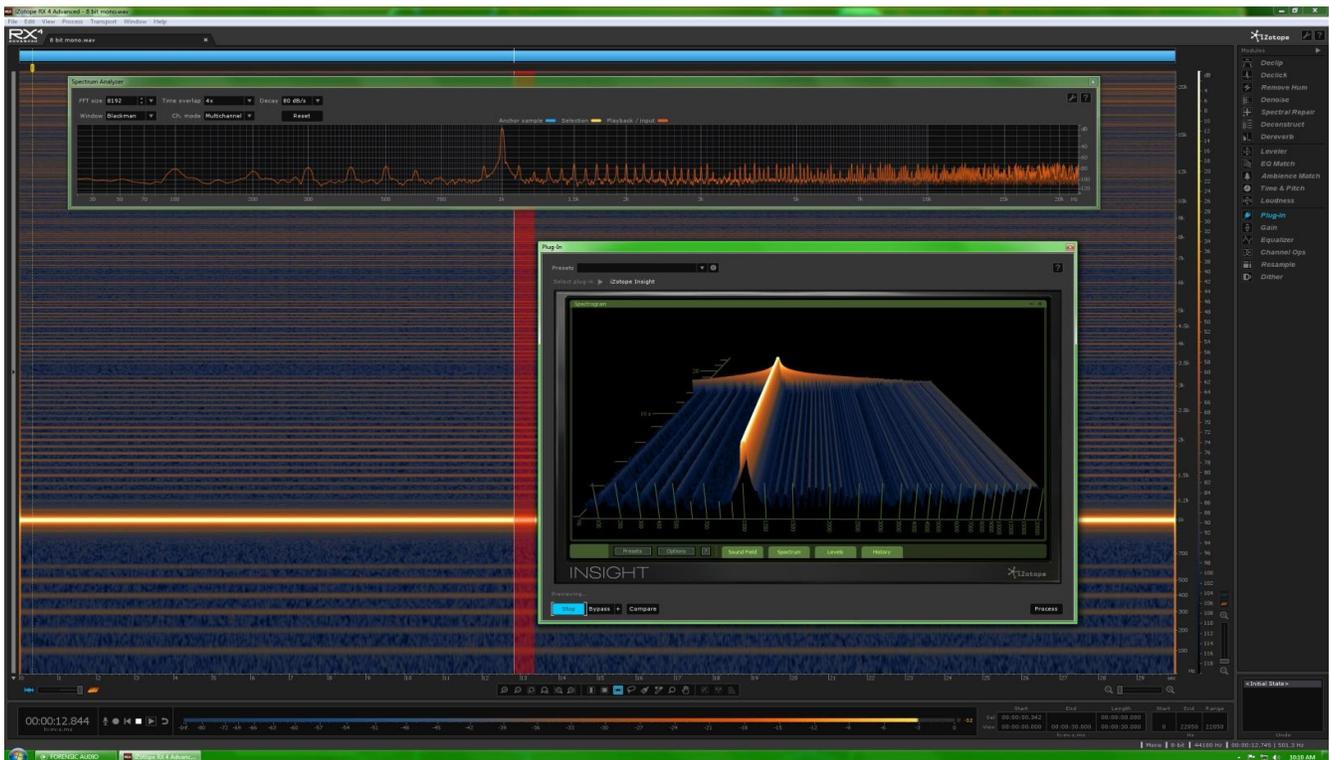




## REQUEST FOR ORIGINAL AUDIO CODEC / FORMAT

We are kindly requesting the original Audio codec, in its original format is due to signal degradation through file conversion.

- When converting from one format of digital or analog audio to another, information is lost, noise is introduced.
- In digital audio & video there are over 940 formats & codecs in use currently. Every time an original codec or format is converted to another; critical information is lost through re-sampling, dithering and reformatting.
- Re-sampling from one format to another without proper Dithering causes a great amount of noise and harmonics to be introduced into a recording. You can see below what should be one 8 kHz tone, (bright line), copied to another format. All the extra lines are harmonics generated by making a copy without understanding the fundamentals of digital audio. Most people making copies of recordings have no idea how to make a “forensic codec conversion”, let alone even know what “Dithering” is.



- The signal to noise ratio being raised during conversion makes it much more difficult to clarify voices or lift voices from the background of a recording.
- The Meta data from the original recording is lost during conversion . Meta data confirms the length, bit rate, format, frame-rate and codec parameters of the original recording. Often there are time and date stamps as well.
- In addition, the meta data, (digital chain of custody) has been technically violated in that the original codec is not available for study.
- If the audio file is from a cell phone, camera or surveillance system, there is a corresponding log file that is lost. If it is from a cell phone or any digital medium, valuable file meta data is lost.

We ask to be able to make a clone from the original source. A forensically correct clone will validate the file and provide the meta data needed to determine if the file has been redacted - as well as including possible time-stamps involving the recording.

Using the original codec for analysis is best for all parties involved to get the best data possible.

