

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

An encrypted hard drive was taken from the records vault of Brightline Holdings during the overnight window between 01:30 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Fariha (senior engineer), Rosalind (facilities coordinator), Hiroshi (CFO), Ines (intern), Ravi (executive assistant), Pavel (security officer), Helena (legal counsel), Bjorn (IT administrator). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the encrypted hard drive?

1. Fariha has only authorization to handle the item of the four requirements.
2. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Hiroshi.
3. Rosalind has authorization to handle the item and clearance to the restricted archive and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
4. Bjorn has a verified relationship with the donor and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
5. Hiroshi was officially signed out at 23:40 via the front-desk register.
6. Ines has only authorization to handle the item of the four requirements.
7. The corporate theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
8. Bjorn clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
9. However: Pavel is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
- 10 Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:30 and 04:15, and authorization to handle the item.
- 11 But: however the DHCP log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:30.
- 12 Helena has only authorization to handle the item of the four requirements.

CASE 02

An encrypted hard drive was taken from the secure terminal of Velocity Labs during the overnight window between 00:30 and 03:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Idris (legal counsel), Aurora (HR director), Alejandro (CFO), Tarek (executive assistant), Lior (senior engineer), Fariha (IT administrator), Hakim (security officer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the encrypted hard drive?

1. But: however the pedestrian-door sensor shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 00:30.
2. However: Aurora is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
3. Lior has only a verified relationship with the donor of the four requirements.
4. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:30 and 03:15, and familiarity with the security routing.
5. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Fariha.
6. However: Hakim is cleared – but their employee badge was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
7. The corporate theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
8. Alejandro lacks a verified relationship with the donor – security audit confirms.
9. Initial assumption pointed to Alejandro because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 10 Aurora clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.

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CASE 03

A lead actor's costume was taken from the catwalk of The Aldermarsh Theatre during the overnight window between 02:15 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Vidal (stage manager), Darya (stagehand), Sigrid (costume designer), Anastasia (understudy), Hattie (lighting tech), Ulla (lead actor), Roksana (prop master), Diallo (musical director). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the lead actor's costume?

1. Roksana has authorization to handle the item and clean-room or vault clearance and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
2. However: Diallo is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
3. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:15 and 05:45, and authorization to handle the item.
4. However: Roksana is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
5. Roksana had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
6. Vidal has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:15 and 05:45).
7. But: however parking-lot camera records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 2:30.
8. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Vidal.
9. Initial assumption pointed to Roksana because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.

CASE 04

The rehearsal recordings were taken from the green room of Northgate Stage during the overnight window between 02:45 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Leander (box-office manager), Isolde (stagehand), Indira (musical director), Mikael (costume designer), Faye (understudy), Jacinta (prop master), Talia (director). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the rehearsal recordings?

1. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
2. Mikael had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
3. Talia has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:45 and 05:15).
4. Isolde lacks documented hands-on history with the item – security audit confirms.
5. Talia their video call ended at 22:30 according to the system.
6. Leander lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
7. Mikael has authorization to handle the item and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.
8. But: however the seal serial registry shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 02:45.
9. However: Mikael is cleared – but stage door camera places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
10. However: Indira is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
11. Faye clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

An accounting ledger was taken from the secure terminal of Northgate Partners during the overnight window between 00:00 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Klaus (facilities coordinator), Odell (senior engineer), Xiomara (executive assistant), Alessio (CFO), Vera (security officer), Leander (legal counsel), Xanthe (records clerk). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the accounting ledger?

1. Four independent requirements: elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:00 and 04:15, and authorization to handle the item.
2. Leander has elevated system privileges and a verified relationship with the donor and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
3. Initial assumption pointed to Xanthe because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
4. However: Xiomara is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
5. Alessio has only elevated system privileges of the four requirements.
6. The trace at the scene (a network certificate signed by senior staff) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Vera.
7. The corporate theft involved a network certificate signed by senior staff.
8. Xiomara filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. Xiomara has elevated system privileges and authorization to handle the item and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Odell's witness account shows them off-site the entire window.
- 11 But: however the elevator override log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 00:00.

CASE 06

A custom engine part was taken from the customer pickup bay of Pemberton Repair during the overnight window between 01:00 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Quincy (quality inspector), Darya (parts clerk), Hakim (machinist), Zinnia (painter), Priya (electrician), Ishaan (customer service rep), Bao (apprentice). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the custom engine part?

1. Bao lacks clearance to the restricted archive – confirmed by personnel records.
2. Zinnia has all four requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, documented hands-on history with the item, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:00 and 04:30).
3. Zinnia their video call ended at 23:05 according to the system.
4. Initial assumption pointed to Bao because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
5. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:00 and 04:30, and authorization to handle the item.
6. Priya has clearance to the restricted archive and documented hands-on history with the item and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
7. Hakim has clearance to the restricted archive and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
8. Quincy lacks documented hands-on history with the item – security audit confirms.
9. Darya lacks documented hands-on history with the item – security audit confirms.
- 10 The theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

Solve before peeking. Correct suspect and key reasoning steps below.

Case 01 undefined) Hiroshi

- Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:30 and 04:15, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Rosalind appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 D) Fariha

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:30 and 03:15, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Idris appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 D) Vidal

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:15 and 05:45, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Sigrid appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 undefined) Talia

- Four requirements (elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 02:45 and 05:15, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Mikael appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 E) Vera

- Four requirements (elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:00 and 04:15, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Leander appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 F) Zinnia

- Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:00 and 04:30, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- Ishaan appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.