

III. Accuracy of FBI Statements Regarding the Farook iPhone

Our inquiries into this matter revealed that CEAU tried to assist the criminal investigators working on the San Bernardino investigation by attempting to identify a technique that would allow the FBI to access the data inside the Farook iPhone. As reflected in the affidavit that the USAO originally submitted in support of the application for a court order, the Farook phone was an iPhone 5c running on Apple's iOS 9 operating system. At the time it was seized, the Farook iPhone was secured with a user-created numeric passcode and other security features on the iOS operating system (primarily the auto-erase function after 10 failed passcode attempts and the delay-upon-failure function) that made FBI investigators unable to employ previously known techniques to unlock the phone without risking the permanent destruction of potentially critical data. CEAU's efforts to overcome or bypass these security features were not successful, as reflected in the testimony by former Director [Corney](#) and the filing by the USAO referenced above.

