

7 - Fifty Shades of Grey Hat

Hungary

Details of Case

In early January 2021, Mr. CIC, a special agent in the FBI, learned that an individual only known as Mr. Evil Noodle is allegedly responsible for several of the most expensive computer intrusions of all time. Mr. Evil Noodle has a background in computer programming for the financial industry.

According to allegations, some of the various illegal activities and crimes, that Mr. Evil Noodle and the organization that he is a part of, may be involved in include:

- **Illegally accessing computer systems without authorization**
- **Phishing & ransomware attacks targeting financial institutions across the world that have collectively stolen over one billion dollars**
- **Illegal drug trafficking**
- **Illegal guns and weapons sales**

As illustrated by the information presented by Mr. CIC, a federal arrest warrant has been issued for Mr. Evil Noodle within the United States with the following charges:

- **Suspicion of conspiracy to commit wire fraud**
- **Suspicion of conspiracy to commit computer-related fraud**
- **Suspicion of computer intrusion**

Investigation Scope



Initial Windows
Machine

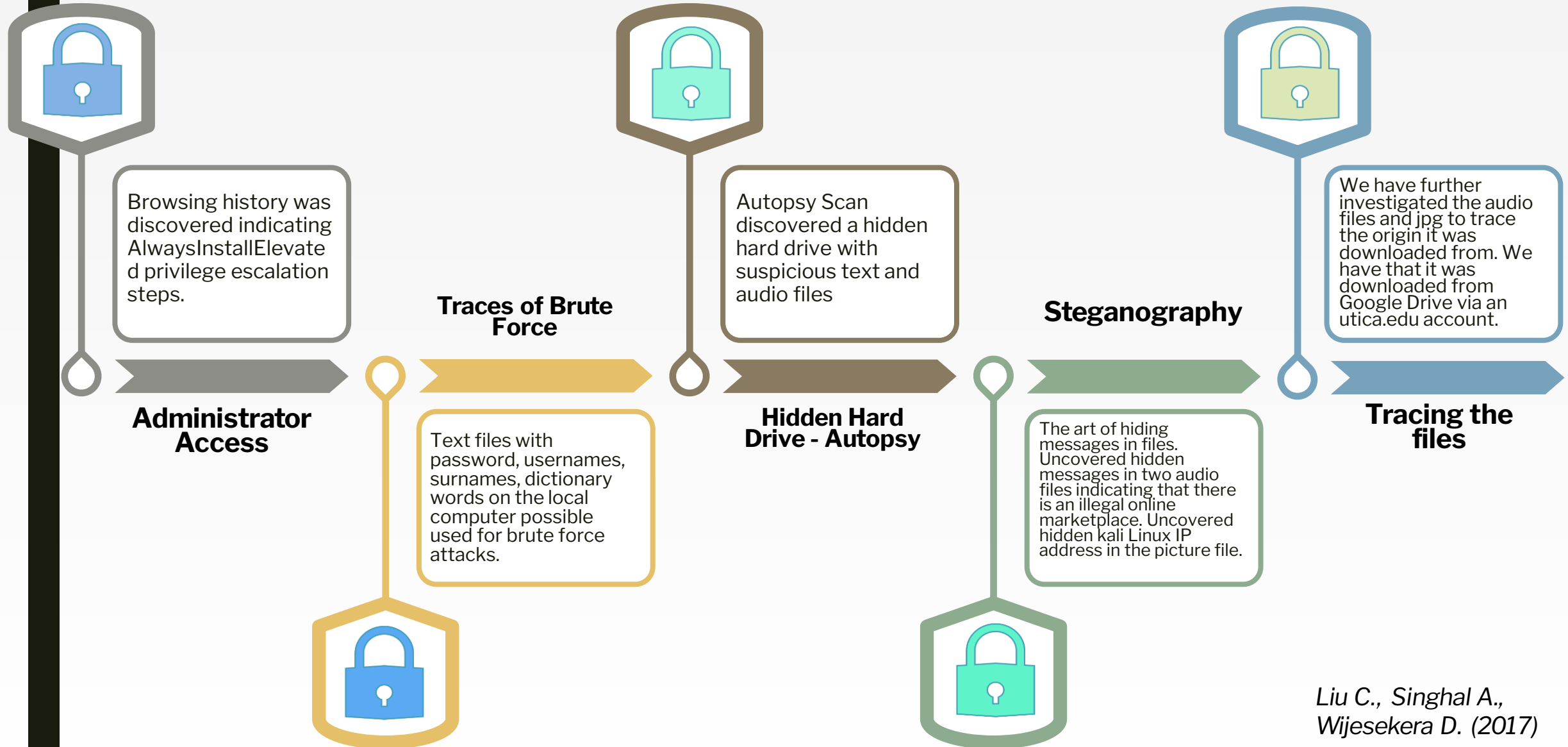


Discovered Kali
Machine



Darknet Store

First Computer



Evidence #1 - Browser history

The screenshot displays a browser history table with columns for Source File, Path, URL, Date Accessed, and Domain. The table lists several entries, including downloads of setup files and PowerSploit-master.zip. The entry for 'C:\Users\evil\Desktop\PowerUp.ps1.txt' is highlighted in blue. Below the table, the file metadata for this file is shown, including its name, type, MIME type, size, and various timestamps.

