

Thanks to the Stalking Resource Center of the National Center for Victims of Crime for its contribution in developing this presentation.



For more information on stalking visit the Stalking Resource Center at www.ncvc.org/src

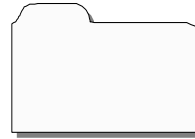
DOCUMENTING STALKING

Documentation

- Surveillance cameras
- Tracing calls
 - Caller IDs/Answering machines
 - After offender hangs up, wait 20 seconds, dial *57 to trace
 - Don't change phone numbers! Get new unlisted line or virtual voicemail.

Support

Victim & Offender Folders



- Courtesy of Sacramento Area Stalking Survivors, Inc.

Victim & Offender Folders

Dear Law Enforcement Officer:

This folder contains descriptive information regarding the victim and possible offender related to your current call. The information contained herein was compiled because the described victim has experienced on-going domestic violence and/or stalking behaviors. As such, the victim should be considered at high risk and this call should be handled accordingly.

Thank you for your prompt and professional response.

Victim Information

- Full Name: _____
- Nickname: _____
- Home Address: _____
- Home Phone: _____
- Cell #/Beeper #: _____
- Employer Name/Address: _____
- Work Phone: _____ Work Hours: _____
- Name and Phone of Supervisor: _____
- Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____ Race: _____
- Social Security #: _____ Drivers License #: _____
- Height: _____ Weight: _____ Hair Color/Length: _____
- Eye Color: _____ Corrective Lenses: _____ Shoe Size: _____
- Medical Doctor: _____
- Address/Phone: _____
- Dentist: _____
- Address/Phone: _____
- Previous Injuries/congenital deformities: _____
- Identifying Marks: _____
- Dentures, partials, implants: _____
- Mental Health Provider: _____
- Address/Phone: _____
- Attorney: _____
- Address/Phone: _____
- Favorite Hang-Outs: _____
- Location of Diary/Journal: _____

Victim Information

- Victim Photograph
- Copy of Drivers License of ID Card

Victim Automobile & Travel Route Information

- Vehicle Description: _____
- Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____
- Color: _____ License #: _____ Expiration: _____
- Is there any other vehicle the victim might use (make, model, license, color)? _____

- Frequently Traveled Routes: _____
- Work: _____

- School: _____

- Other (market, cleaners, etc.): _____

Victim's Family and Friends

- Name: _____
- Address: _____
- Phone: _____ Relationship: _____

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- Phone: _____ Relationship: _____

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- Full Name: _____
- Nickname: _____
- Home Address: _____
- Home Phone: _____
- Cell #/Beeper #: _____
- Employer Name/Address: _____
- Work Phone: _____ Work Hours: _____
- Name and Phone of Supervisor: _____
- Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____ Race: _____
- Social Security #: _____ Drivers License #: _____
- Height: _____ Weight: _____ Hair Color/Length: _____
- Eye Color: _____ Corrective Lenses: _____ Shoe Size: _____
- Previous injuries/deformities: _____
- Identifying Marks/tattoos: _____

Offender Information

- Briefly describe the offender's recent pattern of behavior (vandalism, telephone calls, letters, etc.)
- List all police report numbers and jurisdictions:
 - Number:
 - Jurisdiction:
 - Agency:

Protective Orders

ATTACH COPIES OF ALL RESTRAINING ORDERS, PROTECTIVE ORDERS, AND ANY OTHER ORDERS OF THE COURT

SAFETY PLANNING

Safety Planning

Why Safety plan?

- Safety planning empowers victims
- Safety planning provides practical ways to decrease risk
- Safety planning puts victims in contact with a variety of services, agencies, and individuals who can help
- Safety planning works

Steps of safety planning

- Gather information
- Analyze the problems and risk factors (Threat Assessment)
- Identify specific goals
- Explore strategies and resources
- Identify individuals and service providers who can help

Safety Plan

Identify the Problem	Are there things that increase the risk?	Who else is affected?
What will help?		
Who can help?	How?	What do they need to help me?

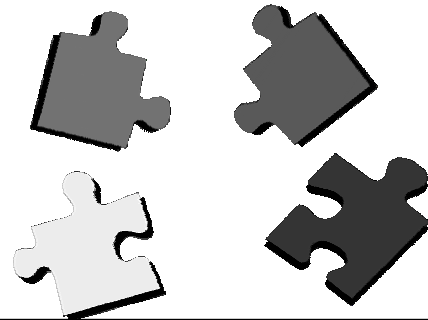
Identify the Problem	Are there things that increase the risk?	Who else is affected?
Abuser shows up at work	Work 2nd shift	other employees, employer
Abuser knows where I live		roommate, neighbors
Home is not secure	bad locks, poor lighting	roommate
Abuser knows my family		family
What will help?		
ask employer to increase safety measures		
change locks		
ask neighbors to keep an eye out		
get police to scene quickly		
Who can help?	How?	What do they need to help me?
employer	keep abuser off premises	copy of protective order, photo
police	arrest abuser	copy of protective order, photo
neighbors	inform me/call police when abuser shows up	photo
roommate	inform me/call police when abuser shows up	copy of protective order, photo
domestic violence program	counseling/advocacy/support	
church	\$ to help change locks	application for funds

Subjects to discuss with victim

- How to balance freedom and safety
- Next steps in case something does happen
- How often to re-assess the safety plan
- **Risk-reduction versus absolute safety**

INVESTIGATING STALKING

Investigating Stalking



What makes stalking difficult for law enforcement?

- Varying activity levels over several years
- Incidents in multiple jurisdictions
- Difficult to identify/ officer misconceptions
- Course of conduct defines the crime
 - Single acts may only be illegal within overall scheme
- Few witnesses
- Evidence (none; little; can't be tied to stalker)
- Law enforcement response can not guarantee stalking will stop

What About Stalking Can Make It Easy to Investigate?

- Same Victim
- Same Offender
- Same Locations
- Stalking Is A Course of Conduct

Building the Stalking Case

- Victim Interview
- Suspect Interview
- Determine the Crime Scene
- Collection of Evidence

Identifying Stalking

- What is current crime being investigated?
- Is there a pattern of conduct of behavior?
- Other crimes, both reported and unreported.
- Suspicious circumstances
 - Vehicle damage /unwanted mailings
 - Telephone hang-ups, etc.

Identifying Stalking

- Information about past reported crimes
 - Prosecution
 - No Prosecution
 - Unknown
- Jurisdiction of crimes
- Multiple crimes

Behaviors Noted

- Following or surveillance
- Inappropriate approaches & confrontations
- Appearing at place of work or residence
- Unwanted telephone calls
- Leaving unwanted or threatening gifts

Behaviors Noted

- Unwanted letters
- Violations of Court Orders
- Reporting Victim for various crimes
- Animal abuse
- Unwanted pages or emails
- Retrieving victim's telephone messages

Behaviors Noted

- Damage to property
- Threats
- Stalking by proxy/third party stalking
- Physical Assault
- Sexual Assault
- Taking Victim's mail or garbage

Ways that Law Enforcement Can Strengthen Cases

- Empower victim!
 - Constant victim contact.
- Document everything!
- Investigate stalker's past (other victims, acts, cases, witnesses)
- Use all techniques available (trash pulls, surveillance)
- Corroborate everything!
- Show evidence and events within the entire context of the stalking case!

REPORTING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Reports to Law Enforcement

- Overall, 83.1% of campus stalking incidents were NOT reported to police or campus law enforcement.

BUT....

- 93.4% of victims confided in someone, most often a friend, that they were being stalked.

- National Sexual Victimization of College Women (2000)
- National Sexual Victimization of College Women Survey

