

**REACTIVE ENFORCEMENT:
Locating Defendants**

SKIPTRACING METHODS

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Learning objectives:

The student at the conclusion of this course will be able to identify two techniques of skip tracing.

The student will be able to identify four sources of traditional information sources.

The student will be able to identify four sources of private sector information.

Definition of skip tracing

Skiptracing (also skip tracing) is a colloquial term used to describe the process of locating a person's whereabouts for any number of purposes. A skiptracer is someone who performs this task, which may be the person's primary occupation. The term comes from the word "skip" being used to describe the person being searched for, and comes from the idiomatic expression "to skip town," meaning to depart, perhaps in a rush, and leaving minimal clues behind for someone to "trace" the "skip" to a new location.

Mental Preparation

Technology I use in the field...

Laptop with internet connection

Skip-tracing software that is internet based.

MDT software to check ID/LPs

Mental Preparation

•The most important piece of equipment you carry on duty that will help you clear these cases?

Mental Preparation

YOU

Equipment considerations

Prep-time in the office.

**If your agency lets you, sign up with DPS on
obtaining access to driver's license and ID
pictures.**

Equipment Considerations

**This program is called the Driver's
License image retrieval service. This is a
secure service which provides this info. FREE**

Equipment considerations

**If your agency allows you the equipment
and will pay for airtime you can contact
the San Antonio Police Department
for MDT software.**

Equipment Considerations

**With this software
you will be able to check DL/ID and LP in
vehicle. You will be able to access the
Internet if you need also.**

Mental Preparation

**Preparation in the Office helps you be more
productive in the field.
Use all resources available to you so that you are
more successful in locating your wanted person.
Don't be afraid to ask questions or ask for help
when trying to locate persons.
Technology is your friend!**

Office Preparation

**Office preparation:
The first step after the warrant is signed by
the judge/magistrate....collect the warrant list.
Who are you looking for?
Skip trace the new list. Find out who lives at
listed address now.**

Office Preparation

If you have a license plate, where do the returns come back to?
What address does the ID/DL come back to?
If you have a phone number who owns it?
These answers can be found by your digging..

What else can you look into?

Office Preparation

Office preparation:
Send a letter to the last know address with Return Service Requested. The post office will give you a new address if they have it.

Office Preparation

Check with other courts in the area, has this Offender been in contact with the other court?

Employment information is good if your court got this information with an application for payments.

Office Preparation

Speak with relatives, old landlords, friends and neighbors. Sometimes they may know things

Check utilities in the area, they will provide help too.

Four traditional methods of skiptracing

- Use of law enforcement system
- Check driver's license or state issued identifications.
- Check your in-house database.
- Check license plate information.
- Check original address(es) on citation.
- Canvas neighborhood.

Four traditional methods of skiptracing

- Check address on driver's license and/or identification cards.
- Driver's license address.
- If license suspended, may have ID card.

Four traditional methods of skiptracing

- Check license plate information.
- Who owns the vehicle.
- What address is the vehicle registered to?
If not the offender, how is the person related to the offender...check this address for offender.

Four traditional methods of skiptracing

- Check the original address on citation.
- What vehicles are in the driveway?
- Who are the vehicles registered to?
- Does the offender still live on the property?
Leave a door hanger if no one is home.
- Check work addresses.
- Call work numbers if provided.

Four traditional methods of Skiptracing

- Canvas the neighborhood.
- Is a neighbor outside?
- Inquire about who you are looking for.
- Got job information?
- Check new and old job leads.

**Four traditional methods
of skiptracing**

- What other things can be done on with the information on the citation?

**Four sources of private sector
information**

- Internet based search engines:
-free search engines
<http://www.skipease.com/>
<http://www.gorillatrace.com/>
<http://theultimates.com/w hite>

<http://www.pimall.com/nais/SKIPTRACE.HTM>

**Four sources of private sector
information**

- Internet based search engines-non free
<http://www accurint.com/>
<http://www locateplus.com/>
<http://www skipsmasher.com/>

Four sources of private sector information

- Employment records.
- Utilities: gas, electric, water, phone.
- Tax office, online property assessments.
- Other license information: marriage, professional, business.
- Credit sources.

Sources of public sector information

- Check your department's computer usage policy before using these resources.
- www.facebook.com
- www.yahoo.com/profiles
- www.classmates.com
- www.myspace.com

Four sources of public and private information

- What are four sources of public and private information?
- How can they be combined to find your offender?