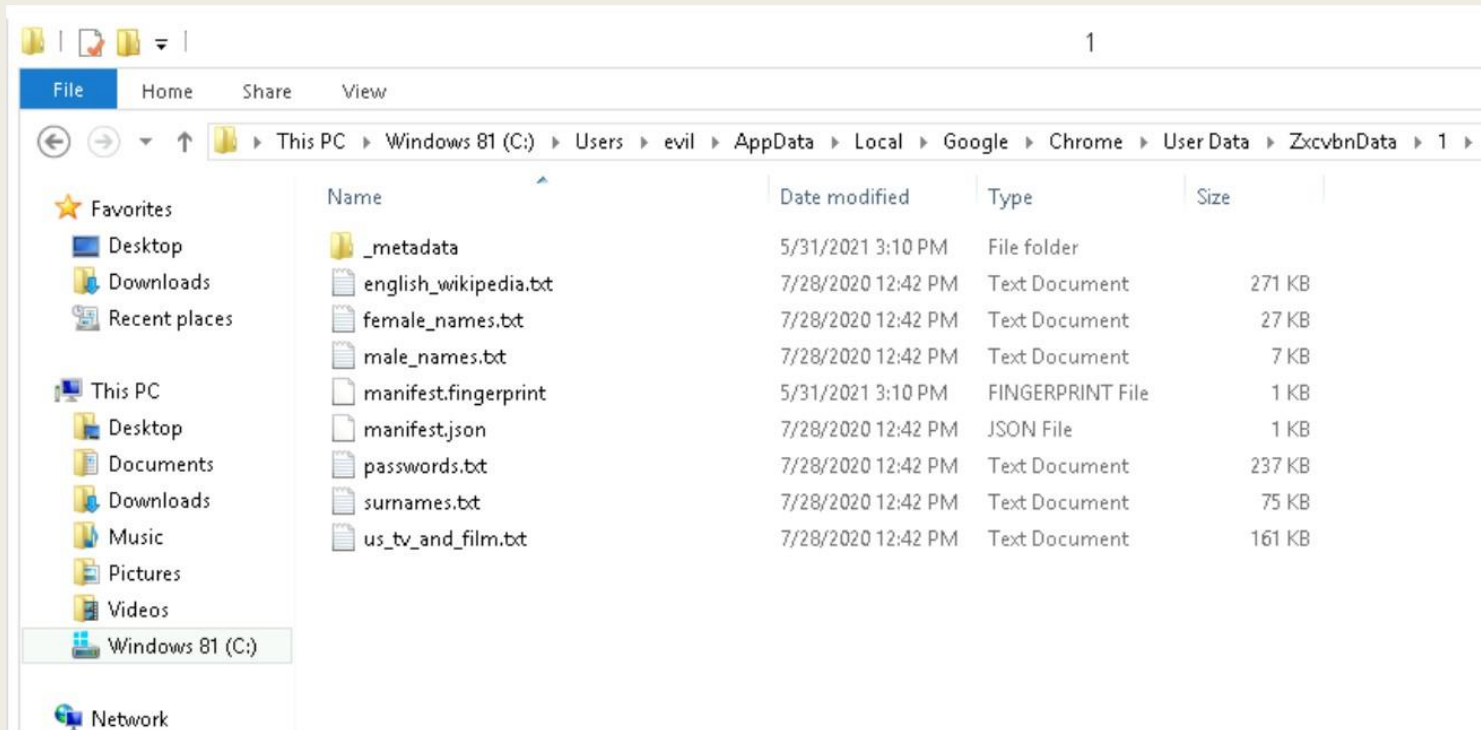
Source File	S	C	O	Path	URL	Date Accessed	Domain
History			1	C:\Users\evil\Downloads\setup.msi	https://github.com/jkpczr/HTB_Retired/raw/main/setup.msi	2021-05-31 16:22:35 EDT	github.com
History			1	C:\Users\evil\Downloads\setup.msi	https://raw.githubusercontent.com/jkpczr/HTB_Retired/...	2021-05-31 16:22:35 EDT	raw.githubusercontent.c
History			1	C:\Users\evil\Downloads\setup.msi	https://github.com/jkpczr/HTB_Retired/blob/main/setup...	2021-05-31 16:18:30 EDT	github.com
History			1	C:\Users\evil\Downloads\setup.msi	https://github.com/jkpczr/HTB_Retired/raw/main/setup.msi	2021-05-31 16:18:30 EDT	github.com
History			1	C:\Users\evil\Downloads\setup.msi	https://raw.githubusercontent.com/jkpczr/HTB_Retired/...	2021-05-31 16:18:30 EDT	raw.githubusercontent.c
History			1	C:\Users\evil\Downloads\PowerSploit-master.zip	https://github.com/PowerShellMafia/PowerSploit/archive/r...	2021-05-31 15:28:30 EDT	github.com
History			1	C:\Users\evil\Downloads\PowerSploit-master.zip	https://codeload.github.com/PowerShellMafia/PowerSploit/...	2021-05-31 15:28:30 EDT	github.com
History			1	C:\Users\evil\Desktop\PowerUp.ps1.txt	https://raw.githubusercontent.com/PowerShellMafia/Power...	2021-05-27 19:52:21 EDT	raw.githubusercontent.c
PE_Proof.txt:Zone.Identifier				/Users/Administrator/Desktop/PE_Proof.txt			
Get-System.ps1:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Documents/WindowsPowerShell/Modules/Privesc...			
PowerUp.ps1:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Documents/WindowsPowerShell/Modules/Privesc...			
Privesc.psd1:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Documents/WindowsPowerShell/Modules/Privesc...			
Privesc.psm1:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Documents/WindowsPowerShell/Modules/Privesc...			
README.md:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Documents/WindowsPowerShell/Modules/Privesc...			
.gignore:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Downloads/PowerSploit-master/PowerSploit-ma...			
AntivirusBypass.psd1:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Downloads/PowerSploit-master/PowerSploit-ma...			
AntivirusBypass.psm1:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Downloads/PowerSploit-master/PowerSploit-ma...			
Find-AVSignature.ps1:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Downloads/PowerSploit-master/PowerSploit-ma...			
11.exe.mot:Zone.Identifier				/Users/evil/Downloads/PowerSploit-master/PowerSploit-ma...			

