

Your Investigation Team

has a **Blind Spot**

In far less time than it takes to get a warrant, court order, or subpoena to compel a social media platform to disclose the true identity of a user, you could have found the information you needed and may have already prevented a crime or solved a case.

It's a problem

Criminals frequently post evidence of their whereabouts, activities, and associations on social media — the shrewder among them post under non-identifying usernames. Even though many of the leading platforms have policies that require accounts to be set up with real legal names, they are seldom enforced. This leaves investigators with a blind spot.

Common Practices

To find the person behind a pseudonym or fake username, investigators can:

- Perform multiple searches on Google and popular social media platforms, with the hopes of finding a connection to a subject's true identity.
- Attempt to get a court order to compel the social media platform to hand-over information about the account creator.

The Gap

Law enforcement is currently struggling to establish connections between social media accounts and real people. Social media accounts can be “deleted” and information can be changed over time with no publicly accessible record of their history. This is important information that can help agents locate suspects and persons of interest, uncover evidence of activities related to crimes, and even prevent crimes.

The Impact

1. Searching with Google or native social media platforms is a shot in the dark and won't reveal historical information.

How successful has your organization been when using search engines to connect non-identifying usernames to the account holder?

How much time does your team spend “searching the Internet” trying to verify information, find people, and uncover leads?

2. It takes time and effort to obtain a warrant, and bad things can happen while you're waiting for the process.

What is your organization's success rate for getting social media platforms to release information, or for getting the court to ?

Does waiting for information impact the success and outcome of the case, or put the public at further risk?

The Good News

Pipl makes the connections for you and drastically reduces case resolution times by quickly revealing the real person behind an anonymous social media username. Our search tools resolve decades of historical data and billions of identity records, making connections between social media usernames, email addresses, phone numbers, known associates, physical addresses, employers, and more. Top agencies around the world use Pipl to remove the blind spots, find persons of interest, and solve cases faster.

