

Government Services

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Celerity Consulting Group is an information management consulting firm that helps companies, law firms, regulated entities, and public agencies resolve their litigation, compliance, regulatory, and restructuring challenges. Founded in 2001, we are a woman-owned business, certified by the California Public Utilities Commission Supplier Clearinghouse. Celerity clients include Fortune 500 companies, several state attorneys general offices, some of the largest utilities in the country, and 14 of the AmLaw 2016 top 25 law firms. Established in 2001, Celerity is a proven provider, with many senior members of the team possessing 20 years of experience or more. Celerity is registered with SAM under NAICS code 518210, but our services fall in a range of relevant NAICS codes:

518210 - Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services*

541199 All Other Legal Services

541511 Custom Computer Programming Services*

541519 Other Computer Related Services*

* *Small-business provider*

541611 Administrative Management and General Management Consulting Services

561439 Other Business Service Centers

561499 All Other Business Support Services

Core Competencies

Whether in support of an *eDiscovery matter, an investigation, a business analysis, or a records management initiative*, Celerity has a depth of expertise in performing the following:

- **Interviewing** – Interview custodians of potentially related data and documentation through site visits, telephone calls, and online surveys. Summarize potential data sources, volumes, and cost impacts. Advise on collection strategies. Perform records inventories.
- **Data Collection** – Gather documentation from geographically-dispersed locations and ESI from a variety of sources, including Smartphones and tablets, cloud email and storage, enterprise applications, and social media sites. We offer EnCase® Certified Examiners as needed and always use forensically-sound techniques to maintain proper chain of custody and avoid spoliation.
- **Forensic Analysis** – Help clients find answers hidden within electronic data that typical processing, analysis and review don't reveal. Specifically, we assist by finding and restoring lost, hidden or damaged files, analyzing operating system and file artifacts to understand user behavior, including file deletion and anti-forensic activity, providing affidavits and expert testimony, and analyzing other forensic expert reports.
- **Data Processing** – Process data and documents to extract relevant information and prepare for further analysis and review; efficient litigation support – scanning, image printing, Optical Character Recognition (OCR), electronic file processing, records coding, and database development.
- **Data Analysis** – Provide data culling and technology-assisted review for eDiscovery matters; extract key business data to support or disprove damage claims or assess class certification; run analyses to shape or construct a damage claim; provide expert testimony.
- **Document Review** – Offer Relativity®, an industry-leading review platform with full administrative support as needed and Oliver, Celerity's proprietary online document review platform that provides more customized features and workflow. Our team has also managed and supported relevance and privilege reviews in our own review facility or at the client's location.
- **Technology Deployment** – Develop information management solutions, such as mobile data collection applications or online document repositories to improve data management and data quality.

Differentiators

Breadth and Depth of Services

Celerity offers the spectrum of services needed to fulfill a wide variety of project goals. Whether providing insight on the data and analysis aspects of a litigation strategy, assisting with custodian interviews or document review, processing to suit any number of review platforms, diving deeper to analyze a custodian's digital behavior, or providing impeccable trial support, Celerity has been both a tactical and strategic partner to hundreds of clients, adapting to an ever-changing litigation environment and case-specific needs.

Project Management

Celerity has PMP-certified project managers who have worked on some of the most complex litigation matters in the industry. Combining proven techniques with appropriate technologies and a tailored approach, we deliver projects on time and on budget. Celerity utilizes FrameWork, a litigation support application that provides tracking and reporting, to help ensure an efficient and defensible process.

Range of Technology

Celerity offers a range of eDiscovery and digital forensics technology choices to ensure client and project needs are met. We also develop custom applications when a case or matter has special requirements. We are well versed in formatting and delivering data for a wide variety of document review, enterprise content, and document management platforms.