Hex	Text	Application	File Metadata	Context	Results	Annotations	Other Occurrences
Name	/rimg_PhysicalDrive0/vol2/Users/evil/AppData/Local/Google/Chrome/User Data/Default/History						
Type	File System						
MIME Type	application/x-sqlite3						
Size	126976						
File Name Allocation	Allocated						
Metadata Allocation	Allocated						
Modified	2021-05-31 17:17:51 EDT						
Accessed	2021-05-27 19:51:03 EDT						
Created	2021-05-27 19:51:03 EDT						
Changed	2021-05-31 17:17:51 EDT						

The evidence shows the intention and the willingness of the perpetrator to gain unauthorized control over the compromised OS. - *U.S. Code § 2512 (1) (b)*

Evidence #2

The evidence is a trace of illegal activities such as penetrating informational systems. - *U.S. Code § 2512 (1) (b)*

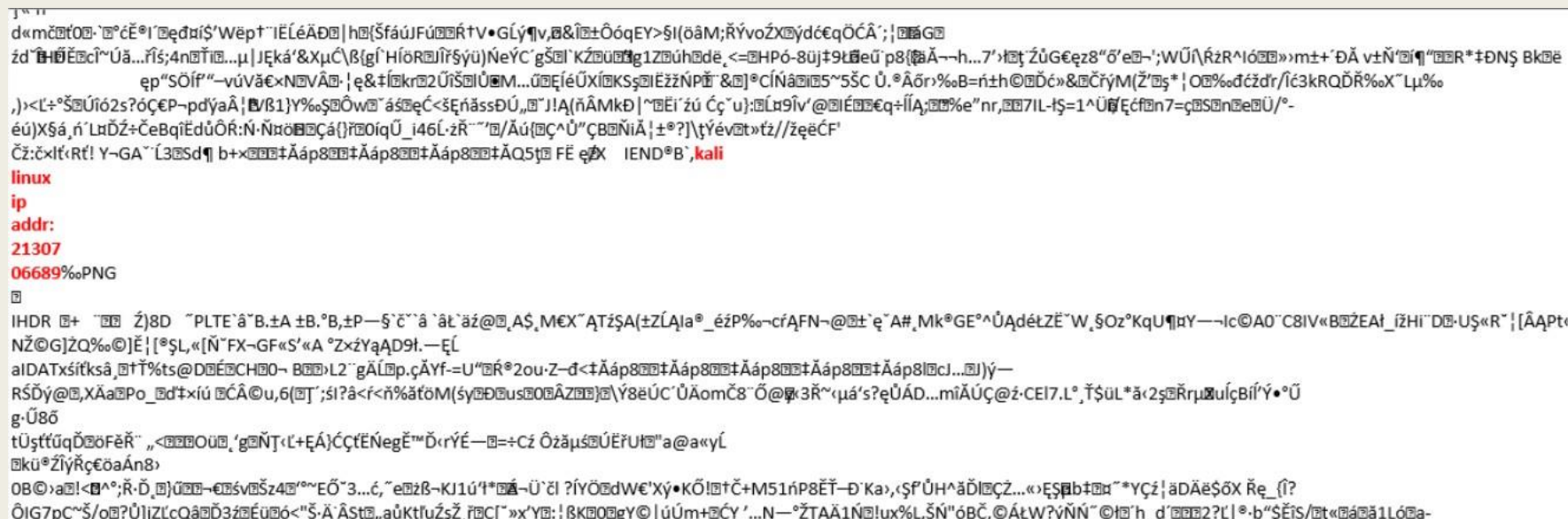


Evidence #3



The evidence proves that the perpetrator tried to hide his illegal activities and whatever information he gained from them. - *18 U.S. Code § 371*

Evidence #4



Kali Linux is used for penetration testing (legally) but can be used for hacking as well. Finding traces of the usage of this type of OS does not prove anything illegal on its own but with other evidence it is a sign of suspicious activity. - 8 U.S. Code § 371; U.S. Code § 2512 (1) (b)

