectiveness.

**Telnet (Telecommunications Network)**: A protocol for logging onto remote computers from anywhere on the internet.

**Template**: Sets of index fields for documents, providing a framework for preparation.

**Temporary (Temp) File**: Contemporaneous files created by applications and stored on a computer for temporary use only; created to enable the processor of the computer to quickly pull back and assemble data for currently active files.

**Terabyte**: 1,024 gigabytes (approximately one trillion bytes). See Byte.

**Text Delimited File**: A common format for structured data exchange whereby a text file contains fielded data, separated by a specific ASCII character and also usually containing a header

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<sup>1</sup> Maura R. Grossman & Gordon V. Cormack, *The Grossman-Cormack Glossary of Technology-Assisted Review with Forward by John M. Facciola*, U.S. magistrate Judge, 2013 FED. CTS. L. REV. 7 (January 2013), available at <https://www.fclr.org/fclr/articles/html/2010/grossman.pdf>.

line that defines the fields contained in the file. See Field Separator or Field Delimiter.

**Text Message:** An electronic message, historically restricted to 160 characters in length, that is sent among users with mobile devices. The messages can be sent via the Short Messaging Service (SMS), as well as images, video, and other multimedia using the Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS).

**Text Mining:** The application of data mining (knowledge discovery in databases) to unstructured textual data. Text mining usually involves structuring the input text (often parsing, along with application of some derived linguistic features and removal of others, and ultimate insertion into a database), deriving patterns within the data, and evaluating and interpreting the output, providing such ranking results as relevance, novelty, and interestingness. Also referred to as Text Data Mining. See Data Mining.

**Text Retrieval Conference (TREC):** An ongoing series of workshops co-sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the U.S. Department of Defense.

**TGA:** Targa format file. A scanned format that is widely used for color-scanned materials (24-bit) as well as by various paint and desktop publishing packages.

**Thin Client:** A computer or software program that relies on a central server for processing and application resources, and electronically stored information storage in a central area instead of locally; used mainly for output and input of user information or commands. See Client.

**Thread:** A series of technologically related communications, usually on a particular topic. Threads can be a series of bulletin board messages (for example, when someone posts a question and others reply with answers or additional queries on the same topic). A thread can also apply to emails or chats, where

multiple conversation threads may exist simultaneously. See Email String.

**Thread Suppression:** A process whereby noninclusive emails and redundant attachments within email threads are removed (suppressed) from a review set to reduce the overall review population.

**Threading:** A process of recombining email or other electronic message conversations into a single comprehensive, chronologically correct chain.

**Threat Vector:** A computer network infrastructure path that is used by hackers to penetrate security defenses. For example, phishing attacks leverage an email threat vector.

**Thumb Drive:** See Flash Drive.

**Thumbnail:** A miniature representation of a page or item for quick overviews to provide a general idea of the structure, content, and appearance of a document. A thumbnail program may be a standalone or part of a desktop publishing or graphics program. Thumbnails provide a convenient way to browse through multiple images before retrieving the one needed. Programs often allow clicking on the thumbnail to retrieve it.

**TIFF:** See Tagged Image File Format.

**TIFF Group III:** A one-dimensional compression format for storing black-and-white images that is utilized by many fax machines. See TIFF.

**TIFF Group IV:** A two-dimensional compression format for storing black-and-white images. Typically compresses at a 20-to-1 ratio for standard business documents. See TIFF.

**Time Zone Normalization:** See Normalization.

**Toggle:** A switch (which may be physical or virtualized on a screen) that is either on or off and reverses to the opposite when selected.

**Tone Arm:** A device in a computer that reads to/from a hard drive.

**Tool Kit Without An Interesting Name (TWAIN):** A universal toolkit with standard hardware/software drivers for multimedia peripheral devices. Often used as a protocol between a computer and scanners or image-capture equipment.

**Toolbar:** The row of graphical or text buttons that perform special functions quickly and easily.

**Topology:** The geometric arrangement of a computer system. Common topologies include a bus (nodes are connected to a single cable, with terminators at each end); Star LAN (designed in the shape of a star, where all end points are connected to one central switching device, or hub); and ring (nodes are connected in a closed loop; no terminators are required because there are no unconnected ends). Star networks are easier to manage than ring topology.

**Track:** Each of the series of concentric rings contained on a hard-drive platter.

**Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP):** The first two defined networking protocols; enable the transfer of data upon which the basic workings of the features of the internet operate. See Internet Protocol; Port.

