

What are the facts about Stalking?

- One out of every 12 women and one out of every 45 men in the U.S. have been stalked at some time in their lives. (Tjaden&Thoennes "Stalking in America" NIJ, 1998)
- It is estimated that every year in the United States, 1,006,970 women and 370,990 men are stalked. (Tjaden&Thoennes "Stalking in America" NIJ, 1998)
- 2/3 of stalkers pursue their victims at least once per week with 78% using more than one means of approach. Weapons are used to harm or threaten in 1 out of 5 cases. Almost 1/3 of stalkers have stalked before. (Mohandie, "The RECON Typology of Stalking" Journal of Forensic Sciences, 2006)
- The majority of stalking victims (74 percent) are between 18 and 39 years old. (Tjaden&Thoennes "Stalking in America" NIJ, 1998)
- Most stalkers are not violent—rates for violent behavior range 30-40%. Most victims are grabbed, punched, slapped or fondled. Serious physical injury is rare ("Stalking and Serious Violence" James&Franham, J Am Acad Psychiatry Law 31:432-9, 2003)
- Only 23 percent of female stalking victims and 36 percent of male stalking victims were stalked by strangers. (Tjaden&Thoennes "Stalking in America" NIJ, 1998)
- Thirty-eight percent of female stalking victims were stalked by current or former husbands, 10 percent by current or former cohabiting partners, and 14 percent by current or former dates or boyfriends. (Tjaden&Thoennes "Stalking in America" NIJ, 1998)
- 13% of college women were stalked during one 6 to 9 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. ("The Sexual Victimization of College Women" NIJ/ BJS. 2000)

Important numbers

Emergency	911
Help On-Call	323-9373
S.A.M.H.C. (24hr mental health)	622-6000
AZ Resource Database	211
Crime Victim Compensation	724-5525
Order of Protection Information	1-877-472-1717
T.P.D. Non-emergency	791-4444
T.P.D. Records	791-4462
Victim Notification	741-7344
City Court Victim Services	791-5483
Sheriff Department Records Info	351-4650
Pre Trial Services	724-3310
Superior Court Calendar	724-4240
End Stalking In America, Inc. website: www.esia.net	602-686-0600
AZ Coalition Against DV Hotline	800-782-6400

Case # _____



**Pima County Attorney's Office
Victim Services Division**

**32 N. Stone suite 800
Tucson, AZ, 85701
Phone:724-5525**

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Stalking



**Pima County Attorney's Office
Victim Services Division**

What is stalking?

Stalking statutes vary from state to state. In general, stalking refers to repeated harassing or threatening behavior by an individual, such as following a person, appearing at a person's home or place of business, making harassing phone calls, leaving written messages or objects, or vandalizing a person's property. Virtually any unwanted contact between two people that directly or indirectly communicates a threat or places the victim in fear can be considered stalking.

Stalking is a crime that can touch anyone, regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, geographic location, or personal associations. Most stalkers are young to middle-aged men with above average intelligence.

Unfortunately, there is no single psychological or behavioral profile for stalkers. Every stalker is different. This makes it virtually impossible to devise a single effective strategy that can be applied to every situation. It is vital that stalking victims immediately seek the advice of local victim advocates who can work with them to devise a safety plan for their unique situation and circumstances.

Some stalkers develop an obsession for another person with whom they have no personal relationship. When the victim does not respond as the stalker hopes, the stalker may attempt to force the victim to comply by use of threats and intimidation. When threats and intimidation fail, some stalkers turn to violence.

The most prevalent type of stalking case involves some previous personal or romantic relationship between the stalker and the victim. This includes domestic violence cases and relationships in which there is no history of violence. In these cases, stalkers try to control every aspect of their victims' lives. The victim becomes the stalker's source of self-esteem, and the loss of the relationship becomes the stalker's greatest fear. This dynamic makes a stalker

dangerous. Stalking cases that emerge from domestic violence situations, however, are the most lethal type of stalking. The stalker may attempt to renew the relationship by sending flowers, gifts, and love letters. When the victim spurns these unwelcome advances, the stalker often turns to intimidation. Attempts at intimidation typically begin in the form of an unjustified and inappropriate intrusion into the victim's life. The intrusions become more frequent over time. This harassing behavior often escalates to direct or indirect threats. Unfortunately, cases that reach this level of seriousness often end in violence.

If you are being stalked...

Any person who suspects that he or she is being stalked should report all contacts and incidents to local law enforcement. To make arrest and prosecution more likely, stalking victims should document every incident as thoroughly as possible, including collecting/keeping videotapes, audiotapes, phone answering machine messages, photos of property damage, letters received, objects left, affidavits from eyewitnesses, and notes. Experts also recommend that victims keep a journal to document all incidents, including the time, date, and other relevant information for each. Regardless of how much evidence they have gathered, victims should file a complaint with law enforcement as soon as possible.

As a result of the stalking, you may experience a variety of physical, emotional, and financial consequences. The emotional trauma of constantly being on alert for the stalker, or the next harassment, may seem to use up all the energy you have. You may feel vulnerable and out of control of your life. You may have nightmares. Your eating and sleeping habits may change. You may feel depressed or hopeless and lack interest in things you once enjoyed. This is not unusual. The constant stress in stalking situations is very real and harmful. Realize that what is happening to you is not normal, not your fault, and not caused by anything you have done.

If you need help...

Remember, as a stalking victim, you are not alone. Do not lose hope. The support network in Pima County includes victim advocacy, counseling services, and support groups. Trained victim advocates can provide vital information and a full range of support services, such as assistance through the criminal justice process and help finding out about your rights as a stalking victim. In Arizona, stalking is a felony per state law 13-2923. Harassment may also be charged.

You may be able to obtain an injunction against harassment, or an order of protection through the clerk of the court. These are court orders signed by a judge telling the stalker to stay away from you and not to have contact with you in person or by phone. It is not necessary for a civil or criminal domestic violence case to be filed for these orders to be issued. Arizona state laws authorize law enforcement to make an arrest for violation of such an order. Victim advocates can tell you how the process works in Pima County.

Victim Compensation



Arizona has a Crime Victim Compensation program that may reimburse victims for certain out-of-pocket expenses, including medical expenses, lost wages, and other financial needs considered reasonable. To be eligible, you must report the crime to the police within 72 hours, and cooperate with the criminal justice system. The Pima County Attorney's Office Victim Witness Program can provide you with compensation applications and additional information.