Evidence #5

Using encrypted messages is definitely evidence of conspiracy. - 8 U.S. Code § 371; 21 U.S. Code § 841 (a) (1) (2) (b) (A) (i) (ii) (II); U.S. Code § 922 (1) (A)

```
root@kali: /h...ents/WhiteHat x kali@kali: ~ x
# Use wave package (native to Python) for reading the received audio file
import wave

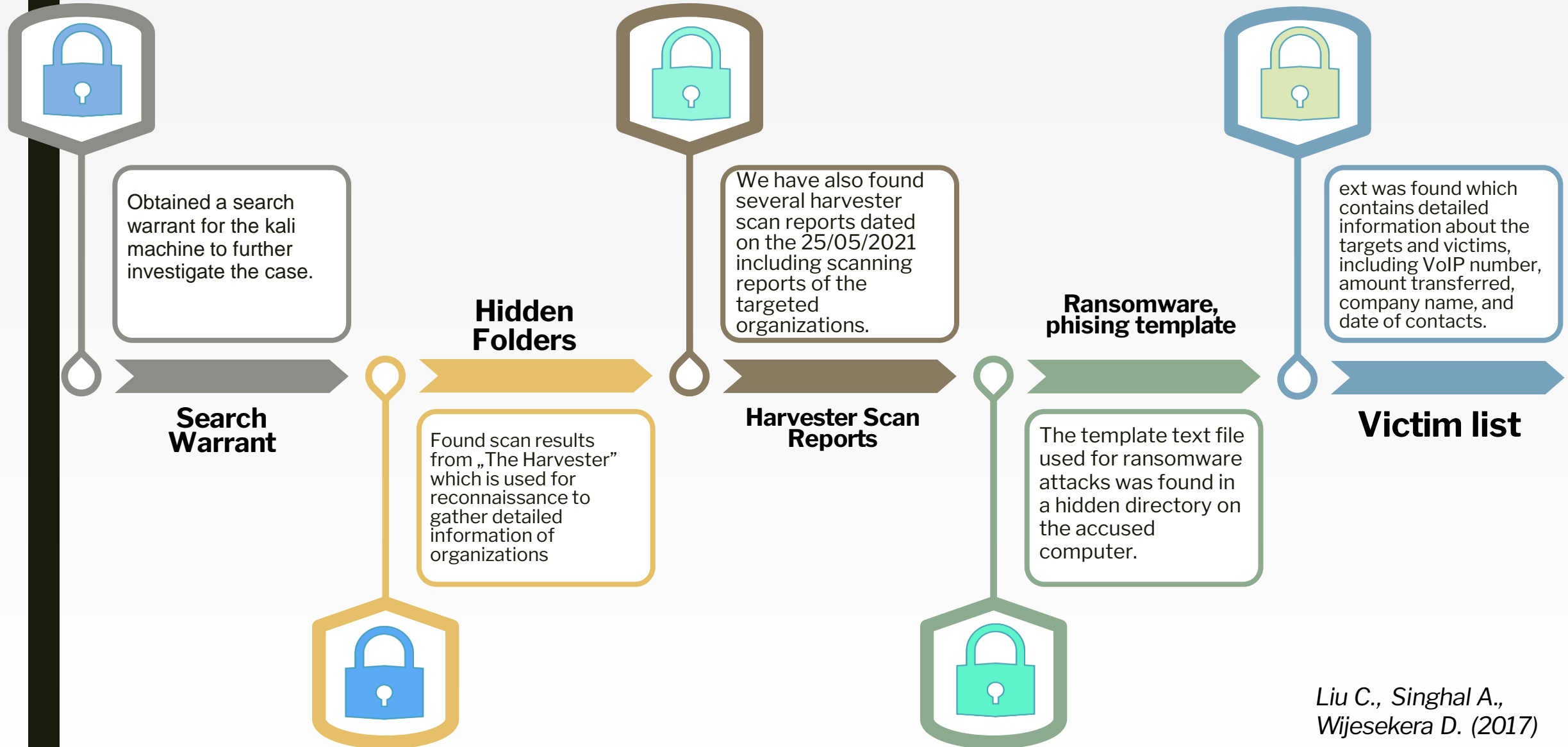
song1 = wave.open("good_funk.wav", mode='rb')
song2 = wave.open("guitar_licks.wav", mode='rb')

# Convert audio to byte array
for song in [song1, song2]:
    frame_bytes = bytearray(list(song.readframes(song.getnframes())))
    # Extract the LSB of each byte
    extracted = [frame_bytes[i] & 1 for i in range(len(frame_bytes))]
    # Convert byte array back to string
