Searching for "Spitzer" in the Archives: Using Search Strategies in Conjunction with Social Network Analysis of Troopergate Records

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Troopergate Scandal

- Spitzer administration officials and New York State Police acted inappropriately in investigating travel of then-Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno
- Involvement of Eliot Spitzer is unclear

Troopergate Timeline

- July 1, 2007
 - Times Union Article alleges then-Senator and Majority Leader Joseph Bruno misused state aircraft for travel relating to fund-raising
- July 2, 2007
 - Office of Attorney General launches investigation into Bruno's actions
- July 5, 2007
 - Bruno requests OAG investigate the Governor's "misuse of State resources in connection with State Police surveillance of Senator Bruno's activities"
- July 23, 2007
 - OAG issues report

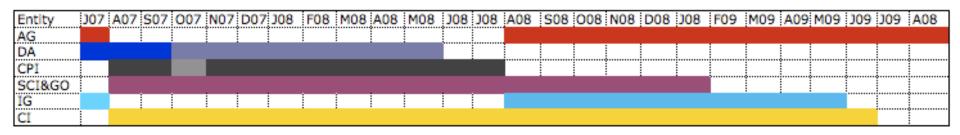
- July 23, 2007
 - State Office of Inspector General issues report with similar findings to Office of Attorney General
- Shortly after July 23, 2007
 - Daren Dopp is suspended without pay
- September 21, 2007
 - Albany County District Attorney's Office publishes first report absolving Executive Chamber staff of any crimes
- March 28, 2008
 - Albany County District Attorney's Office published second report called "Investigation D" (called for by Commission on Public Integrity's request to determine if Darren Dopp perjured himself in a sworn statement)
- July 24, 2008
 - Commission on Public Integrity (Formerly Ethics Commission)
 Issues report declaring Baum, Dopp, Howard and Felton violated
 Public Office's law (only Dopp and Felton knowingly violated the
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- October 2008
 - Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations investigation dropped
- January 2009
 - Commission On Investigation
- May 2009
 - State Inspector General
- Current
 - Office of Attorney General

Timeline of Investigations



People

- New York Times Graphic from July 27, 2007
- http://www.nytimes.com/imagepages/20 07/07/24/nyregion/24spitzer.graph.web. html

Records

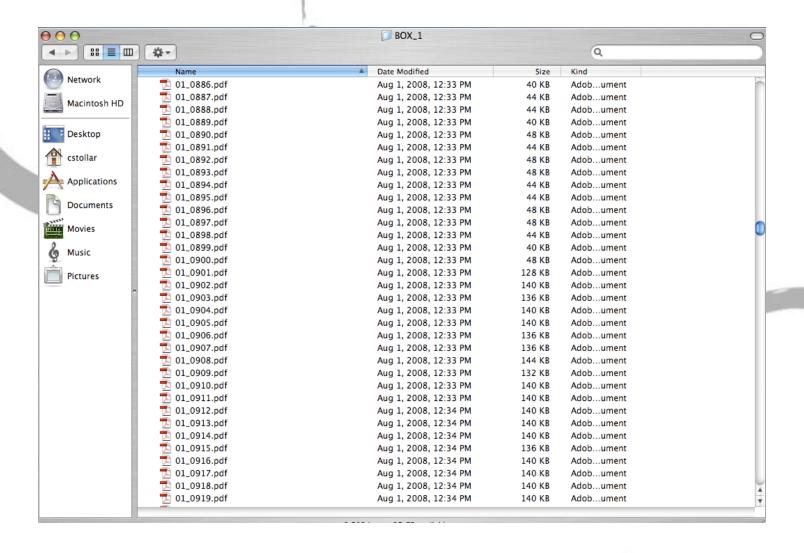
Albany County DA

- Second investigation
- Accessioned, B1989
- Scanned documents
- Single scan files
- Access via search
- Duplicates

