



Letting history & data speak for itself

## What Is GIS-Based Forensic Mapping?

GIS-based forensic mapping is a crucial component of an effective litigation strategy throughout the lifecycle of a case - from processing information and crafting an expert's opinions during discovery to preparing exhibits that will be shared throughout trial or submitted to opponents during settlement negotiations.

## 10 Reasons Why You Need GIS-Based Forensic Mapping In Litigation

### GIS-Based Forensic Mapping Is Ideal For Environmental or Land Use Litigation

- 1 Set The Stage.** Map WHO did WHAT, WHERE and WHEN. Re-creates and illustrates to a judge or jury what actually happened at a specific time or over time.
- 2 Portray Complex Data.** An alternate method of expressing abundant, complex, and often convoluted data in an understandable format; condenses and illustrates complex quantitative and qualitative information.
- 3 Analyze & Test Theories.** Understanding spatial relationships over time allows litigation experts to perform analyses and test theories **before** reports and presentations. As research, testing, and discovery is performed, data can be incorporated and modeled in GIS to reveal relationships or patterns that direct future analyses and steer trial or settlement strategies.
- 4 Nexus.** Determine and illustrate connections and relationships for any of the following factors:
  - location
  - owner, operator, contractor/sub-contractor, lessor/lessee
  - natural/man made events and impacts
  - timing (elapsed and/or "point-in-time")
  - operations, processes and by-products
  - regulations and zoning (current and historic)
- 5 Cause & Effect.** Allows for the ability to quantify and illustrate cause and effect relationships.

### Temporal GeoAnalytics

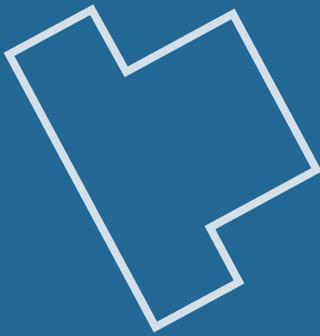
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**6 Attention Grabbing.** Keeps the attention of judge, jury, or mediator. Most of the human brain is used for visual interpretation – when complex data is visually displayed it tells a commanding story and makes dry, difficult to understand statistics much more meaningful; juries retain more information when they see it

## Graphic Description



VS.

## Textual Description

Beginning at ...the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING, said point being the southwest corner of the tract herein described; thence NW 28° 13' 30" 410.0 feet; thence NE 61° 46' 30" 125.00 feet; thence SE 28° 13' 30" 92.5 feet; thence NE 61° 46' 30" 160.00 feet; thence SE 28° 13' 30" 235.0 feet; thence SW 61° 46' 30" 160.00 feet; thence SE 28° 13' 30" 82.5 feet; thence SW 61° 46' 30" 125.00 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.

**7 Portray Experts' Theories.** Support an expert's theory of what occurred over a certain period in time at a certain location (parcel, neighborhood, region).

**8 Consistency In A Case.** Consistent base information for all experts on a case leads to fewer disputes/confusion on differences in color, symbols, street names (spelling and type: Street, Avenue, etc.). Qualifying base data once at the beginning allows experts to be experts and not get hung up in why their basic map information is different than the next expert's.

**9 Lead With Dynamic Maps.** Maps as end product are more effective than text-only reports, graphs or spreadsheets: Dynamic map(s) lead a judge/jury through processes, owners/operators, and impact over time at trial or in settlement meetings.

- Turn layers on/off
- Take measurements (length, volume, area)
- Identify sources

**10 Incorporate Other Info.** Information (i.e. names, dates) culled from historic documents (i.e. contracts, permits, letters/memos) can be added to a specific location (i.e. parcel, building, neighborhood) for queries and illustrations.

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