    string = "".join(chr(int("".join(map(str, extracted[i:i+8])), 2)) for i in range(0, len(extracted), 8))
    # Cut off at the filler characters
    decoded = string.split("###")[0]
    # Print the extracted text
    print("Sucessfully decoded: "+decoded)

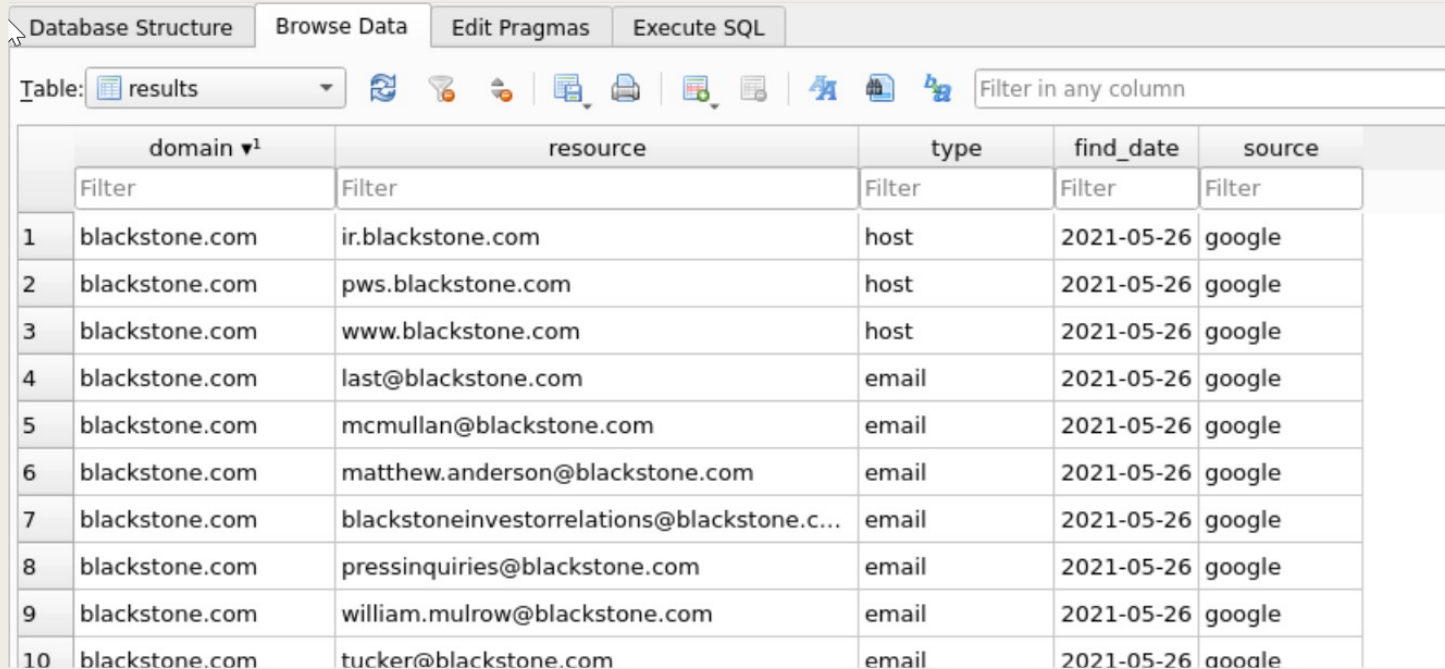
song1.close()
song2.close()
~
~
~
```

```
(root@kali)-[~/home/kali/Documents/WhiteHat]
└─# python3 solve2.py
Sucessfully decoded: The Darknet Site has been updated with latest cocaine quantities. WH{funkyLSB}
(email 2021-05-25 - google)
(root@kali)-[~/home/kali/Documents/WhiteHat]
└─# python3 solve2.py
Sucessfully decoded: Hide the transaction from Lee in the db! We dont need it attracting any attention. WH{guitarLSB}
(email 2021-05-25 - google)
```

