

Introduction to Litigation Support

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Key concepts, roles, tools, and best practices for providing effective assistance throughout the litigation lifecycle.

1. What Is Litigation Support?

Aspect	Description
Definition	Professional services that assist attorneys, law firms, and corporate legal departments in managing, analyzing, and presenting information during civil or criminal disputes.
Goal	Turn raw data and evidence into clear, admissible, and persuasive material for court or settlement negotiations.
Typical Clients	Law firms, in-house counsel, government agencies, insurers, corporations, and private investigators.

2. Core Phases of Litigation & Support Activities

Litigation Phase	Primary Support Tasks
Pre-litigation / Investigation	• Evidence identification & preservation • Data mapping & custodial interviews • Early case assessment (ECA)
Discovery	• E-discovery planning & protocol drafting • Data collection (imaging, forensic acquisition) • Processing & filtering (de-duplication, keyword searching) • Production (native files, PDFs, load files) • Document review (technology-assisted review – TAR)
Pre-Trial	• Fact-timeline construction • Expert report preparation • Exhibit creation & organization
Trial & Post-Trial	• Real-time presentation (multimedia, live demos) • Witness preparation (visual aids) • Post-trial data archiving & compliance

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Litigation Phase

Primary Support Tasks

Appeal / Enforcement

- Record preparation
- ? • Retrieval of trial transcripts & exhibits
- ? • Ongoing data preservation for future motions

3. Key Roles in Litigation Support

Role	Main Responsibilities
Litigation Support Specialist (LSS)	Project management, vendor coordination, quality control, and client communication.
E?Discovery Engineer / Forensic Analyst	Data collection, forensic imaging, chain?of?custody documentation, and integrity verification.
Document Review Attorney / Analyst	Conducting relevance, privilege, and responsiveness assessments; using TAR platforms.
Data Visualization Expert	Building timelines, charts, and dashboards to illustrate complex facts.
Trial Presentation Engineer	Preparing trial?ready exhibits, managing courtroom technology, and ensuring seamless playback.
Compliance Officer	Monitoring adherence to rules of evidence, data?privacy statutes, and court orders.

4. Common Technologies & Tools

Category	Representative Tools	Typical Use
Data Collection	FTK Imager, EnCase, X1 Social Discovery	Imaging hard drives, capturing cloud data, harvesting social media.
Processing & Indexing	Relativity, Logikcull, Everlaw	De?duplication, OCR, metadata extraction, searchable indexes.
Technology? Assisted Review (TAR)	Cortical.io, Brainspace, kCura	Predictive coding, clustering, concept searching.

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Category	Representative Tools	Typical Use
Document Management	Microsoft SharePoint, iManage, NetDocuments	Secure storage, version control, permissioning.
Analytics & Visualization	Tableau, Power BI, CaseMap, ZyLAB	Timeline creation, network analysis, statistical summaries.
Trial Presentation	Sanction, TrialDirector, Microsoft PowerPoint, Zoom/Teams (remote trials)	Exhibit sequencing, video playback, live annotations.
Security & Compliance	**V	