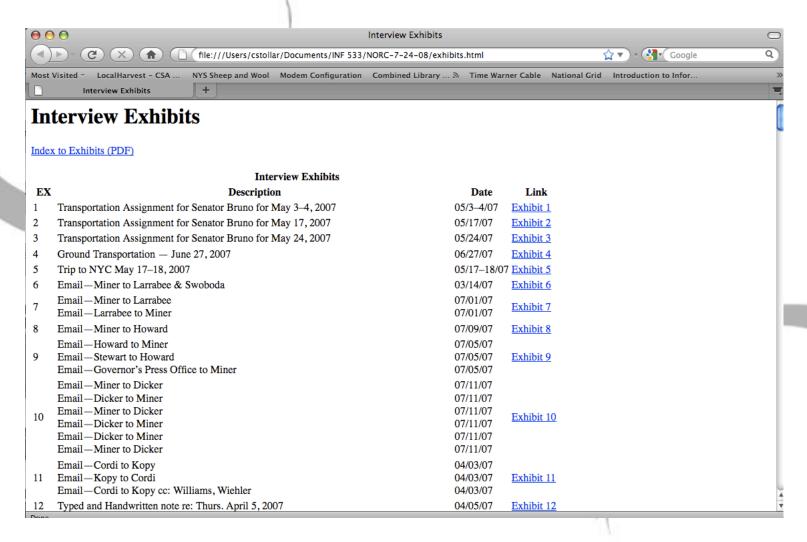
Commission on Public Integrity

- RDA in process
- Scanned documents
- Arranged files
- Metadata Access
- Unique interviews

Screenshot of B1989 Records

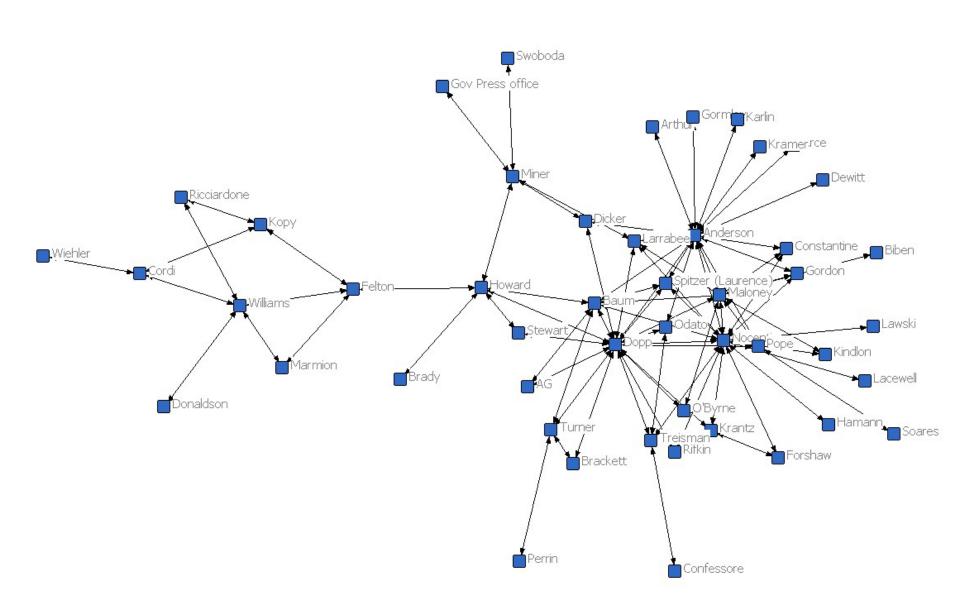


Screenshot of CPI Records



Search Solution

- Lemur Toolkit, Indri Search Engine
 - Faster than Adobe Reader/Acrobat
 - More than posting list, ranked listing
 - Requires more user friendly interface
- Search Issues
 - OCR'd PDF text
 - Text askew
 - Misspellings
 - Header information in email lost when printed and scanned
 - Can not rely on co-occurrence of names



Future Work

- Archives
 - Automatic comparison of duplicate records
 - Intern project to arrange B1989
 - Accession CPI records
- Research
 - Create timeline slices of social network