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PRACTITIONER'S ALERT

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ILLINOIS REGULATORS CONFIRM PRIVATE DETECTIVE LICENSURE REQUIRED FOR COMPUTER FORENSICS WORK

Eliminating any question that may have existed, the Division of Professional Regulation of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation made clear at its October 8, 2009 board meeting that, “. . . computer forensic work would require a private detective license.” An abridged copy of the minutes follows. The full minutes from the board meeting can be found at http://www.idfpr.com/Forms/Professions/DPR_Minutes/dtctMinutes1009.pdf.

Counsel and others engaging firms to provide computer forensics services, as well as other “investigative” services, may want to consult the licensing statute to ensure that they are engaging firms that have the necessary background, training, and licensing to ensure that their matters will be handled in a competent and professional manner, without the ramifications that may arise from providing services without the requisite licensing in place.

To identify services requiring private detective licensure, the Illinois Private Detectives Act can be found at 225 Illinois Compiled Statutes 447, Article 15, which is available on-line at www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs.asp.

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