



Basic Historical Cell Site Analysis Course

Presented by the FBI Cellular Analysis Survey Team (CAST)



The CAST Basic Historical Cell Site Analysis Course is designed to be an introduction to basic cellular analysis and geospatial mapping.* The class provides instruction on the basic principles of cellular networks, how call detail records provided by the major cellular providers are created, how to read and understand call detail records, and how to utilize call detail records in law enforcement investigations to illustrate a cellular phone's general location.

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the basic principles and concepts of a cellular network and how a cellular device connects with a cell tower
- Interpret and analyze the call detail records obtained from the major cellular providers (AT&T, T-Mobile, and Verizon)
- Use mapping software (CASTViz) to accurately depict the general location of a cellular device at the time it is connected to the cellular network
- Understand the capabilities and limitations of cellular record analysis
- Interpret and analyze tower dump records from all major cellular providers
- Be familiar with the resources available through CAST

CAST Basic – Fairview Heights, IL (2-day course)

9/22/2026 to 9/23/2026

Grace Church

5151 North Illinois Street

Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208

YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN LAPTOP WITH CASTViz INSTALLED. This is a change from previous classes. Instructions on free installation via castviz.com will be provided after registration closes.

****The class is free; however, travel funding is NOT available. ****

To successfully complete the course, attendance is required both days.

Registration Link: <https://forms.fbi.gov/cast-basic-cell-site-analysis>

Registration closes on 9/13/2026.

Prerequisite: An understanding of Microsoft Excel is preferable for course attendance. A knowledge of Excel spreadsheet functions to include the following aids in successful class participation: Freeze, Sort, Find/Replace, Insert, Formulas (Left, Right, Concatenate), and Pivot tables. A Microsoft Excel e-learning collection can be found on NDCAC's website under "Tools." NDCAC is now accessed via LEEP. To create an account with NDCAC for access to the website, interested law enforcement students should send an email from their unclassified government email accounts to AskNDCAC@fbi.gov and request account creation and access to the Cell Site Database (CSDB). NDCAC and CSDB account creation will be handled by the NDCAC's Technical Resource Group, tel. 855-306-3222, email AskNDCAC@fbi.gov.

Contact FBI CAST Special Agent Ryan McElroy, 217-299-5953, rmcelroy@fbi.gov with questions.

***The Basic Historical Cell Site Analysis Course does not provide the requisite knowledge or experience to qualify students as experts in historical call detail record analysis. The course is designed to provide a foundation for understanding the records.**