

# Google for Law Enforcement

## Reverse Location Search: Geofence

**Stage 1**—Establish initial search parameters: geofence location(s) and time frame(s).

Based on probable cause, obtain a search warrant to Google requesting anonymous list of Reverse Location Obfuscated IDs (RLOIs) that represent devices with Google accounts logged into them, that are collecting and reporting Location History within the initial search parameters.

Analysis—narrow down list of RLOIs by common device, location, and timing.  
Visualize by mapping.

Note: Data provided by Google is **anonymized**. Google account users **opt in** to their data being collected and stored by Google.

**Stage 2**—Use this stage if additional information is needed to rule in or rule out RLOIs from Stage 1 as being involved in the crime being investigated.

Based on probable cause, obtain a new search warrant to Google requesting supplemental/contextual Location History for a shorter list of RLOIs for a time frame longer than the initial search parameters, which may also extend beyond the geofence locations. Perform analysis to narrow down/eliminate RLOIs that conflict with known facts of the case.

Analysis—with the additional Location History, you can narrow down the shorter list of RLOIs to further rule any in or out. Visualize by mapping.

Note: Data provided by Google is still **anonymized**.

**Stage 3**—Based on probable cause, obtain a new search warrant to Google requesting basic subscriber information for RLOIs determined to be related to the crime being investigated.

**Now you have an investigative lead!** Go back to the beginning with a search warrant to Google for the account information of the particular gmail account.