

Southern University Law Center
Policy #IT0010

Title: Sanitization of SULC Data From Information Technology Storage Media

Authority: Department
Effective Date: 5/20/2007
Last Revision: 9/17/2012

Original Adoption: 5/20/2007

1.0 Purpose:

To provide guidance in the removal or wiping of SULC data from Information Technology equipment that is declared as surplus or damaged and considered non-repairable.

2.0 Scope:

This policy applies to all SULC information technology equipment that stores SULC data and personal user devices that access SULC information technology resources and may store or have access to SULC data.

3.0 Definitions:

4.0 Policy:

Servers Storage Devices - Workstations – Laptops – External Storage Devices

All obsolete workstations, laptops, and servers will be brought to the SULC Information Technology Department prior to being submitted for disposal as surplus. Hard drives will be wiped utilizing DBan to ensure that sensitive data is completely unrecoverable. DBan utilizes a deletion process in which all spaces on the hard drive are overwritten with random characters. Three passes are made on the hard drive's spaces to ensure that the data is erased.

Tape media

Retired tape media will be collected by the SULC Information Technology Department and will be destroyed by physically shredding the tape media.

Optical media

Optical media, such as floppy disks and CD-ROM disks, will be collected by SULC Information Technology Department for destruction. Flash drives will be collected by desktop support staff and will be submitted to data sanitization utilizing DBan.

Smartphones & Tablets

Devices should be delivered to the SULC Information Technology Department where SULC data will be erased using appropriate software. If the device is owned by a user, the device will be returned after erasure of SULC data is complete.

Important Note:

Users should take care to ensure personal data is appropriately stored or backed-up before the SULC IT Department begins data sanitization processes. The SULC IT Department will not backup the user's personal data, nor will the SULC IT Department warrant that the user's personal data will not be erased during the sanitization process.