

Data Breach Investigation Northeast Power outage of 2003

Who we are:

Law & Forensics solves the complex legal issues at the convergence of technology and the law. Our team includes some of the foremost thought leaders in E-Discovery and electronic forensics as well as the pioneers in the latest techniques in cyber security. It is this expertise which allows us to solve information governance problems efficiently and cost effectively.

What we do:

We work with clients, whether law firms, corporate organizations or government agencies, to resolve E-Discovery issues, perform electronic forensic examinations and investigations, and help bridge information and communication gaps between technologists and legal professionals.

Where we are:

Atlanta	Century City
Chicago	Delaware
Los Angeles	New Jersey
New York	Seattle

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When the security of highly sensitive electronic data was threatened as a result of the 2003 massive power outage in the Northeast United States and parts of Ontario, a member of Law & Forensics's data breach investigation team was called on to lead a forensic investigation into the cause of the outage and any threats to national security.

As a lead investigator of the joint US and Canadian team, the Law & Forensics team member had to resolve two main security issues. The first was the causation of the black-out, including an analysis of activity leading up to the black-out, and determination of any malicious intent. The second was any security breaches as a result of downed power, lack of access to certain databases, and a computer bug that had infected General Electric's energy system.

Besides forensic analysis and investigation, the team member lead interviews of those involved in the outage, and was able to assist in resolving causation as void of criminal intent. Due to the Law & Forensics team member's subject-matter expertise in data breaches and cybercrime, the team member ensured that proper steps were taken to confirm all data was returned to its secure status after power was restored to the area.