Second Computer



Evidence #6 and #7



	domain ▼ ¹	resource	type	find_date	source
	Filter	Filter	Filter	Filter	Filter
1	blackstone.com	ir.blackstone.com	host	2021-05-26	google
2	blackstone.com	pws.blackstone.com	host	2021-05-26	google
3	blackstone.com	www.blackstone.com	host	2021-05-26	google
4	blackstone.com	last@blackstone.com	email	2021-05-26	google
5	blackstone.com	mcmullan@blackstone.com	email	2021-05-26	google
6	blackstone.com	matthew.anderson@blackstone.com	email	2021-05-26	google
7	blackstone.com	blackstoneinvestorrelations@blackstone.c...	email	2021-05-26	google
8	blackstone.com	pressinquiries@blackstone.com	email	2021-05-26	google
9	blackstone.com	william.mulrow@blackstone.com	email	2021-05-26	google
10	blackstone.com	tucker@blackstone.com	email	2021-05-26	aooble

The evidence shows that the perpetrator collected sensitive information about his targets including healthcare insurance companies and shows the intention of the perpetrator to explore his targets. - 18 U.S. Code § 669 (a); 18 U.S. Code § 1030 (a) (2) (A); U.S. Code § 2512 (1) (b) U.S. Code § 2512 (1) (b); U.S. Code § 1343

Evidence #8 and #9

```
1 FIRST CONTACT : March 10th, 2019
2 LAST CONTACTED : April 22nd, 2019|
3 VOIP USED : +13153334444
4
5 COMPANY NAME : MSCI
6
7 NAME : Billy Johnson
8 AMOUNT : $ 500 Million
9 CRYPTO : BTC
10 AGENT NAME : Hank Roberts
11 .....
12 FIRST CONTACT : April 6th, 2019
13 LAST CONTACTED : April 15th, 2019
14 VOIP USED : +18076543210
15
16 COMPANY NAME : Travelers
17
18 NAME : Ted Graves (Teddy)
19 AMOUNT : $ 120 Million
20 CRYPTO : BTC
21 AGENT NAME : Barry Yen
22 .....
23 FIRST CONTACT : May 18th, 2019
24 LAST CONTACTED : July 13th, 2019
25 VOIP USED : +18179004444
26
27 COMPANY NAME : Bnymellon
28
29 NAME : Scarlet L. Jones (Goes by middle name, Lilly)
30 AMOUNT : $ 650 Million
```

This is directly evidence of a committed crime. - *18 U.S. Code § 875 (d); 18 U.S. Code § 876 (d)*

