Thank You OVW

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For Additional Resources
* [www.stalkingawareness.org](http://www.stalkingawareness.org) (coming soon!)
  * Training modules
  * Victim resources
  * Practitioner guides
  * Webinars

* Follow us on Twitter
  SPARC @followuslegally

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Defining Stalking

- Behavioral

- Statutory
Stalking
A pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear

Context
* Something may be frightening to the victim but not to you as the responder
* Stalking behaviors often have specific meaning that may only be understood between offender and victim
* Stalking criminalizes otherwise non-criminal behavior
PREVALENCE OF STALKING

6-7.5 million people are stalked in a one year period in the United States

Prevalence in a Lifetime

More than 1 in 6 WOMEN

More than 1 in 17 MEN

Stalking Dynamics

- 18 – 24 year olds experience the highest rates of stalking
- Women are more likely to experience stalking
- Most offenders are male
- The majority of victims know the offender


Victim & Offender Relationship

- Current/Former IP
- Acquaintance
- Stranger
- Family member
- Person of authority


Stalking Behavior
Big Picture
Assessment of:
- Course of conduct
- Context of the threat
- Full scope and nature of impact on victim

Identifying Course of Conduct


Course of Conduct (SLII)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surveillance</th>
<th>Life Invasion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Follow</td>
<td>- Unwanted contact at home, work or other places</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Watch</td>
<td>- Phone calls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Wait</td>
<td>- Property invasion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Show up</td>
<td>- Public humiliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Tracking software</td>
<td>- Harass friends/family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Obtain information about victim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Proxy stalking</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Surveillance
- Intimidation
- Life Invasion
- Interference
### Course of Conduct (SLII) Cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intimidation</th>
<th>Interference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ Threats</td>
<td>✓ Financial and work sabotage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Property damage</td>
<td>✓ Ruining reputation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Forced confrontations</td>
<td>✓ Custody interference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Threaten or actually harm self</td>
<td>✓ Keep from leaving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Threats to victim about harming others</td>
<td>✓ Road rage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Attack family/friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Physical/sexual attack</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Stalking is Dynamic

- Changes over time
- Concentrate on the duration, intensity, and frequency

> "Going to work, attending your kids activities, going out for the evening... these things seem routine. For me, they’re terrifying because I never know what he will do or when he will show up."

### Understanding Fear = Understanding Context

- Is cumulative over time
- Is often masked by other emotions: frustration, anger, hopelessness, etc.

> The more invasive the stalking, the greater the victim psychological distress and fear
Stalking Behavior

Why Do They Stalk?

- Seeking affection
- Power & control
- Rejection
- Obsession
- Planning to commit a crime
- Because they can

Pattern of Behavior

- 2/3 of stalkers pursue their victim at least once per week
- 78% of stalkers use more than one means of approach
- Weapons used to harm or threaten victims in about 20% of cases

Stalking & Other Crimes

Among stalking cases...

- 24% involve property damage
- 21% involve a direct attack on the victim
- 15% involve an attack on another person or pet

Identity Theft

- Charged items to credit card: 30%
- Took money from accounts: 52%
- Opened/closed accounts: 54%

Stalking & Domestic Violence
Intimate Partner Stalkers
Increased Risk for Victims

- More likely to physically approach victim
- More insulting, interfering and threatening
- More likely to use weapons
- Behaviors more likely to escalate quickly
- More likely to re-offend


Lethality Risks

- **76%**
  - Femicide by intimate partner
  - At LEAST 1 episode of stalking within year prior to murder

- **85%**
  - Attempted femicide by intimate partner
  - At LEAST 1 episode of stalking within year prior to attempted murder

McFarlane et al., *Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide*, 3(4) HOMICIDE STUDIES 300-16 (1999)
Threat Assessment Tells Us

* Which stalkers pose a risk at a particular point in time
* All other individuals are of “unknown risk”
* Threat level NEVER fixed
  * Constant assessment of threat is a MUST

More Dangerous Times

* Separation
* Protective order served/criminal arrest
* Offender’s loss of job, other life events
* Increase in quantity of contacts
* Escalation in behaviors
More Dangerous Offenders

* History of substance abuse
* Possession and/or fascination with weapons
* History of violence, esp. towards victim
* Threats of murder/murder-suicide

More Dangerous Offenders
Cont'd

* History of mental illness
* Actual pursuit
* Vandalism, arson
* Tendency towards emotional outbursts and rage
* History of violating POs

Threat Assessment Tools

Among others…

* Lethality Assessment Plan (LAP)
* Danger Assessment - dangerassessment.org
* Mosaic - mosaicmethod.com
* Idaho Risk Assessment of Dangerousness
### Lethality Assessment Project

A "No" response to any of Questions 1 - 3 automatically triggers the protocol referral.

1. Has he/she ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a weapon? Yes  No  Not App
2. Has he/she threatened to kill you or your children? Yes  No  Not App
3. Do you think he/she might try to kill you? Yes  No  Not App

A "No" response to Questions 4 - 5, but positive responses to at least four (4) of Questions 6 - 11 trigger the protocol referral.

