

Detective Dave White, HPD, interviewed by Josh Wynn on May/20/2005

J.W.: This is Josh Wynn recording on May/20/2005 with D.D.W. The question that we were given is describe and analyze the changes and trends in crime and law enforcement in Hillsboro Oregon from 1980 to 2005. My first question is what is your background in the community?

D.D.W.: I have been a police officer in Washington County.... Washington county area September 1st 1991. I started working Cornelius in 1991 I was there for 7 years and I worked here for 7 years.

J.W.: Ok. What is the High Tech Team in your definition? I know it was disbanded.

D.D.W.: It was disbanded. We use to have a high tech team at the uh FBI in City Beaverton and City Hillsboro and we started that um probably in 1995 before things really got pumping out here. Intel was out here but there wasn't Silicon Valley and all the big companies hadn't come out here. And Um the chief saw a need and someone had to deal with cyber crime um the FBI also was game so they came out and played. They did a lot of work for Intel and a lot of work for Tektronix because of the Beaverton connection with Tektronix and uh they would fly all over the U.S. working on computer chip thefts working on program thefts. Working on uh the big one now is the theft of of proprietary information. So basically human theft. And I work for a company I know things about this company and uh some of the others I don't know would come out. Someone would report to be someone to get information about me and then try to steel me away from another company by offering better benefits or more stock but um any ways worked that for awhile and then things kind of slowed down with that it was requiring a lot of traveling we were doing a lot of cases that weren't necessarily Oregon based and uh because we working with the FBI So we working all sorts of cases all over the U.S. and then we the FBI ultimately one of the guys retired and he retired and that kind of set things on its end and our computer forensic analyzer went back to being a road officer so we didn't really have the and Intel pulled the money they have been funding.

J.W.: So what happened after that?

D.D.W.: What happened after that was um to fill the void they kind of added just recently the RCFL which is regional computer forensic lab that ran by the FBI and what they do is computer forensics up until that time the only people who really did computer crimes were just local an uh you could send it back east to be examined but that could take a year or more Uh locally we use to do it through all sorts of agencies in Oregon and then our computer forensics examiner went back to the road and we lost all that experience and all the money we put a lot of money into giving him training rather extensive nothing compared too what the guys at the computer forensics are required to go through but still \$80,000 probably be close to getting a guy trained a police officer trained to do it Uh when we lost our our back to the road we ended up going with um kind of police reserve specialist program and what those were were big brains guys who worked computers for a living they weren't just normal everyday guys who came out their weekends kinda of

like weekend warriors and do forensics on computers these were guys who wrote the programs on how to do forensics so they were extremely and still are extremely bright individuals um Fran Nesuse is in charge of that program and he uh was bigwig at Intel but he is big brain guy and their all big brain guys when it comes to computers they call themselves geeks but I'm not personally fond of that term knock yourself out if you want to call yourself a geek you can have at but uh they are extremely good and so right now what we do when we computer ...uh when we get computer related crime other usually right now its forgery. Forgery is a big thing. Uh or internet porn. Internet porn goes to RCFL. And it goes there because there are FBI agents that all they maybe from a certain task force So they have been cleared by the FBI and they have to go get the psychics yearly to make sure the child porn is not screwing them up. And uh our guys just do paper crimes or uh threats over the internet that kind of thing. They can trace back someone.

J.W.: Can you explain about computer forensics? Like how it's done?

D.D.W.: I could I can try but you know I'll give you the lemans the bottom line is nothing is erased ever. You can get the the programs that supposedly trash the information shred it there is always little peaces of it everywhere a good example would be we had a case a few years ago uh where a women was assaulted by a another man and they met on the internet not her and him her and his wife had met on the internet uh joined something husbands who are always gone and so they got these husbands who are always gone wife club well this ended up not being gone all the time and he was around so he started preying on women in the club and he go over to their house and oh "I forgot my wallet I got to get my wallet" leaving his wife at home to go back and and sexually assault or at least very inappropriate conduct with the the um victim and he had sent her an email she had deleted the email uh and we were able to find she told us what it had said kind of uh her recollection which was right on the money so and we able to find that in a group of gibberish basically we were able to find exactly what he had wrote um which was on her computer now it didn't say it came from him it did do any of that but it corroborated her statement to us as of far as it was from an email knew that and we knew threat was written it say it came from him. So they can go back and find little peaces of photographs are pretty easy to bring back up. Um text is little more difficult because your looking for whole lot of I mean when it comes out you Know like when you hit print on the I don't know if you have ever seen it on old printers they use to print every type of print this computer could make or this printer could make so you would have these Russian backwards R's all sorts of crazy stuff and that what it looks like a bunch of O's you know and then maybe some weird looking symbols and then some words. But uh the key is to peace them all together And those guys also big brain guys they really work hard. So what they do is what we do. We take a computer and image the hard drive and uh they there is a technical term for it but basically It's like DNA once you imaged the hard drive you are it is almost like DNA it is actually more accurate then DNA. We don't need to take the original hard drive to court. Like most peaces of evidence. So any they also have these search engines that can find things like jpeg of words like Bangladesh.

