

A STALKING.ORG REFERENCE GUIDE

Reporting Stalking to Iowa Officials

Statewide Edition

Every hotline, state agency, and court resource you need to report
stalking in Iowa.

Statewide Iowa agencies
Verified phone numbers & addresses
Part of the Stalking.org 50-state series

stalking.org

GETTING STARTED

How to Use This Guide

This guide covers **statewide** Iowa resources: the government agencies, hotlines, and courts that serve every county. Each section also tells you how to find the right local office for your specific county.

Start here: the Iowa Victim Service Call Center (1-800-770-1650) is staffed 24/7 and can walk you through reporting, No Contact Orders, and local resources.

Before you call: have your documentation ready — dates, what happened, any messages or photos saved, and whether a report has already been filed elsewhere.

If you're in danger: call 911 first. Every other number in this guide is for follow-up support, not emergency response.

What's inside

- Emergency & immediate-danger contacts
- Statewide Iowa agencies (Attorney General Victim Assistance, Victim Service Call Center, Safe at Home)
- Reporting to local police & county sheriffs
- Domestic violence protective orders explained
- Step-by-step: filing a report & getting a protective order
- Specialized support (child abuse, elder abuse, civil rights)
- A one-page master contact sheet

Legal notice: This guide offers general information for educational purposes and is not legal advice. Phone numbers, addresses, and procedures for Iowa state and local agencies were verified at time of writing but can change — confirm current details with the agency directly. Stalking.org is not affiliated with any agency listed and is not a crisis service. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

Emergency & Immediate Danger

If a stalker is near you right now, threatening you, or has violated a protection order, these are your first calls — before anything else in this guide.

Emergency — Police, Fire, Medical

911

Call if you are in immediate danger, right now.

Iowa State Patrol (find your local district)

Via dps.iowa.gov

For non-emergency matters outside local police jurisdiction.

Iowa VINE — Protective Order Notification

Via vinelink.vineapps.com

Free, confidential custody status and protective order information.

Can't speak safely? In areas where Text-to-911 is supported, you can text instead of calling — check with your mobile carrier or alea.gov for coverage in your county.

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●Iowa — Statewide Agencies

These government agencies serve every county in Iowa.

Iowa Attorney General — Victim Assistance Section

515-281-5044

Toll-free 800-373-5044 · Hoover State Office Building, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50319.

iowaattorneygeneral.gov/for-crime-victims

Iowa Victim Service Call Center

1-800-770-1650

24/7 · Text IOWAHELP to 20121 · Funded by the Attorney General's Crime Victim Assistance program.

Iowa Safe at Home (Address Confidentiality Program)

Via safeathome.iowa.gov

safeathome@iowa.gov · Run by the Iowa Secretary of State · keeps your address off public records.

safeathome.iowa.gov

Iowa Dept. of Corrections — Office of Victim Programs

800-778-1182

Notification and support for victims whose case involves someone under state supervision.

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LOCAL POLICE

● Reporting to Local Police & Sheriffs

Stalking is usually reported to the police department in the city where you live or work, or to your county sheriff outside city limits.

Your local police department (non-emergency line)**Dial 911, or search “[your city] police non-emergency”**

Stalking can be reported at any city police department or county sheriff's office.

Your county sheriff's office**Varies by county**

Primary law enforcement in unincorporated parts of Iowa.

Your county Clerk of Court**Find yours via iowacourts.gov**

A No Contact Order for stalking is tied to criminal prosecution; a civil protective order is also available for sexual abuse victims.

Good to know: you can file a report at any police department, not only the one nearest the stalker. Ask for the officer's name, a complaint or case number, and how to follow up.

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No Contact Orders & Protective Orders in Iowa

No Contact Order: Iowa's primary stalking protection, issued by the court as part of a criminal prosecution of harassment, stalking, or sexual abuse charges.

Civil protective order: also available to victims of sexual abuse, to keep the abuser away from your home, school, and work.

Effective immediately: a No Contact Order takes effect the moment it's issued, and can be verified any time through the county clerk or local law enforcement.

Iowa Judicial Branch

Official forms and instructions for No Contact Orders and protective orders.

iowacourts.gov

Where to file

Your county Clerk of Court — ask about filing a police report first, since the No Contact Order is tied to criminal charges.

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Step-by-Step: What to Expect

● Filing a Police Report

- 1 Go to any police department or county sheriff's office — you do not have to go to the one nearest the stalker.
- 2 Ask to speak with an officer and say clearly that you want to report stalking or harassment.
- 3 Bring your documentation: dates, messages, photos, and names of any witnesses.
- 4 Ask for the report's complaint number before you leave, and request a copy if possible.
- 5 Ask about victim assistance resources — many departments have a victim advocate or can refer you to ACADV.

● Getting a No Contact Order

- 1 Report the stalking to police — a No Contact Order is typically tied to criminal charges being filed.
- 2 Describe each incident with as much detail as possible — dates, what happened, and any pattern you've noticed.
- 3 Ask the county attorney's office or your Clerk of Court about a civil protective order if you don't want to wait on criminal charges.
- 4 A judge can issue the order quickly, and it takes effect immediately once issued.
- 5 Keep a copy of the order with you, at home, and at work — it can be verified any time through the clerk or local police.

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SPECIALIZED SUPPORT

●Specialized Support

Iowa Child & Dependent Adult Abuse Hotline

1-800-362-2178

24/7, statewide — one number covers both suspected child abuse and abuse of a dependent adult. You may remain anonymous.

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QUICK REFERENCE

Quick-Reference Contact Sheet

Print or save this page — every number in this guide, in one place.

Agency	Phone	Scope
Emergency — Police, Fire, Medical	911	Emergency
Iowa State Patrol (find your local district)	Via dps.iowa.gov	Emergency
Iowa VINE — Protective Order Notification	Via vinelink.vineapps.com	Emergency
Iowa Attorney General — Victim Assistance Section	515-281-5044	Statewide
Iowa Victim Service Call Center	1-800-770-1650	Statewide
Iowa Safe at Home (Address Confidentiality Program)	Via safeathome.iowa.gov	Statewide
Iowa Dept. of Corrections — Office of Victim Programs	800-778-1182	Statewide
Iowa Child & Dependent Adult Abuse Hotline	1-800-362-2178	Specialized

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About Stalking.org



A 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing free, accessible safety tools to people facing stalking and cyberstalking — no account, no cost.

stalking.org/about-us · stalking.org/contact-us

Support the work

Donations keep every free tool and guide on stalking.org available for the next person who needs them — including this 50-state series.

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