FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CREST Releases Groundbreaking Paper on Building Effective Cyber Crime Units, Partnering with The Retired Investigators Guild to Resolve Unsolved Major Crimes Tied to Technology

The First Annual Tactical Challenge Sponsored by CREST Will Take Place October 13 and 14 at the Renaissance Reno

Washington D.C., July 24, 2023 – <u>CREST International</u>, a leading accreditation and certification association, has forged a dynamic partnership with <u>The Retired Investigators Guild (The RIG)</u> organization dedicated to solving major crimes. Together, they proudly announce the release of an innovative research paper entitled "<u>Building an Effective Cybercrime Unit</u>." This groundbreaking paper offers law enforcement agencies invaluable insights, actionable strategies, and comprehensive steps to establish or enhance their investigative cybercrime units. Covering essential aspects like staffing, training, and collaboration, the paper is enriched with case studies and best practices, empowering law enforcement agencies, cybersecurity professionals, and policymakers to be well-equipped for future challenges in combating cybercrime.

In support of this initiative, CREST International has made a significant contribution to The Retired Investigators Guild (The RIG), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing active major case support and cold case support to law enforcement agencies. The RIG also offers free training and services to law enforcement, seeking to bring closure to families and communities affected by violent crime. Additionally, CREST is proud to sponsor The RIG's upcoming event, *The First Annual Tactical Challenge*, scheduled to take place in Reno on October 13-14th. The sponsorship will fund the resources and efforts dedicated to supporting law enforcement agencies and assisting victims of violent crime.

As the defunding of police and movements continues to strain law enforcement budgets across the United States, The RIG is committed to aiding agencies in navigating these challenges. The organization stands as a beacon of support, breathing life back into retired investigators, who statistically have a life expectancy of 6 to 9 years post-retirement.

According to Mike Marty, CEO of The Retired Investigators Guild, "Less than 10% of law enforcement agencies in the US have a cold case unit. With the number of cold cases surpassing 300,000 and increasing yearly, there is a clear need for strategic partnerships, case support, and training. The RIG leverages subject matter expertise from retired local, state, and federal investigators to assist the ever-dwindling number of active law enforcement professionals."

Tom Brennan, Executive Director of CREST International, Americas, adds,

"Technological advancements play a pivotal role in fighting crime in society worldwide. CREST is a hub of accredited businesses, representing highly technical, certified individuals who make a difference on the frontlines daily. We are honored to be a Silver Supporter for The Retired Investigators Guild and its mission to solve cold case murders and provide training to law enforcement."

The partnership between CREST and The RIG sets the gold standard for collaboration in this space, pioneering a movement for other businesses to follow suit. Companies will have the opportunity to join forces with CREST, The RIG, or both, at the upcoming event. Furthermore, The RIG is actively establishing the criteria for a potential endowment scholarship with a computer science component, aligning with CREST's commitment to educate young people in the field of computer science for future generations.

This remarkable collaboration between CREST International and The Retired Investigators Guild will undoubtedly make a profound impact on cybercrime investigation and cold case resolution, strengthening law enforcement agencies' capabilities while fostering community support in the pursuit of justice. The joint efforts of these two esteemed organizations mark a turning point in the fight against crime, making the world a safer place for all.

To join the event movement and secure tickets, please visit: https://www.therig.org/2023-event.html

About CREST International

CREST is an international not-for-profit, membership body representing the global cyber security industry with the goal to help create a secure digital world for all. CREST focuses on leveraging best practices and addressing the needs of contributors, users, and solution providers to create sustainable models for open collaboration and proving security posture. Through rigorous quality assurance of its members and delivering professional certifications to the cyber security industry. CREST accredits over 350 member companies, operating across dozens of countries, and certifies thousands of professionals worldwide across governments, regulators, academic institutions, training partners, professional bodies and other stakeholders around the world. For more information, please visit us at https://www.crest-approved.org/

About The Retired Investigators Guild (The RIG)

The Retired Investigators Guild is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation comprised of former and retired criminal investigators from local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies throughout the United States. In terms of building an effective cybercrime unit, RIG engages subject matter experts in the field of computer forensics, network, and technology as well as partner law enforcement agency assistance and local community leaders for awareness and collaboration. The RIG was created to give small to midsize law enforcement

agencies help when they need it most. Collectively, through active case support, cold case support, and specialized training, the RIG will help rebuild our nation's ability to ensure the safety of all communities at no cost to the law enforcement agencies.