CLAIMS:

1. A method for generating and maintaining a custodian directory for use in conducting electronic discovery within ~~a~~ an enterprise-based communication network, comprising:

identifying a plurality of tables ~~or~~ and databases within the network comprising information relating to custodians, wherein the tables or databases include at least one email account table or database and at least one human resources information table or database and wherein the custodians are individuals within an entity who created or are associated with electronic data required to be collected in an electronic discovery matter, wherein the electronic discovery matter is a matter in which electronic date is sought, located, secured and searched with the intent of using it as evidence in a legal proceeding, an audit, a securities investigation, or a forensics investigation;

crawling, by a computing device processor, the communication network to scan each ~~of~~ personal computing device in the network and each ~~of~~ file server in the network to (1) retrieve, from the personal computing devices, identifying information comprising a computer name, an IP address and a list of computer-user profiles including first user identification and (2) retrieve, from the file servers, paths to personal network storage areas in the network, wherein the paths include a second user identification; ~~and~~

generating, by a computing device processor, the custodian directory that stores a plurality of custodian profiles, wherein each profile is associated with a custodian, wherein generating each custodian profile includes automatically:

linking custodian-specific portions of the tables and databases to the custodian profiles based on identifiers associated with the custodians,

matching one or more of the paths to a custodian associated with the custodian profile based on the second user identification included in the path being associated with the custodian,

matching one or more of the personal computing devices to the custodian associated with the custodian profile based on the first user identification in one of the computer-user profiles retrieved from the personal computing device being associated with the custodian, and

storing in each corresponding custodian profile (1) the matched paths to the personal network storage areas, and (2) the personal computing device identifying information associated with the matched personal computing device, and

in response to generating the custodian directory, automatically recording, by a computing device processor, in the custodian profiles, information related to updates to the linked tables and databases that are associated with a corresponding custodian to create a historic record, wherein the information comprises metadata associated with an update including time and date of the update and a record of previous data stored in the table or database prior to the update.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein generating each custodian profile further comprises storing in each custodian profile human resources data relating to the custodian.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the tables further comprises identifying the tables or databases, wherein the tables or databases comprise network directory information.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein generating each custodian profile further comprises storing, in each custodian profile, information for at least one related custodian that is related to the custodian associated with the custodian profile.

~~5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:~~

~~monitoring, by a computing device processor, the linked tables and databases to determine changes in the information in the tables or databases;~~

~~recording, by a computing device processor, in the custodian profiles, the changes to create a historic record of the information relating to custodians.~~

65. A system for generating and maintaining a custodian directory for use in conducting electronic discovery within aan enterprise-based communication network, comprising:

at least one computing device, each device having a memory and a processor, wherein the processors are configured to:

identify a plurality of tables ~~or~~ and databases within the network comprising information relating to custodians, wherein the tables or databases include at least one email account table or database and at least one human resources information table or database and wherein the custodians are individuals within an entity who created or are associated with electronic data required to be collected in an electronic discovery matter, wherein the electronic discovery matter is a matter in which electronic date is sought, located, secured and searched with the intent of using it as evidence in a legal proceeding, an audit, a securities investigation, or a forensics investigation;

crawl the communication network to scan each ~~of~~ personal computing device in the network and each file server in the network to (1) retrieve, from the personal computing devices, identifying information comprising a computer name, an IP address and a list of computer-user profiles including first user identification and (2) retrieve, from the file servers, paths to personal network storage areas in the network, wherein the paths include a second user identification ~~and~~;

generate the custodian directory that stores a plurality of custodian profiles, wherein each profile is associated with a custodian, wherein generating each custodian profile includes automatically:

linking custodian-specific portions of the tables and databases to the custodian profiles based on identifiers associated with the custodians, [[~~and~~]]

matching one or more of the paths to a custodian associated with the custodian profile based on the second user identification included in the path being associated with the custodian,

matching one or more of the personal computing devices to the custodian associated with the custodian profile based on the first user identification in one of the computer-user profiles retrieved from the personal computing device being associated with the custodian, and

storing in each corresponding custodian profile (1) the matched paths to personal network storage areas and (2) the personal computing device identifying information associated with the matched personal computing device; and

in response to generating the custodian directory, automatically record, in the custodian profiles, information related to updates to the linked tables and databases that are associated with a corresponding custodian to create a historic record, wherein the information comprises metadata associated with an update including time and date of the update and a record of previous data stored in the table or database prior to the update.

~~7~~6. The system of claim ~~6~~5, wherein the processors are further configured to generate the custodian profiles including storing in each of the custodian profiles human resources data relating to the custodian.

~~8~~7. The system of claim ~~6~~5, wherein the processors are further configured to identify the plurality of tables or databases, wherein at least one of the tables or databases comprises a network directory information.

~~9~~8. The system of claim ~~6~~5, wherein the processors are further configured to generate the custodian profiles including storing in each custodian profile information for at least one related custodian that is related to the custodian associated with the custodian profile.

~~10. The system of claim 6, wherein the processors are further configured to:~~

~~monitor the linked tables and databases to determine changes in the information in the tables or databases; and~~

~~record, in the custodian profiles, the changes to create a historic record of the information relating to custodians.~~