

Yellow needs to be edited to fit your circumstances. Delete this upon completion.

Google Images (images.google.com) allow a user to search the internet for images (versus searching for words). A google image search allows google to look for images that appear identical or similar in nature to the searched-for image. Conversely, a “reverse image search” can be done which does the opposite by starting with an image and cross referencing it against every image in its massive Google database. The current combined database of images between Google and TinEye.com is well over 60+ Billion Images. This reverse image search technique essentially allows a verification to be completed on whether an image in question is unique (i.e. **original, possibly just taken**) or whether it was downloaded or sourced from the internet (i.e. **a stock image**).

This search isn’t dependent on something as exacting as hash values or resolution of the image; if low resolution image of object X is entered as the query, it will result in all version of the image found by google across the internet. TinEye.com is another website that allows for reverse image searches. I have tested both of these sites by searching various terms (e.g. Steinway piano), selecting an image from the response, compressing the image (to remove resolution), and then performing a reverse image search on my newly created image. The result of that search was 162 different places where the image of the piano was found. I also used a photograph I took in my office; the result of that search was that no images that matched my picture were found as the image was unique.

In this investigation, police/school officials received information that a concerning post was located on <SOCIAL MEDIA SITE>. I received a copy of the post from X and extracted from that post the image of the firearm shown below. I used that image to perform a reverse image search via images.google.com and tinEye.com. As a result of my search, the program(s) were unable to locate an image across all of Google’s indexed sites or those searched by TinEye. This means that it is reasonable to believe that the poster created the below image versus downloading or saving an image of this firearm from somewhere on the internet. Because neither site returned a result for the image, I assert that it is reasonable to believe that the poster created the image by having access to the weapon depicted in the picture.

INSERT PICTURE OF CONCERN

As a result of our exigent request to <SOCIAL MEDIA SITE>, we learned that the concerning post was created by someone using IP address 123.456.789.012. Our request to Comcast revealed that the address of the subscriber whose internet connection was used to upload the concerning post is 1234 Main Street, Anytown, USA. Police drove by that house and it looks like:

INSERT PICTURE.

This warrant is to enter the home and search for: (1) internet-enabled devices capable of accessing <SOCIAL MEDIA>; (2) all digital devices that could contain the image uploaded by

account X on <SOCIAL MEDIA SITE>; and (3) the weapon and any ammunition shown in the photograph attached to concerning post.