Evidence #10

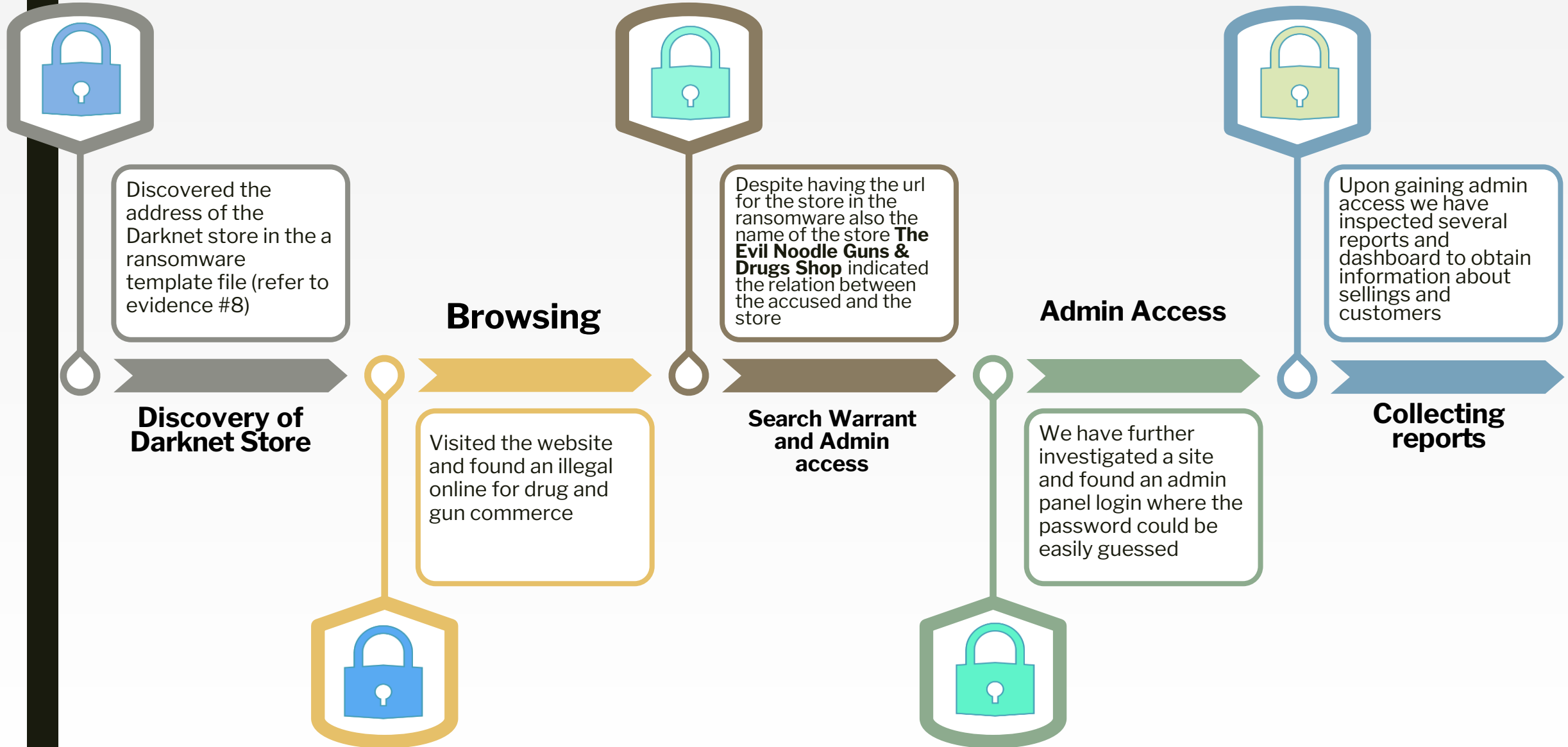
```
File  Actions  Edit  View  Help
From (created email address)
Subject: Immediate actions required
Date: current date
To: list of targets
Add target company banner

Dear (insert name), Our new policy is in effect for password security. It is now required
that all employees change their password every 60 days. If you have changed it recently do not disregard this
email. All current passwords will expire tomorrow. Click this "link" to update your password information. If
your password expires contact IT at (insert VOIP) for further assistance.

Regards,
(company name) IT
~
~
~
~ Home
```

Phishing is an activity of the perpetrator to gain more and more sensitive information about the future targets. The collected information is often used to commit cyber-attacks or are sold on certain DarkWeb marketplaces. - *U.S. Code § 1343; U.S. Code § 1344 (2)*

Darknet Store



Evidence #11

Best Customer Orders-Total

No.	Customers	Total Purchases
01.	Willie Waits	579.213BTQ
02.	Sun Lee	473.919BTQ
03.	Loco Lyzayta	362.252BTQ
04.	Audi Dover	146.540BTQ
05.	Dolly Veeta	137.711BTQ
06.	Sly Denteen	47.966BTQ
07.	Lee Monimi	26.296BTQ
08.	Oscar Decco	24.644BTQ
09.	David Allippa	16.171BTQ
10.	Ivan Aitch	8.720BTQ
11.	Emmanuel Labor	6.181BTQ
12.	Peter Owtbid	4.311BTQ
13.	Wyatt Wayde	1.291BTQ
14.	Timothy BuckDos	0.424BTQ

Displaying 1 to 16 (of 16 customers) Page 1 of 1

Best Products Purchased

No.	Products	Purchased
01.	Cocaine 1K Bag	18426
02.	Heroin 1K	12625
03.	Barbituate Pills 25 Pack	9850
04.	Oxycodone Pills 10 Pack	8600
05.	Adderall 10 Pack	6200
06.	Amphetamines 20 Pack	5900
07.	Kratom Pills 50 Pack	5150
08.	Ecstasy 25 Pack	4350
09.	Fentanyl Pills 40 Pack	3500
10.	GHB 1oz Bottle	3000
11.	DXM 20 Pack	2850
12.	LSD Pills 5 Pack	2650
13.	Benzo	1700
14.	Colt 1911A1	560
15.	Bath Salts	275
16.	Ketamine 10ML Bottle	200
17.	Steroid 200ml	200
18.	AK 47	150
19.	Hydromorphone 1oz Vial	100
20.	Glock 30F	75

