

Neighborhood Watch Monthly Newsletter



*Ector County Sheriff's Office
Crime Prevention Unit*

January is Stalking Awareness Month

10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT STALKING

TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME[®]



1. **Stalking is a crime.** Stalking is a course of conduct directed at a specific person that places a reasonable person in fear of his/her own safety. It is against the law in every state. Stalking across state lines or in federal territories is illegal under federal law.
2. **Many people are stalked.** 1 in 12 women and 1 in 45 men will be stalked in their lifetimes. 1.4 million people are stalked every year in the United States.
3. **Stalking can be very dangerous.** 76 percent of women killed by their intimate partners were stalked by these partners before they were killed. All stalkers should be considered unpredictable and very dangerous.
4. **Stalking is harmful and intrusive.** Stalking victims often lose time from work or never return to work, and some even relocate to regain a sense of safety. Many suffer from anxiety, insomnia, and severe depression as a result of being stalked.
5. **Anyone can be stalked—not just celebrities.** The vast majority of stalking victims are ordinary people. Furthermore, most stalkers are not strangers, but are known by their victim.
6. **Stalking can occur during a relationship, after a relationship, or in the absence of a relationship.** Stalking often begins during a relationship. Stalkers may keep the victim under surveillance or threaten him/her. Others begin stalking after the victim has ended the relationship, and the stalker feels desperate to maintain or regain control. Still others become fixated on a victim without having had any relationship with the person. All forms of stalking are unpredictable, and all should be considered dangerous.
7. **Technology can be used to stalk.** Although newly-developed technology enhances our lives, it can also empower criminals. Cell phones, computers, and surveillance equipment are just some of the technologies stalkers now use.
8. **An effective response to stalking includes the entire community.** Police, prosecutors, advocates, educators, reporters, neighbors ... everyone can and should play a part in stopping stalking. Working together, we can make victims safer.
9. **You can make a difference.** Visit www.ncvc.org/src to learn more about stalking and how to fight it.
10. **Help is available.** If you or someone you know is being stalked, call 1-800-FYI-CALL for assistance.

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Stalking Fact Sheet

Stalking in America

- 1,006,970 women and 370,990 men are stalked annually in the U.S.
- 1 in 12 women and 1 in 45 men will be stalked in their lifetime.
- 77% of female victims and 64% of male victims know their stalker.
- 87% of stalkers are men.
- 59% of female victims and 30% of male victims are stalked by an intimate partner.
- 81% of women stalked by a current or former intimate partner are also physically assaulted by that partner.
- 31% of women stalked by a current or former intimate partner are also sexually assaulted by that partner.
- 73% of intimate partner stalkers verbally threatened victims with physical violence, and almost 46% of victims experienced one or more violent incidents by the stalker.
- The average duration of stalking is 1.8 YEARS.
- If stalking involves intimate partners, the average duration of stalking increases to 2.2 YEARS.
- 28% of female victims and 10% of male victims obtained a protective order. 69% of female victims and 81% of male victims had the protection order violated.

[Tjaden & Thoennes. (1998). "Stalking in America", NIJ]

Recon Study of Stalkers

- 2/3 of stalkers pursue their victims at least once per week, many daily, using more than one method.
- 78% of stalkers use more than one means of approach.
- Weapons are used to harm or threaten victims in 1 out of 5 cases.
- Almost 1/3 of stalkers have stalked before.
- Intimate partner stalkers frequently approach their targets, and their behaviors escalate quickly.

Stalking and intimate partner femicide*

- 76% of intimate partner femicide (murder) victims had been stalked by their partner.
- 67% had been physically abused by their intimate partner.
- 89% of femicide victims who had been physically abused had also been stalked in the 12 months before the murder.
- 79% of abused femicide victims reported stalking during the same period that they reported abuse.
- 54% of femicide victims reported stalking to police *before they were killed by their stalkers.*

*The murder of a woman

[McFarlane et al. (1999). "Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide", *Homicide Studies*].



Stalking on Campus

- 13% of college women were stalked during on six to nine month period.
- 80% of campus stalking victims knew their stalkers.
- 3 in 10 college women reported being injured emotionally or psychologically from being stalked.
- [Fisher, Cullen, and Turner. (2000). "The Sexual Victimization of College Women," NIJ/BJA.]

