

IOS Location Services Significant And Frequent Locations

e-discovery.uk, Computer Forensics Lab. Published 2026-09-02.

<https://e-discovery.uk/library/ios-location-services-significant-and-frequent-locations>

IOSLOCATIONSERVICES · A GUIDE FOR UK LAWYERSIOS Location Services, Significant Locations and Frequent LocationsThe Places a Phone Remembers, and Why It Matters Where the Location Came FromCOMPUTER FORENSICS LAB§ ABOUT THE AUTHORPREPARED BY COMPUTER FORENSICS LAB E-DISCOVERY TEAMACCURACY & CONVERGENCE ANALYSIS CPR PART 35 EXPERT REPORT SFULL CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY DOCUMENTATIONS CONTENTSIn this guide01 Executive summary02 The problem in plain English: the phone remembers where it has been03 Where iOS keeps location04 Significant Locations and its protection05 Accuracy: not all location is equal06 Attribution, convergence and honest limits07 Deployment: placing a phone in time and place08 Source architecture: where else the evidence lives09 Worked examples10 Common mistakes and technical limitations11 Questions to ask · Suggested wording12 Checklist and red flags · When to involve a digital forensic expert13 Frequently asked questions14 Glossary · References · Disclaimer · How a specialist laboratory can assist§ 01 · ORIENTATIONExecutive summaryThe headline point: iOS keeps location in several places, the encrypted Significant Locations record, applocation, cached network and system location, and photo geotags, which together can place a phone in time and place with force, provided location is attributed and its accuracy read honestly, and Significant Locations is reached law full y.§ 02 · FIRST PRINCIPLEThe problem in plain English: the phone remembers where it has been§ 03 · WHEREIOSKEEPSLOCATIONWhere iOS keeps locationSIGNIFICANT APP LOCATION NETWORK / CELL PHOTO GEOTAGS CONVERGELOCATIONS§ 04 · SIGNIFICANTLOCATIONSSignificant Locations and its protection§ 05 · ACCURACYAccuracy: not all location is equal§ 06 · ATTRIBUTIONANDHONESTLIMITSAttribution, convergence and honest limits§ 07 · DEPLOYMENTDeployment: placing a phone in time and place§ 08 · THEWIDERMAPSSource architecture: where else the evidence livesEVIDENCE BACKUP /SIGNIFICANT APP / PHOTO NETWORK / CARRIER INDEPENDENTLOCATIONS LOCATION CELL (DEVICE) CELL-SITE (CCTV/ANPR)ICLOUD /PAIRED§ 09 · IN THE WILDWorked examplesEXAMPLE1 · THECONVERGENCE THAT PLACED THE PHONEEXAMPLE2 · THE CELL FIX THAT WAS ONLY AN AREAEXAMPLE3 · SIGNIFICANT LOCATIONS REACHED LAW FULLY§ 10 · WHERE IT GOES WRONGCommon mistakes and technical limitationsCommon mistakesTechnical limitations§ 11 · INTERROGATORIES & DRAFTING AIDSQuestions to ask · Suggested wordingAsk your clientAsk your opponentAsk your e Discovery / forensic providerSUGGESTED WORDING · INSTRUCTION FOR AN IOS LOCATION ANALYSIS§ 12 · QUICK CONTROLChecklist and red flags · When to involve a digital forensic expertThe iOS location checklistRed flagsWhen to involve a digital forensic expert§ 13 · COMMON QUESTIONSFrequently asked questionsWhat is Significant Locations?Does location prove where a person was?Is all location data equally accurate?How do you make a location finding reliable?Can you get Significant Locations off a locked phone?Is location data sensitive in data-protection terms?§ 14 ·

REFERENCEGlossarySources and authoritative referencesDISCLAIMERS HOW A
SPECIALIST LABORATORY CAN ASSISTWorking with Computer Forensics LabSpeak to a
forensic examiner, not a salesperson.INSTRUCTTHELABNEWENQUIRIESEMAILE -
DISCOVERY

Questions and answers

What is Significant Locations?

An iOS feature that records the places a person regularly visits and when (

Does location prove where a person was?

It proves where a phone was; the inference to a person needs care (

Source: <https://e-discovery.uk/library/ios-location-services-significant-and-frequent-locations>. Free to read and share with attribution to Computer Forensics Lab, e-discovery.uk.