**TREC:** See Text Retrieval Conference.

**Trojan:** A malware program that contains another hidden program embedded inside it for the purpose of discretely delivering the second program to a computer or network without the knowledge of the user or administrator. See Malware.

**True Resolution:** The true optical resolution of a scanner is the number of pixels per inch (without any software enhancements).

**TWAIN:** See Tool Kit Without An Interesting Name.

**TWiki:** Enables simple, form-based web applications without programming, and granular access control (though it can also operate in the classic “no authentication” mode). Other enhancements include configuration variables, embedded searches, Server Side Includes (scripting language), file attachments, and a plug-in application programming interface (API) that has spawned over 150 plug-ins to link into databases, create charts, sort tables, write spreadsheets, make drawings, and so on. See Wiki.

**Typeface:** A specific size and style of type within a family. There are many thousands of typefaces available for computers, ranging from modern to decorative.

**UDP:** See User Datagram Protocol.

**Ultrafiche:** Microfiche that can hold 1,000 documents/sheet as opposed to the normal 270.

**Unallocated Space:** The area of computer media, such as a hard drive, that does not contain readily accessible data. Unallocated space is usually the result of a file being deleted. When a file is deleted, it is not actually erased but is simply no longer accessible through normal means. The space that it occupied becomes unallocated space, i.e., space on the drive that can be reused to store new information. Until portions of the unallocated space are used for new data storage, in most instances, the old data remains and can be retrieved using forensic techniques.

**Underinclusive:** When referring to data sets returned by some method of query, search, filter, or cull, results that are returned incomplete or too narrow. See False Negative.

**Unicode:** A 16-bit ISO 10646 character set accommodating many more characters than the ASCII character set. Created as a standard for the uniform representation of character sets from all languages. Unicode supports characters 2 bytes wide. Sometimes referred to as “double-byte language.” See <https://www.unicode.org> for more information.

**Uniform Resource Indicator (URIs):** A uniform set of characters that specifies the location of resources on a network, commonly the world wide web. See World Wide Web.

**Uniform Resource Locator (URL):** The addressing system used in the World Wide Web and other internet resources. The URL contains information about the method of access, the server to be accessed, and the path of any file to be accessed. Although there are many different formats, a URL might look like this: <http://thesedonaconference.org/publications>. See Address.

**Unitization—Physical and Logical:** The assembly of individually scanned pages into documents. Physical unitization uses actual objects such as staples, paper clips, and folders to determine pages that belong together as documents for archival and retrieval purposes. Logical unitization is the process of human review of each individual page in an image collection, using logical cues to determine pages that belong together as documents. Such cues can be consecutive page numbering, report titles, similar headers and footers, and other logical indicators. This process should also capture document relationships, such as parent and child attachments. See Attachment; Document or Document Family; Load File; and Message Unit.

*Glossary definition cited: Race Tires America, Inc. v. Hoosier Racing Tire Corp., 674 F.3d 158, 161 (3d Cir. 2012). Balance Point Divorce Funding, LLC v. Scrantom, 305 F.R.D. 67, 74 (S.D.N.Y. 2015).*

**Universal Serial Bus (USB) Port:** A port on a computer or peripheral device into which a USB cable or device can be inserted—quickly replacing the use or need for serial and parallel ports by providing a single, standardized way to easily connect many different devices. See Flash Drive and Port.

**UNIX:** A software operating system designed to be used by many people at the same time (multiuser) and capable of performing multiple tasks or operations at the same time (multi-tasking); common operating system for internet servers.

**Unstructured Data:** Free-form data that either does not have a data structure or has a data structure not easily readable by a computer without the use of a specific program designed to interpret the data; created without limitations on formatting or content by the program with which it is being created. Examples include word-processing documents or slide presentations.

**Unsupervised Learning:** Use of machine learning to analyze data without training examples, such as clustering.

**Upgrade:** A newer version of hardware, software or application.

**Upload:** To move data from one location to another in any manner, such as via modem, network, serial cable, internet connection, or wireless signals; indicates that data is being transmitted to a location from a location. See Download.

*Glossary definition cited: In re Online DVD-Rental Anti-trust Litigation, 779 F.3d 914, 929 (9th Cir. 2015).*

**URL:** See Uniform Resource Locators.

**USB:** See Universal Serial Bus Port.

**User-Created Metadata:** Information about a file that is created and applied to a file by a user. Information includes the addressees of an email, annotations to a document, and objective coding information. See Metadata.