National Hotlines and Resource Information

Victim Services Helpline (assistance and referral)

National Center for Victims of Crime
2000 M Street NW., Suite 480
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 1-800-FYI-CALL
TTY: 1-800-211-7996
Fax: 202-467-8701
Web site: www.ncvc.org/infolink/main.htm

National Domestic Violence Hotline

P.O. Box 161810
Austin, TX 78716
Phone: 512-453-8117
Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE
TTY: 1-800-787-3224
Fax: 512-453-8541
Web site: www.ndvh.org

Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network

635-B Pennsylvania Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20003
Phone: 202-544-3059
Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE
Fax: 202-544-3556
Web site: www.rainn.org

Family Violence Prevention Fund

383 Rhode Island Street, Suite 304
San Francisco, CA 94103-5133
Phone: 415-252-8900
Fax: 415-252-8991
Web site: www.fvpf.org

National Alliance of Sexual Assault Coalitions

c/o Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.
110 Connecticut Boulevard
East Hartford, CT 06108
Phone: 860-282-9881
Fax: 860-291-9335
Web site: www.connsacs.org/help/alliance.html

National Network to End Domestic Violence

666 Pennsylvania Avenue SE., Suite 303
Washington, DC 20003
Phone: 202-543-5566
Fax: 202-543-5626

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence
6400 Flank Drive, Suite 1300
Harrisburg, PA 17112
Phone: 1-800-537-2238
TTY: 1-800-533-2508
Fax: 717-545-9456
Web site: www.pcadv.org/projects.html

National Sexual Violence Resource Center

123 North Enola Drive
Enola, PA 17025
Phone: 1-877-739-3895
TTY: 717-909-0715
Fax: 717-909-0714
Web site: www.nsvrc.org

Stalking Resource Center

National Center for Victims of Crime
2000 M Street NW., Suite 480
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-467-8700
Fax: 202-467-8701
Web site: www.ncvc.org/src/index.html



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This Month's Watch Meetings:

Tuesday, January 27th @ 7:00 PM Goldsmith

Thursday, January 29th @ 7:00 PM Kellus Turner

Refreshments will be served!

January 2009

Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Jan 2,3,7,8,9,10 SandHills Indoor Rodeo, Ector County Coliseum, 42nd & Andrews Hwy. Bull Riding, roping, barrel racing and much more. Starts nightly at 7:30 p.m. Admission charged. 432-366-3951.

Jan. 3 Odessa's Brand New Opre, The Globe Theatre, 2308 Shakespeare Road. Gospel and Country Music performed by local and area musicians. 7:00 p.m., \$7 in advance, \$8 at door. 432-580-3177.

Jan 17 Fish & Chips for Funds, Fundraiser for the Globe Theatre, Ector County Coliseum, 42nd & Andrews Hwy. 6 p.m. Entertainment and All-You-Can-Eat fish and more. \$35 per ticket. 432-332-1586.

Jan 16-17 8th Annual O'Really West Texas Arenacross & Extreme Freestyle Championships, Ector County Coliseum, 42nd & Andrews Hwy, 7:30 p.m., Admission charged. 417-887-9400 or 432-366-3541. www.MAPMotorsports.com

Jan 17-18 Permian Basin Gun Show, Ector County Coliseum, 42nd & Andrews Hwy., Sat 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Sun 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Admission charged. 432-550-4835.

Jan 19 Martin Luther King Holiday—ALL COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED

Jan 23 & 24th Jackalopes Ice Hockey. Ector County Coliseum, 42nd & Andrews Hwy, 7:05 p.m. Admission charged. 432-552-PUCK.

Jan 27 Ice Hockey--Jackalopes Ice Hockey Ector County Coliseum, 42nd & Andrews Hwy, 7:05 p.m. Admission charged. 432-552-PUCK.

Jan 30-31 Ice Hockey--Jackalopes Ice Hockey. Ector County Coliseum, 42nd & Andrews Hwy, 7:05 p.m. Admission charged. 432-552-PUCK.