



by **Kia Carter**
27 News

BTK software aids Riley County in catching criminals

Topeka, Kansas, Jan 03, 2006 -- The Riley County Police Department is solving computer crimes at a cyber space pace thanks, in part, to Wichita police. They nominated Riley County police to receive the same computer program that helped Wichita police discover the identity of BTK killer, Dennis Rader.

Wichita police used the software to find hidden information on a floppy disk that Rader sent to a television station. From the disk, the computer program uncovered BTK's first name and the church he attended, leading police straight to him.

The software is called EnCase Cybercrime Arsenal and it's now proving a valuable weapon against crime in Riley County.

A computer system is helping Riley County Police Detective Brad Schlerf solve more high tech crimes committed with computers.

"We've got the ability of going back into a computer and forensically looking at what the operator had done," says Det. Schlerf.

Teaching criminals that nothing on the computer is ever lost. Those who commit identity theft, computer theft or child exploitation through the computer are now easier to catch.

"We can look at what they've saved, what they've deleted, websites they've visited, emails they've sent and received..." says Det. Schlerf.

Something they couldn't do before the EnCase Forensic software was donated to Riley County just two months ago, after Wichita police nominated the department to receive it. Cases that once took Det. Schlerf a week with the old system, now take him only a day with the new system.

To give more criminals their day in court. The software has been especially helpful in cases of child pornography or exploitation, which means a lot to Det. Schlerf, who has three teens of his own.

"It's all about the truth and doing what's right. If somebody is committing a crime or hurting a child on the internet or trying to seek out a child on the internet, they deserve to get caught," says Schlerf.

Like the lynx catches it's prey.

Since Riley County police received the software Det. Schlerf has solved four computer related crimes with it. Wichita picked the RCPD because the department knew that their old software was slowing them down, and this was a good way to bring them up to speed.

The software has helped Riley County solve cases in several counties including Morris, Geary, and Pottawatomie Counties. Lawrence police also use EnCase software, but it is not used in Topeka. The software donation Riley County got was in the \$20,000 to \$30,000 range.