*Glossary* definition cited: *CBT Flint Partners, LLC v. Return Path, Inc.*, 737 F.3d 1320, 1328 (Fed. Cir. Dec. 13, 2013).

**User Datagram Protocol (UDP):** A protocol allowing computers to send short messages to one another. See Port.

**UTC:** See Coordinated Universal Time.

**UTF-8:** A character-encoding form of Unicode that represents Unicode code points with sequences of one, two, three, or four bytes. UTF-8 can encode any Unicode character. It is the most common Unicode encoding on the web and the default encoding of XML. An important advantage of UTF-8 is that it is backward compatible with ASCII encoding, which includes the basic Latin characters. Consequently, all electronic text in ASCII encoding is conveniently also Unicode. This backward compatibility was a primary reason for the invention of UTF-8. See ASCII; Unicode; UTF-16.

**UTF-16:** A character-encoding form of Unicode that represents Unicode code points with sequences of one or two 16-bit code units. UTF-16 can encode any Unicode character. It is used much less often for data interchange than the UTF-8 encoding form. UTF-16 is commonly used in computer programming languages and application programming interfaces (APIs) and is the encoding used internally for file names by Microsoft Windows and NTFS. See Unicode; UTF-8.

**Validate:** In the context of this document, to confirm or ensure well-grounded logic, and true and accurate determinations.

**Validation:** The process by which the effectiveness of a workflow is checked for accuracy.

**VDT:** See Video Display Terminal.

**Vector:** Representation of graphic images by mathematical formulas. For instance, a circle is defined by a specific position and radius. Vector images are typically smoother than raster images.

**Verbatim Coding:** Manually extracting information from documents in a way that matches exactly as the information appears in the documents. See Coding.

**Version, Record Version:** A particular form or variation of an earlier or original record. For electronic records the variations may include changes to file format, metadata, or content.

**Vertical De-Duplication:** A process through which duplicate electronically stored information, as determined by matching hash values, are eliminated within a single custodian's data set. See Content Comparison; File-Level Binary Comparison; Horizontal De-Duplication; Metadata Comparison; Near Duplicates.

**VESA:** See Video Electronics Standards Association.

**Video Display Terminal (VDT):** Generic name for all display terminals.

**Video Electronics Standards Association (VESA):** Sets industry-wide computer video standards. See <https://vesa.org>.

**Video Scanner Interface:** A type of device used to connect scanners with computers. Scanners with this interface require a scanner control board designed by Kofax, Xionics, or Dunord.

**Virtual Backup:** A data backup that is stored on a virtual server.

**Virtual Private Network (VPN):** A secure network that is constructed by using public wires to secure connect nodes. For example, there are a number of systems that enable creation of networks using the internet as the medium for transporting data. These systems use encryption and other security mechanisms to ensure that only authorized users can access the network and that the data cannot be intercepted.

**Virtualization:** Partitioning a server into multiple virtual servers, each capable of running an independent operating system and associated software applications as though it were a separate computer. Virtualization is particularly useful for

centralized IT infrastructures to manage multiple computing environments with the same set of hardware, and for cloud computing providers to provide customized interfaces to clients without investing in separate machines, each with its own operating system.

**Virus:** A self-replicating program that spreads on a computer or network by inserting copies of itself into other executable code or documents. A program into which a virus has inserted itself is said to be infected, and the infected file (or executable code that is not part of a file) is a host. Viruses are a kind of malware that range from harmless to destructive and damage computers by either destroying data or overwhelming the computer's resources. See Malware.

**Visualization:** The process of graphically representing data.

**Vital Record:** A record that is essential to the organization's operation or to the reestablishment of the organization after a disaster.

**Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP):** Telephonic capability across an internet connection.

**VoIP:** See Voice over Internet Protocol.

**Volume:** A specific amount of storage space on computer storage media such as hard drives, floppy disks, CD-ROM disks, etc. In some instances, computer media may contain more than one volume, while in others a single volume may be contained on more than one disk.

**Volume Boot Sector/Record:** When a partition is formatted to create a volume of data, a volume boot sector is created to store information about the volume. One volume contains the operating system, and its volume boot sector contains code used to load the operating system when the computer is booted up. See Partition.

**VPN:** See Virtual Private Network.

**WAN:** See Wide Area Network.

**Warm Storage:** See Near-Line Storage.

**WAV:** File extension name for Windows sound files.

**Wearable:** A term used to describe an electronic device or piece of clothing worn by an individual that can track and record specific information, such as exercise, health information, or sleep patterns.

