

The Importance of DIGITAL EVIDENCE IN DEFENDING WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS

According to the National Safety Council, the total cost of workplace injuries in recent years has averaged more than $170 million for U.S. corporations. This figure includes wage and productivity losses, medical expenses, administrative expenses, and employers' uninsured costs. It also includes the value of time lost by workers and the cost of time required to investigate injuries, write injury reports, and manage the information required by OSHA, Workers' Compensation, and attorneys.

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To secure digital assets today that may be needed to defend future claims, businesses are increasingly relying on evidence management systems that allow them to easily and efficiently collect, store, manage, and retrieve digital information. There are a variety of solutions available, when looking for one that meets your specific corporate needs, you should look for the following features:

- Accommodates the robust storage requirements for the sophisticated video file types used.
- Intuitive, ideally drag-and-drop, user interface to reduce the need for training and data error. Many business operations experience high employee turnover, so ease of use is imperative.
- Cloud platform solution to eliminate the need for costly and nonsecure on-site servers.
- Centralized location for all users to effectively and securely perform all functions from evidence collection through disposition.
- Ability for users to generate, share, and convert files and reports.
- Easy access to evidence; sharing and requesting files; setting up permissions and rules to enhance safety and security; and purging data when it's no longer needed.
- Quick location and retrieval of data when needed.
- Simple report generation, giving access to those who need it, when they need it.

Whether it's an OSHA compliance question, Workers' Compensation claim, or personal injury lawsuit, evidence will be collected by government inspectors and attorneys on all sides of the case. To ensure that your organization is prepared to defend itself against penalties, increased insurance premiums, and/or damages, make sure that you are prepared to collect, store, and manage your own digital evidence.

When employees are injured at work, they may be entitled to receive workers' compensation. However, employees also have the option to file a personal injury lawsuit against their employer. Especially in cases of personal injury litigation, employers can manage long-term financial risk by implementing secure procedures for collecting, storing, and managing evidence relating to workplace injuries. In today's digital world, much of this evidence is in the form of digital documentation, photography, and videography.

As part of Workers' Compensation claims, there may be a formal OSHA investigation to determine whether the organization complied with OSHA standards at the time of the incident. Federal government Compliance Safety and Health Officers have the authority to take environmental samples, along with photographs and video recordings related to the purpose of the inspection. In addition, this inspection authority allows officers to question privately any employer, owner, operator, agent, or employee of an establishment. To avoid the possibility of OSHA penalties, today's organizations are proactively collecting and storing all types of digital evidence relating to workplace health and safety.



Types of digital evidence that can aid in defense of Workers Compensation claims, return-to-work decisions, OSHA compliance, and personal injury lawsuits include the following:

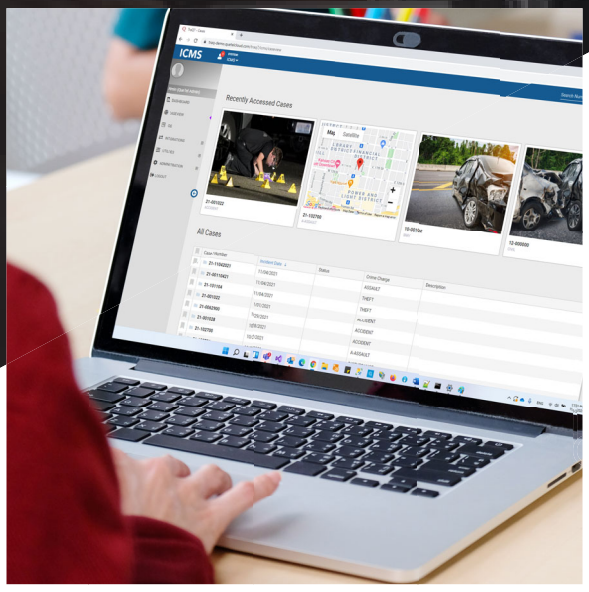
- Audio recordings of statements by the claimant and witness
- Video interviews of the claimant, the employer, and potential witnesses.
- Scene-of-Incident photos and surveillance video
- Video job descriptions
- Personnel files
- Police Reports
- Medical files
- Medical claim histories

Omnigo's Digital Evidence Management System helps you protect your brand and limit liability. Ready to learn more? Request a demo or check out our full suite of corporate safety solutions.

ABOUT OMNIGO

For more than 20 years, Omnigo software solutions have been the preferred choice for law enforcement, education, healthcare, gaming, hospitality, and corporate enterprises. Currently, Omnigo's solutions are used by over 2,000 customers in 20 different countries. At Omnigo, we're committed to helping customers secure their organizations' property, control operational costs, and ensure the safety of the general public.

We believe our customers deserve the best support available to protect their people, assets, and brand. We also understand how challenging it can be to protect the community without the proper resources. We're here to arm users with the best tools in the industry. With a team that includes former law enforcement, first responders, and other public safety professionals, we're uniquely qualified to understand exactly what our customers need to protect their community.



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