In 2007, a total number of 116 digital forensics cases have been reported to Digital Forensics Department of CyberSecurity Malaysia. The number of cases received by the team has rapidly increased in 2007 compared to 2006. In 2006, cases reported were only 41 but in 2007, the total number of cases has tremendously increased by 182%.

When the agency first started in 2002, there were only 13 digital crimes being reported, 5 cases in 2003, 20 cases in 2004 and 45 cases in 2005. The growing numbers of digital crimes reported to CyberSecurity Malaysia indicates the increasing cases of digital crimes convicted in Malaysia. However, the ongoing promotions for the past few years and the launching of CyberSecurity Malaysia in early 2007 could also contribute to the growing numbers.
The total quantity of digital evidences received by the department in 2007 was 279. The evidences were collected from law enforcement agencies; namely PDRM, KPDN and BPR, whether on the crime scene itself or handed over by the law enforcement agencies at CyberSecurity Malaysia’s premise.

The most collected evidence last year were personal computer or PC (78) followed by mobile phone (54). The team has also received a lot of compact disks or CDs (40) followed by hard disks (39), notebook (32), DVR player (12), server (7) and memory card or thumb drive (6). The least collected evidence was floppy disk (2). Other digital evidences such as Ipod and voice recorder were also recorded as digital evidences (9).
In 2007, 26% from the reported digital crime cases to CyberSecurity Malaysia was related to financial fraud. Cases such as direct selling and illegal Internet investment were largely reported last year compared to the previous years. The high reported crime was caused by government stringent monitoring towards the illegal business schemes over the last year.

The second most reported case, which was 21% from the total of cases, was harassment crime. The cases received related to harassment crime were threats, blackmail and sexual harassment. “Most of mobile phone forensics cases being done over the last year were related to personal harassment”, says Razana Mohd Salleh, senior of mobile phone forensics analyst of Digital Forensics Department. With the fast-moving technology of mobile phones in the open market, it is not a wonder that the mobile phones are largely being used to convict to a crime.

13% from the reported digital crime cases was related to non-criminal act. The cases varied from attempts of suicidal, tracking a lost person as well as password-breaking tasks. 9% from the total of crime cases was robbery. Most of the robbery cases required the team to perform audio-video forensics analysis. 8% was cases related to physical attack while 6% was cases related document falsification.

Crimes involving intellectual property theft such as movie and game piracy were shocking few compared to other convicted crimes. The case reported last year was only 5%, despite the 58,000 pirated optical discs raid conducted by the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry last year. The reason behind the number was the ministry might have conducted its own investigation on the confiscated evidence.
Gambling, offenses involving children and smuggling shared the same percentages; 3% from the total number of cases. Insider crime and intrusion crimes were the least reported case with only 2% and 1% over the last year.

Summary

With the increasing demands on ICT and the availability of Internet connectivity in Malaysia, Digital Forensics Department predicts that the demands for digital forensics analysis will be high for this year. Crimes engaged with mobile phones will be the highlight of year 2008 due to the sophisticated features implanted in the gadgets; camera, 3G, MMS and bluetooth. The department also predicts that more audio video tools will be received this year as a cause of the recent announcement by the government to install CCTVs in high-prone crime areas.