

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

The board minutes were taken from the legal archive of Cedarstone Inc during the overnight window between 02:00 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Aleksandr (records clerk), Ulla (HR director), Nizar (facilities coordinator), Ines (intern), Kasimir (legal counsel), Bao (senior engineer), Noor (CFO), Aaliyah (executive assistant). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the board minutes?

1. Aaliyah has familiarity with the security routing and elevated system privileges and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
2. Nizar filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
3. However: Nizar is cleared – but their admin credentials was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
4. Kasimir has only elevated system privileges of the four requirements.
5. Noor has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, after-hours building access, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:00 and 05:15).
6. But: however DHCP log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:55.
7. The corporate theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
8. Bao's witness account shows them off-site the entire window.
9. Noor was officially signed out at 23:30 via the front-desk register.
- 10 Ulla was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
- 11 Ines lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
- 12 However: Ulla is cleared – but their employee badge was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.

CASE 02

The quarterly financials were extracted from the engineer pod of Quartermaine Cyber during the overnight window between 00:00 and 03:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Priya (support lead), Theo (data scientist), Rhys (intern), Ula (senior engineer), Wilder (product manager), Elara (site-reliability engineer), Oren (contractor), Olive (DevOps lead). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who extracted the quarterly financials?

1. However: Oren is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
2. But: however the elevator override log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 00:00.
3. Wilder has specialized engineering certification and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
4. Ula's SSH authentication log shows them off-site the entire window.
5. Elara has only familiarity with the security routing of the four requirements.
6. Priya was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
7. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:00 and 03:30, and familiarity with the security routing.
8. Oren had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
9. Olive lacks a verified relationship with the donor – security audit confirms.
- 10 Rhys claims to have exited the building at 23:25 – the official badge log confirms this.
- 11 The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Rhys.

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CASE 03

A formula draft was swapped from the cleanroom of Helix Bioresearch during the overnight window between 00:30 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Dimah (equipment manager), Zara (safety officer), Mateo (visiting scientist), Akhil (postdoctoral researcher), Hattie (clinical coordinator), Cedric (operations manager), Idris (graduate student). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who swapped the formula draft?

1. Dimah lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
2. However: Zara is cleared – but their biohazard clearance was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
3. But: however the unsecured pedestrian door doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
4. Idris has a master key issued only to senior staff and authorization to handle the item and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Hattie because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. Akhil has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, administrator credentials, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:30 and 04:30).
7. The sample tampering involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
8. Idris filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. Zara has a master key issued only to senior staff and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 However: Idris is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.

CASE 04

A prototype assembly was taken from the welding bay of Northgate Workshop during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Sora (parts clerk), Maeve (electrician), Amelia (customer service rep), Faye (machinist), Aurora (shop manager), Ula (welder), Fariha (master mechanic), Jacinta (quality inspector). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the prototype assembly?

1. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Sora.
2. But: however the VPN session record shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:30.
3. Maeve lacks advanced restoration training – confirmed by personnel records.
4. Amelia has clean-room or vault clearance and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
5. Aurora has authorization to handle the item and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
6. Sora claims to have exited the building at 23:25 – the official badge log confirms this.
7. However: Jacinta is cleared – but their shop key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
8. Jacinta has authorization to handle the item and clean-room or vault clearance and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
9. Aurora clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 10 Ula has only authorization to handle the item of the four requirements.
- 11 However: Aurora is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

The signed jerseys were taken from the training pool of Saint-Clair Field House during the overnight window between 02:30 and 05:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Kasper (athletic trainer), Mei (star player), Kai (assistant coach), Ulla (team statistician), Eira (referee), Noor (facilities manager), Jules (head coach). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the signed jerseys?

1. Noor lacks a verified relationship with the donor – security audit confirms.
2. Kai had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
3. The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
4. Kai has a verified relationship with the donor and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
5. Mei has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and advanced restoration training and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
6. Eira has a verified relationship with the donor and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
7. However: Eira is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
8. Eira clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
9. Initial assumption pointed to Kai because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 10 Jules has only a verified relationship with the donor of the four requirements.
- 11 Mei had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
- 12 ~~Kasper has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, a verified relationship with the donor, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:30 and 05:30).~~

CASE 06

A signed manuscript was taken from the reference desk of Pemberton Research Library during the overnight window between 02:15 and 05:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Enzo (research assistant), Joren (volunteer), Xiomara (custodian), Lana (reference librarian), Indira (visiting scholar), Diallo (intern), Pavel (archivist), Tariq (rare-books curator). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the signed manuscript?

1. Pavel has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:15 and 05:00).
2. Lana has familiarity with the security routing and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
3. Indira clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
4. Pavel their video call ended at 23:55 according to the system.
5. Enzo has only elevated system privileges of the four requirements.
6. However: Indira is cleared – but their archive badge was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
7. However: Tariq is cleared – but badge swipe places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
8. The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Pavel.
9. The theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.
- 10 Initial assumption pointed to Joren because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 D) Noor

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, after-hours building access, presence between 02:00 and 05:15, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Nizar appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 A) Rhys

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:00 and 03:30, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Oren appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 undefined) Akhil

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, administrator credentials, presence between 00:30 and 04:30, authorization to handle the item) 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 04 B) Sora

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:30 and 05:45, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Aurora appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 A) Kasper

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 02:30 and 05:30, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Eira appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 D) Pavel

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 02:15 and 05:00, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Lana appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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