4. Does he/she have a gun or can he/she get one easily? Yes  No  Not App
5. Does he/she ever try to shake you? Yes  No  Not App
6. Is he/she violent or constantly pushing or does he/she control most of your daily activities? Yes  No  Not App
7. Have you left him/her or separated after living together or being married? Yes  No  Not App
8. Is he/she employed? Yes  No  Not App
9. Does he/she ever try to kill himself/herself? Yes  No  Not App
10. Does he/she talk to you or leave threatening messages? Yes  No  Not App
11. Does he/she have a history of using physical or sexual abuse to control you? Yes  No  Not App

Louisville Metro Police Dept. DV Lethality Screen for First Responders

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### Coercive Control

- **Narrative Report**: Articulate the story with a short summary
- **Third party perspective**
- **Safety Management Tool**: Safety suggestions tailored to responses

[http://www.cdar.uky.edu/CoerciveControl/sharp.html](http://www.cdar.uky.edu/CoerciveControl/sharp.html)

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### Stalking Harassment Assessment and Risk Profile (SHARP)

**Narrative Report**

**Safety Management Tool**

[http://www.cdar.uky.edu/CoerciveControl/sharp.html](http://www.cdar.uky.edu/CoerciveControl/sharp.html)

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Premeditation and Stalking

* Concept of premeditation in stalking and sexual assault cases
* How might someone premeditate a sexual assault?
* Could premeditation = stalking?
Intersection of Stalking & Sexual Assault

- Stalker threatens to sexually assault the victim
- Stalker attempts to get someone else to assault the victim
- Stalker sexually assaults the victim

Threatening Sexual Assault

In December 2010, he was sentenced to 41 months in prison and three years of supervised release after pleading guilty to charges of cyber stalking and threatening communications after he made harassing phone calls to women at more than 1,200 numbers in Canada and the United States.

Stalking Behaviors

How can "spreading rumors" be a crime?

SHANNON CATALANO, STALKING VICTIMIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2009)
Stalker Pleads Guilty To Fake Craigslist Ads

Kenneth Kuban posted at least 165 ads in Craigslist "casual encounters" section
- Gave interested men ex-girlfriend's address
- Pleaded guilty to three felony counts in U.S. District Court

Grooming for SA as Stalking

* 6% of the 1882 college men surveyed met the criteria for attempted or completed rape.
* These were repeat perpetrators who averaged about 6 rapes per person.

David Lisak, *Repeat Rape and Multiple Offending Among Undetected Rapists*, 17(1) Violence and Victims 73-84 (2002)
Victims are afraid of

- 46% not knowing what would happen next
- 30% bodily harm
- 29% behavior would never stop
- 13% harm or kidnap a child
- 10% loss of freedom
- 9% death
- 4% losing one's mind

SHANNON CATALANO, STALKING VICTIMIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2009)

Working with Stalking Victims

- Safety
- Advocacy
- Documentation
- Support
Safety

Is there a threat of imminent harm or danger?

• For victim or others?

Recommend: disengagement & no contact

• Any contact can be intermittent reinforcement
• Attempts to negotiate
• Challenges

Safety Tools

Offender picture or flyer

• Alert employer, neighbors, landlords, etc.

Safety accommodations

• Work
• School
• Housing

Orders of Protection

* Can enhance victim safety
* Only as good as enforcement
* Violations
  * 81% of male victims
  * 69% of female victims
Safety – Other Considerations

Defining our roles
- Privacy and confidentiality

Organizational policies and procedures

Threat assessment and safety planning

What is Safety Planning?

An individualized plan that identifies specific strategies and interventions that may increase safety

* Provides practical ways to decrease risk
* Puts victims in contact with a variety of services, agencies, and individuals who can help
* Is not a guarantee of safety, but can assist in improving safety

Why Safety Plan?

* Provides practical ways to decrease risks
* Puts victims in contact with a variety of services
* Stalkers continually change their tactics
### Consider

- Victim’s life situation
- Stalker-generated risks
- Systemic barriers
- Confidentiality
- Use of technology

### Steps of Safety Planning

- Listen & ask questions
- Identify specific needs and goals; discuss risks
- Explore strategies & resources
- Provide education without judgment
- Identify resources

### Safety Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identify the Problem</th>
<th>Are there things that increase the risk?</th>
<th>Who else is affected?</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Safety Strategies (What will help?)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Who can help?</td>
<td>How?</td>
<td>What do they need to help?</td>
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**SPARC**
Discuss with Victim

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

Advocacy

- Allow victims to tell their story
  - Puts puzzle together
  - Facilitates memory
- Provide validation
  - Trauma reactions are normal
  - Reactions are natural and common
Advocacy & Support
Prediction & preparation
* Victims need **information**
* Reporting
* Justice process
  * Criminal
  * Civil
* Can help the victim regain control

STALKING INCIDENT LOG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description of Incident</th>
<th>Location of Incident</th>
<th>Witness Name(s)</th>
<th>Police Called</th>
<th>Officer Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Documentation

**SPARC**
Stalking Documentation Kits
- Cell phone
- Personal alarms
- Game cameras
- Log
- Pen with the date
- Digital recorder

Support
- Cocooning
- Buddy system
- Community services
- Stalking support groups