J.W.: What type of crimes do you deal with specifically?

D.D.W.: On our high tech cases a lot of the ones we deal with are theft and scamming. It is amazing how much information people give out. Someone is always getting ripped off. Like someone might say they are the prince of Nigeria and send me your bank account information and I will send you money. If its' too good to be true. Some we can work some we can and if there outside of our jurisdiction then we can't deal with it.

J.W.: What type of information should people never give out online?

D.D.W.: Anything. You don't need to give out your name, certainly not your social security number, not your phone number and never your address. Anything you give out can add up.

J.W.: what about online job applicants or buying things online?

D.D.W.: A lot of that stuff is protected. And I buy things online and use a credit card. Don't use debit card which has a \$500 limit until you're no longer liable and a credit card is normally zero. The other types of crimes we deal with is child pornography. The officer that just called me has a horrific job where she goes online and pretends to be and under age girl and goes into chats rooms. She could go into a chat room and get 40 perverts sending her phone numbers and porno links. The thing about the internet is that you could be anybody. I could have a screen name like 16goddess and I would get hit on left and right. For us if the perverts go to a meeting that has been set up and he thinks it is a minor we arrest him now the FBI plays by a different set of rules. They have a whole new set of guidelines that they have to follow. Now in Oregon if you agree to meet a 15 year old online and show up then you're going to have problems.

J.W.: What type of tools do you use to solve these high tech crimes?

D.D.W.: The forensic guys. There really the ones who deal with all of that. And for most cops they never want to see child porn.

J.W.: Who dealt with this type of crime before the High tech team?

D.D.W.: Nobody. Or the local agencies. Before 91 there was not a lot of these crimes.

J.W.: Before the high tech team was disbanded how was crime impacted?

D.D.W.: Well it certainly had an impact for Intel. And it still does because the people are still here. In fact we go all over the states. We just went to California for a headhunter who would steel identities and that is a crime that information is proprietary. Like when you join Intel you sign a non-competition clause that says after you leave you won't disclose any information you have learned there for at least five years. We do more local business then national. There are larger entities like the FBI who take the stuff that is not on Oregon.

J.W.: What is the most serious cyber crime you have dealt with?

D.D.W.: Child porn. The thing about child porn is that they are re-victimizing and re-victimizing the child. There is at looking at someone who has a choice in what they are doing not all of them. But the 8 years and 6 years have no choice and the some sick freak is putting it online and then another sick freak gets a hold of it.

J.W.: What some of the new high tech crimes?

D.D.W.: The Nairobi scams. The ones that "I'll send you this money if you do this". My favorite one is the car one. They are buying cars online with bad checks and then some guy will call you and say hey you want to earn a hundred bucks and once you don't say who the heck are you how'd you get my number go pick up this car for me at this location and take here and a guy will give you the money. Then you take to a guy was told to give you a hundred bucks because he would get 500 and he takes to the docks and they take back to their country and sell for who knows how much and it cost them 600 bucks for a 40000 dollar car. Internet fraud is really big.

J.W.: How has the media represented high tech crimes versus the reality?

D.D.W.: I'm not sure if the media has portrayed it wrongly. However I think they like to sensationalize the facts but they do help make people aware. The high tech thing is going to get worse.

J.W.: How well are we able to keep of with the criminals?

D.D.W.: Were not. And the reason for that is a lot of that is occurring over seas.

J.W.: What motivates you and others to do this kind of work?

D.D.W.: Well I'll be honest with you I'm not huge into the high tech thing. But I do love the internet because you can find anything. Computers make my life easier. In the old days we use to have to type out a new search warrant and now I can copy and paste a similar warrant that I had before. But also all computers have done is opened new doors for criminals.

J.W.: How has the high tech community helped you catch criminals?

D.D.W.: Places like Intel get ripped off and their stuff gets sold on eBay and they tell us hey these are stuff heres the serial numbers. They will make are case for us. By telling us who had access to the lab and such. So they have been extremely helpful for us.

J.W.: Do you have any prevention programs like D.A.R.E?

D.D.W.: Yeah. We have C.A.R.E. Cyber Awareness Responsibility and Ethics. They teach junior high and it's not a required curriculum. They teach how to interact online

and if parents don't know what's going on. We get travelers that come from all over to Oregon to meet these young people.

J.W.: Is there anything else you want to tell me that you feel is important and has not been touched upon?

D.D.W.: That's a question I use when I interview people. It was just a few years ago when these became crimes and people could be charged with doing something wrong. That and the new technology we have so much more information now at our finger tips. And we can map crimes that can help like vehicle break-ins and statistics about crimes. When I started in 91 the radio would squeak and say an assault is happening at so and so. Now we have these data terminals that rock. Now the crimes pop up on the screen and you mark when you arrived and when you and you can even type up your report on it. Now I don't have to call in and run a license plate. I can just type it in. I can run everything like criminal history. We no use LEADS. Law Enforcement Data System which has everything on it.

J.W.: Thank you for your time.