Displaying 1 to 20 (of 40 products) << Page 1 of 2 >>

The evidence directly proves two different illegal activities achieved by the perpetrator. - 21 U.S. Code § 841 (a) (1) (2) (b) (A) (i) (ii) (II); U.S. Code § 922 (1) (A)

Hashes

Since we have only worked with forensics copies of the files we have provided the the hashes of the real files

MD5 hash	File
a3185709eb67a3c38ffd60225ba5a379	/root/Documents/.hide/Filex8_Ransomware_Templat
931d610986856b6a759e7428d5af1984	/root/Documents/.hide/Filex7_Targets
4411e6f0410e9fb6218ad12339765c38	/root/Documents/.hide/Filex10_Phishing
8949f0fb7990c29b67ef7324e51a6eda	good_funk.wav
2a18ffd178ce54b87e092d603d5333dd	guitar_licks.wav
8e2d1908d2c8d700565c0020a27e7bd3	text.jpg
98bd69a42823f5f83dad67b7554507ba	Hidden_Proof.txt
7ed7ea71fde2c0ea72e33152a59f5916	C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\PE_Proof.txt
5713cf8a57fe61cb28fc99a88323cbde	english_wikipedia.txt
826b02933e2bbf07ebf69e3da323d389	female_names.txt
0951d82428623061017b1254cad02f4d	male_names.txt
c1934045c3348ea1ba618279aac38c67	passwords.txt
fd371a8cb1595f425332063f52f8e842	surnames.txt
9c2d1b4b6932aa765231e0d0ed2c4f99	us_tv_and_film.tx

Nelson, B., Phillips, A., & Steuart, C. (2019)

Summary

We have found

- direct evidences of committed crimes
- indirect evidences that raise suspicion
- various type of signs that shows conspirative activity

According to our forensic review we determine that sufficient evidence exists to support the pursuit of charges against Mr. Evil Noodle for all of the above-mentioned crimes. And Mr. Ismail Morales will have some explaining to do :)

Item	Value	Action	Store Name
Store Name	The Evil Noodle Guns & Drugs Shop	▶	Edit
Store Owner	Mr. Evil Noodle	ⓘ	The name of my store
E-Mail Address	ismorale@utica.edu	ⓘ	Date Added: 05/07/2021
E-Mail From	"Mr. Evil Noodle" <ismorale@utica.edu>	ⓘ	Last Modified: 05/08/2021
Country	United States	ⓘ	
Zone	Florida	ⓘ	
Expected Sort Order	desc	ⓘ	
Expected Sort Field	date_expected	ⓘ	
Switch To Default Language Currency	false	ⓘ	
Send Extra Order Emails To	false	ⓘ	
Use Search-Engine Safe URLs	true	ⓘ	
Display Cart After Adding Product	false	ⓘ	
Allow Guest To Tell A Friend	and	ⓘ	
Default Search Operator	Store Name Address Country Phone	ⓘ	
Store Address and Phone	true	ⓘ	
Show Category Counts	0	ⓘ	
Tax Decimal Places	false	ⓘ	
Display Prices with Tax		ⓘ	

References

- **Liu C., Singhal A., Wijesekera D. (2017)** Identifying Evidence for Cloud Forensic Analysis. In: Peterson G., Shenoi S. (eds) Advances in Digital Forensics XIII. DigitalForensics 2017. IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology, vol 511. Springer, Cham.
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-67208-3_7
- **Nelson, B., Phillips, A., & Steuart, C. (2019)** Guide to Computer Forensics and Investigations, 6th Edition, Boston, MA: Cengage Learning Inc.
- **AlwaysInstallElevated Windows Priv Esc:** <https://pentestlab.blog/2017/02/28/always-install-elevated/>
- **LSB Audio manipulation:** Audio Steganography : The art of hiding secrets within earshot (part 2 of 2) | by Sumit Kumar Arora | Medium
- **CyberChef:** [https://gchq.github.io/CyberChef/#recipe=Change_IP_format\('Decimal','Dotted%20Decimal'\)&input=MjEzMDcwNjY4OQ](https://gchq.github.io/CyberChef/#recipe=Change_IP_format('Decimal','Dotted%20Decimal')&input=MjEzMDcwNjY4OQ) Autopsy: <https://www.autopsy.com/download/>