Past Performance Samples

Affidavit on eDiscovery Approach for HAMP Litigation

When Celerity's law firm client sued a large bank on behalf of homeowners for violating federal mortgage regulations, it requested data and documents related to the Home Affordable Modification Program. The defendant objected, claiming that the burden and expense of the proposed discovery outweighed its benefit. Our client believed that the bank inflated the cost of plaintiffs' request but required a better understanding of industry standards to make the counterargument. Celerity was engaged to provide this knowledge. By examining market rates and fees charged to similar clients, we prepared an affidavit of expert opinion estimating the total cost of collection, review, and production. Our work provided the client with the information necessary to invalidate the bank's claim.

Large Civil Litigation

In the wake of a significant, industry-changing incident, our utility client faced large, impending civil litigation and needed scalable discovery assistance immediately. At direction of counsel, Celerity fielded a web-based survey to over a thousand custodians to identify the collection scope and followed up with over half of them for in-person hard copy and electronic file collections. Concurrently, Celerity worked closely with the internal IT group to collect electronic data in a forensically sound manner from standard backup routines, email archives, and custodian data located on the company network. Celerity also forensically imaged almost 2,000 laptops. In all, Celerity performed thousands of distinct collections across six different data types, totaling 110TB of data, including the scanning of over 5.5 million pages, and provided this data to two processing and review vendors. Celerity's ability to scale quickly – gathering 90% of the data within 4 months – as well as perform the variety of collections needed helped ensure the client was prepared during an extremely challenging time.

Pharmaceutical DOJ Investigation

The Department of Justice (DOJ) initiated an investigation into the potential off-label marketing practices of a sales team within a pharmaceutical drug company. Celerity assisted our client in cooperating with the DOJ effort by collecting 3.8 TB of data, strategically culling the population to 1.5 TB of data and then processing and loading the data into Celerity's online review tool, OLIVER. Celerity supported our client's relevance review and assisted with the production of over 14 million TIFF images in the form of Concordance load files supplemented with native ESI and OCR text files. Of note, Celerity designed a custom review tool and advised on production protocol for call notes made by the sales teams within the company's CRM system, which saved our client significant processing time and expense.

Tobacco Producers Settlement

Celerity assisted several state attorneys general offices (AGOs) in proving their diligence with meeting the terms of a 1998 landmark multi-billion dollar settlement agreement with a number of tobacco producers. These agreements set penalties to be paid by the producers based on actual future tobacco sales, contingent upon certain criteria. One obligation that fell upon the states was proving diligence in their effort to collect escrow payments from non-party tobacco manufacturers. In order to ascertain the states' diligence, Celerity independently analyzed data and provided reports to refute the tobacco companies' experts. Celerity established a repeatable, defensible calculation model that can be used for years into the future to assist state AGOs in cost-effectively and accurately calculating annual penalty payments.

State Employee Benefit Claim

Celerity's client, a state agency, was accused of not providing health care benefits to all state employees who were entitled to such benefits, and retained Celerity to assist. Celerity gathered more than 70 million records of payroll and benefits data in multiple electronic formats, which encompassed the activities of over sixty (60) state agencies over a thirteen-year period. Working with counsel, Celerity developed detailed analyses that examined varying eligibility factors including terminations, insurance waivers, work schedules, and positions to generate detailed reports of all employee work periods during which benefits should have been provided.

Union Dispute

A dispute ensued between a trade union and a breakaway union faction, in which each accused the other of breaking union laws and potentially destroying data. Under adversarial and challenging circumstances, Celerity collected over 1 TB of data from 147 individuals at 26 union locations across the United States and Canada. Celerity interviewed all custodians and gathered local and server-based email, as well as non-email files, hard copy documents, and targeted network server files. Celerity also collected email from 59 web-based email accounts. Celerity filtered the data and provided culled results to a client-chosen vendor for further processing.

About Celerity

Celerity Consulting Group is an information governance consulting firm that helps regulated entities, public agencies, companies, and law firms resolve their risk and compliance, litigation, technology deployment, and restructuring challenges. We have a particular depth of expertise in the utility and natural gas pipeline sectors. Celerity clients include Fortune 500 companies, several state attorneys general offices, some of the largest utilities in the country, and 14 of the AmLaw 2016 top 25 law firms.

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