**Web Services Description Language (WSDL):** A WSDL (pronounced “wiz del”) file provides information on the available functionality of web-based applications that allows interaction with other web-based applications. WSDL files can be used by hackers to identify access points into a web-based application.

**Webmail:** Email service that is provided through a website. See Email.

**Website:** A collection of Uniform Resource Indicators (URIs), including Uniform Resource Locators (URLs), in the control of one administrative entity. May include different types of URIs (e.g., FTP, telnet, or internet sites). See URI; URL.

**What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG):** Display and software technology that shows on the computer screen exactly what will print.

**Wide Area Network (WAN):** Refers generally to a network of PCs or other devices, remote to each other, connected by electronic means, such as transmission lines. See Network.

**WiFi (Wireless Fidelity):** Wireless networking technology that allows electronic devices to connect to one another and the internet from a shared network access point.

**Wiki:** A collaborative website that allows visitors to add, remove, and edit content.

**Wildcard Operator:** A character used in text-based searching that assumes the value of any alphanumeric character, characters, or in some cases, words. Used to expand search terms and enable the retrieval of a wider range of hits.

**Windows-1252:** Also called ANSI, Western European, and CP1252 (Microsoft code page 1252). A character encoding of the Latin alphabet used for most Western European languages. Windows-1252 is a superset of ASCII and ISO 8859-1 standard character encodings. The characters that are included in Windows-1252, but that are not included in ISO 8859-1, are often the source of character interpretation and display problems in text on the web and in electronic mail. Similar problems sometimes occur when text in the Windows-1252 encoding is converted to the UTF-8 encoding form of Unicode, because UTF-8 is not wholly backward compatible with Windows-1252. The name ANSI is a misnomer resulting from historical happenstance, but it is not incorrect to use it in contexts where its meaning is readily understood. See ASCII; ISO 8859-1.

**Wireless Router:** A hardware device that opens access to a secured or unsecured internet connection or network via a receiver on a computer or other piece of hardware, such as a printer permitting wireless transmission. See WiFi.

**WISP:** See Written Information Security Program.

**Workflow:** The automation of a business process, in whole or part, during which electronically stored information or tasks are passed from one participant to another for action according to a set of procedural rules.

**Workflow, Ad Hoc:** A simple manual process by which documents can be moved around a multiuser review system on an as-needed basis.

**Workflow, Rule-Based:** A programmed series of automated steps that route documents to various users on a multiuser review system.

**Workgroup:** A group of computer users connected to share individual talents and resources as well as computer hardware and software—often to accomplish a team goal.

**World Wide Web (WWW):** A massive collection of hypertext documents accessed via the internet using a browser. The documents, also known as web pages, can contain formatted text, audio and video files, and multimedia programs.

**Worm:** A self-replicating computer program, sending copies of itself, possibly without any user intervention. See Malware.

**WORM Disks:** See Write Once Read Many Disks.

**Write Once Read Many Disks (WORM Disks):** A popular archival storage media during the 1980s. Acknowledged as the first optical disks, they are primarily used to store archives of data that cannot be altered. WORM disks are created by standalone PCs and cannot be used on the network, unlike CD-ROM disks.

**Written Information Security Program (WISP):** Administrative, technical, and physical safeguards appropriate to an entity's size and complexity, the nature and scope of activities, and the sensitivity of information at issue. A requirement that an information security program be in writing.

**WSDL:** See Web Services Description Language.

**WWW:** See World Wide Web.

**WYSIWYG:** See What You See Is What You Get.

**X.25:** A standard protocol for data communications that has largely been replaced by less complex protocols, including the internet protocol (IP).

**XML, XRML:** See Extensible Markup Language.

**Yottabyte:** 1,024 zettabytes. See Byte.

**Zettabyte:** 1,024 exabytes. See Byte.

**ZIP:** A common file compression format that allows quick and easy storage for transmission or archiving one or several files.

**Zip Drive:** A removable disk storage device developed by Iomega with disk capacities of 100, 250, and 750 megabytes.

**Zombie Cookies:** An illicit http cookie that will recreate itself after deletion and is typically stored outside of a web browser's normal cookie storage area in order to get around a user's preference.

**Zone OCR:** An add-on feature of imaging software that populates data fields by reading certain regions or zones of a document and then placing the recognized text into the specified field.