



OSAC RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM

Title of research need:

Keyword(s):

Submitting subcommittee(s): **Date Approved:**

(If SAC review identifies additional subcommittees, add them to the box above.)

Background Information:

1. Description of research need:

The continuing growth in the number of available mobile applications limits the ability of examiners to conduct thorough forensic analysis of all apps discovered on a subject device. Tools are needed to quickly analyze mobile device applications to determine their character and capabilities and the presence, location, and format of recoverable information which may be of value to an examiner.

2. Key bibliographic references relating to this research need:

N/A

3a. In what ways would the research results improve current laboratory capabilities?

Research in this area could develop a methodology and toolset for the automated analysis of mobile applications. Such tools would provide mobile device forensic examiners the means to efficiently identify the type, format, and location of artifacts that may be of interest to an examiner.

3b. In what ways would the research results improve understanding of the scientific basis for the subcommittee(s)?

3c. In what ways would the research results improve services to the criminal justice system?

By enabling more efficient analysis of mobile devices, improving examination quality and reducing examination time and backlogs.

4. Status assessment (I, II, III, or IV):

	Major gap in current knowledge	Minor gap in current knowledge
No or limited current research is being conducted	I	III
Existing current research is being conducted	II	IV

This research need has been identified by one or more subcommittees of OSAC and is being provided as an informational resource to the community.

Approvals:

Subcommittee	Approval date: <input type="text" value="12/12/2018"/>
<i>(Approval is by majority vote of subcommittee. Once approved, forward to SAC.)</i>	

SAC	
1. Does the SAC agree with the research need?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the SAC agree with the status assessment?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If no, what is the status assessment of the SAC:	<input type="text"/>
Approval date:	<input type="text" value="12/12/2018"/>
<i>(Approval is by majority vote of SAC. Once approved, forward to NIST for posting.)</i>	