



epiQprecision

Saving millions in review cost with Search +

Challenge

The ever-growing cost of litigation and data volumes that continue to expand exponentially pose a great challenge to corporations who must maintain a handle on cost while meeting their eDiscovery obligations and duties. The result is that companies are being forced to review more and more data to comply with eDiscovery requirements, driving costs upwards, even on the smallest of matters. For one of our Fortune 20 clients in the healthcare industry, this was becoming a particularly alarming problem as they saw the data on legal hold more than doubling in short periods of time. This company was aggressive and diligent about culling their data, including de-nesting, deduplicating, using search terms, email threading, and technology-assisted review, but eventually they arrived at a point that even with aggressive culling, their data was continuing to grow along with their spend.

Solution

The client turned to Epiq and our managed services group and consultants, with whom they had an existing and ongoing relationship across their matters, to find an innovative solution that would further cull their data and reduce their review related spend. The Epiq team delivered with Search Term +.

Execution

The process is straight forward but produces powerful results. The Epiq team ran the search terms against the potential review population and then batched all documents that contained one or more search term hits for review. When reviewing documents, if a document is responsive, the reviewers will mark it as responsive, complete the analysis and coding for any other needed attributes (privilege, confidentiality, issues, redaction etc.), and then proceed to review any and all family members of that document and analyze and code completely. If the document with a hit is not responsive then the reviewers will code it as non-responsive and move on to the next document without reviewing the family members, unless those

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family members also contain a search term hit. The result is that anywhere from 20-40% of documents do not need review because they did not contain a hit term and their family members who did, are themselves non-responsive. Under traditional review methods, these documents would be reviewed, incurring time and cost, but not under Search Term +.

This work flow is centered on the idea that search terms can be inherently inaccurate, often 20% or less of data reviewed is actually responsive. Although a corporation has an obligation to review and produce all documents with a search term hit plus any corresponding family member, there is no obligation to review or produce any documents without search term hits.

Results

Our client adopted the Search Term + which has been a key factor in maintaining their legal department budgets in the face of ever expanding data. On average, they are further reducing their review populations by 30%. Search Term + has helped them avoid review of 2.4M documents and saved an estimated 60,000 hours and \$3.8M in review time and costs that they otherwise would have had to spend, even after culling, technology-assisted review, and/or the traditional application of search terms. Not only does this approach save money, it allows them to take on more matters than they otherwise reasonably could have because the cost of eDiscovery in their matters is reduced with the process tool.