

E-DISCOVERY QUESTION CHECKLIST

Business Clients

Individuals

Business Email

- Does your business have its own email server or is your email system cloud-based?
- Do you have an auto-delete or auto-archive policy?
- Have there been any changes in your email system since the beginning of the events underlying the case?
- Have you taken any steps already to save or preserve emails related to the events in this case?
- Do you know if any of the emails related to this case have been lost? If so, how?

IT Personnel

Who handles IT at your business? Do you have someone onsite or do you contract with a vendor?

Business Databases

- What do you use for payroll? Can payroll records be exported to CSV format?
- What software do your employees use at work?

Mobile Devices

Personal Email

- How many email accounts do you have?
- What are all of your email addresses? How do you use each account? Are any of these accounts shared?
- Have any of these accounts been hacked or compromised at any time?

Mobile Devices

- Do you own an iPhone or other smartphone? Do you own an iPad or other tablet device? Do you own a smart watch of any kind?
- What is the manufacturer, model, serial number, date acquired, and typical use case for each such device you've owned since the beginning of the events leading up to this case?
- Have you owned any devices during these periods that have been damaged or lost? What happened?
- Do you have any SMS messages related to the events of the lawsuit?
- Which phone company do you use? Do you have your recent phone bills?

 Do employees use smartphones as part of their work?
 Are mobile devices issued by your business or do employees use their own devices?

Voice Communications

Does your business use a VOIP system for phones? Can voice messages and call logs be downloaded?

Surveillance Equipment

What specific surveillance equipment do you use?Where is this data stored? Are there backups?

Have there been any changes in these systems since the events started that led up to the lawsuit?

Do you monitor employees' computer usage?

File Systems

Do employees use company-issued computers?
Do employees store files on a network drive or a cloud storage system like Box.com or Dropbox?
Where are backup files from the hard drives of individual employee computers located?
Where are paper documents stored?

Are paper documents scanned?

Social Media and Apps

- Which sites do you use primarily? How and why do you use each one? What is your public username/account name on each site?
- Do you have privacy settings on these sites?
- What apps do you use most often on your phone?
- Do you have any fitness tracking apps?

Computers

- Do you own any laptop or desktop computers? Where are they? What is the make and model for each?
- How do you use these computers? Do you share them with anyone?
 - Do you use Google Drive or Dropbox for saving files?
 - Do you use any other cloud-based services?

Paper Documents

- Have you collected paper documents related to the case? Where do you keep these documents?
- Where do you keep documents like bank statements, medical records, and phone bills?

* This checklist was originally published in the three-part "Preparing for E-Discovery" series on Lawyerist.com.