

JOHN WAFER

Qwarie OSINT & Cybercrime Trainer

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SUMMARY

John Wafer is a law enforcement professional with an exceptional understanding of OSINT and how it can be deployed as an investigative tool. Also, John has a detailed, understanding of the relevant legislation and the experience to implement robust compliance. This has been core to the success he has achieved as an investigator.

John has over 20 years experience in the police service, with the successful conclusion of multiple operations, commendations from judges, chief constables and commanders and an invitation to meet the then Prime Minister, Tony Blair at 10 Downing Street.

On his retirement from the police service in 2017, John decided to take his skill set into the private sector, to the benefit of Qwarie and our clients.

WORK HISTORY

2017 Qwarie Ltd Senior OSINT & Cybercrime - Trainer and Public Speaker

Sep 2014 to Jan 2017 SPoC Cyber & Serious Crime Squad

Sep 2009 to Sep 2014 Source Handler

Nov 2006 to Aug 2011 - Level 2 Intelligence Development Officer

Jan 2005 to Nov 2006 MIT Intelligence Cell

Jun 2001 to Jan 2005 - Field Intelligence Officer Bethel Street Norwich

Sep 1998 to Jun 2001 Earlham Police Project Norwich

Mar 1996 to Sep 1998 Probation served North Walsham and Aylsham

OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE

In 1999, John became a Force Intelligence Officer (FIO). With the successful completion of Operation Branded, leading to the arrest and subsequent conviction of four offenders. Over the next 10 years, John worked on multiple operations, gaining experience, and a wealth of knowledge of Data Communications and the developing value of OSINT as evidential tools; crucially understanding the growing body of relevant legislation and the compliance necessary to acquire convictions.

This began with Earlham Police Project in the late 1990s, where John realised that the ever increasing emergence of the mobile phone, would influence police investigations into the future. He took advantage of this, with numerous, successful follow up operations, using his ability to turn communications data into evidence.

An early example of his success was the conviction of two prolific burglars. He packaged communications data, use of sources, technical equipment, forensic awareness, operational planning into a successful bid to the tactical unit. Quick arrests led to one offender receiving a 3 year prison sentence and the other, a rehabilitation order.

John went on to prepare numerous operational packages, keeping up with new legislation that set out the procedures for intelligence led policing. This included the implementation of the National Intelligence Model and the extensive changes to covert policing, compliant with the Regulation of Investigation Powers Act RIPA (2000), the Criminal Procedures Investigation Act, the Human Rights Act and the Data Protection Act.

While running Intelligence Cells on major investigations, such as Operations Bracken and Bystander, John overlaid communications data onto the new and emerging intelligence tool, now commonly known as ANPR. His implementation of rigorous procedures with DPA enquiries, prior to completion of RIPA Communications applications, withstood later CPIA scrutiny.

In 2005, John secured an Intelligence Cell post on MIT and SpoC accreditation complemented, with a further Internet SpoC Accreditation. On Operation Marathon, Communications Data and OSINT evidence played a significant role in disproving suspect's alibis and providing evidence of the motive, that secured a conviction.

In 2006, John investigated an Organised Crime Group. Taking the evidence gathered to the Crown Prosecution Service, he was able to explain how the original members for this OCG had been identified, and their attribution. Once the CPS understood, and became confident of a successful prosecution, the defendants were committed to trial, where all pleaded guilty and received indeterminate prison sentences.

In December 2009, as a Source Handler and nationally accredited SPoC, John supported the SpOC Office. On secondment to the Norfolk and Suffolk SpOC office, he prepared and presented training packages to CID and specialist units, such as Kidnap and Hostage Negotiators, as well as Public Protection Units, training them in the potential value of communication data and social media opportunities, and how this can support investigations and assist in the management of offenders.

From 2010 and for the next seven years, John's wealth of knowledge and expertise was best used to train other officers and advise legislators. During the drafting of the IP Bill, he advised the Home Office. He trained scores of officers in Data Communications, Cyber-crime and OSINT techniques and crucially, in procedural compliance with the Data Protection Act and RIPA, so that they could perform effective and reliable on-line investigations.

The value of the training was immense, for example, one of John's recent students went on to win an, 'Investigator of the Year' award for identifying a rapist, using images posted on Facebook with reverse image search techniques, to identify tattoos unique to the offender, led to his conviction.

Qwarie, and it's clients, are fortunate to benefit from the wealth of operational experience that John brings to training OSINT, Cybercrime and Data Communications courses.