

CHICAGO, IL—Data Defenders, LLC, a leading provider of information technology security and election data integrity products and services, welcomes Al Hobbs as Director of Applied Computer Forensics practice area, effective March 1, 2016. Hobbs will be responsible for leading Data Defenders' digital forensics practice area that includes Election System Auditing, Incident Response, and Computer Forensics.

Hobbs served over 30 years as a law enforcement officer at the local, county, state, and federal levels that included more than 15 years of digital investigations in the public and private sectors. Prior to joining Data Defenders, Hobbs has held ownership and vice president positions at Chasewood Forensics, Guidance Software Inc., and Elijah Ltd. Under his leadership, the computer forensics industry created standard computer forensics and eDiscovery certifications EnCase Certified Examiner (EnCE) and EnCase Certified eDiscovery Practitioner (EnCEP). He also managed the training of more than 50,000 students in the EnCase methodology.

Hobbs holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Trinity University and is certified:

EnCE—EnCase Certified Examiner (Guidance Software, Inc)

EnCEP—EnCase Certified E-Discovery Practitioner (Guidance Software, Inc)

CFCE—Certified Forensic Computer Examiner (IACIS)

CEECS—Certified Electric Evidence Collection Specialist (IACIS)

Hobbs is a member of the:

- International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists
- High Technology Crimes Association
- The American Society of Digital Forensics & eDiscovery

"I am excited to be embarking on new challenges and joining a respected company such as Data Defenders," said Hobbs. Data Defenders has used their cutting edge Applied Computer Forensics and their specialized methodology to carve new and innovative inroads into the technology market. I look forward to building upon these foundations by drawing upon my vast government and private sector experience and to further develop and increase their already well-established and extensive services."

Cyrus Walker, Data Defenders Managing Principal, said "Al Hobbs adds a significant component to the consulting and professional services that Data Defenders provides. His expertise in computer forensics and implementation of examiner training complements our expanding offering of capabilities and products."

About Data Defenders

Data Defenders is the leading provider of election integrity and technology risk management services, including Applied Computer Forensics™, Data D-Fense 24/7™, and Elections Systems Auditing. Founded in 2005, Data Defenders has established itself as a pioneer of protecting the operational integrity of information technology infrastructure and election systems. Data Defenders, LLC is headquartered in the Technology Park at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago.