

A STALKING.ORG REFERENCE GUIDE

# Reporting Stalking to Virginia Officials

## Statewide Edition

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

Statewide Virginia 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** Virginia resources: the government agencies, hotlines, and courts that serve every county. Each section also tells you how to find the right local office near you.

**Start here:** Virginia's stalking protection usually begins with a warrant — once one is issued, a police officer or magistrate can issue an Emergency Protective Order.

**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 Virginia agencies (Virginia Victims Fund, DCJS Victim Services, Courts)
- 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 Virginia 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.

## Virginia State Police

**Via [vsp.virginia.gov](https://vsp.virginia.gov)**

For non-emergency matters outside local police jurisdiction.

## VA Dept. of Corrections — Victim Services Unit

**1-800-560-4292**

Notification and support if a stalker is in state custody.

[vadoc.virginia.gov/victim-services](https://vadoc.virginia.gov/victim-services)

**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](https://alea.gov) for coverage in your county.

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## VIRGINIA • STATEWIDE

## ●Virginia — Statewide Agencies

These government agencies serve every county in Virginia.

### Virginia Victims Fund (Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund)

#### Via the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission

State program that helps with out-of-pocket expenses for victims of violent crime; no tax dollars are used.

### VA Dept. of Criminal Justice Services — Victim Services

#### 804-786-7802

Main line (804) 786-4000 · TDD (804) 786-8732 · victim services information and local victim/witness program referrals.  
dcjs.virginia.gov

### Virginia Courts — Protective Order Information

#### Via vacourts.gov

Official forms and instructions for protective orders.  
vacourts.gov

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## LOCAL POLICE

## ● Reporting to Local Police &amp; 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 locality**

Primary law enforcement in unincorporated parts of Virginia.

**Your General District Court clerk's office****Find yours via [vacourts.gov](https://vacourts.gov)**

If a stalking warrant is issued, you may file for a protective order here; a magistrate or police officer can issue an Emergency Protective Order.

**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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# Protective Orders in Virginia

**Emergency Protective Order (EPO):** if a warrant is issued for stalking, a police officer or magistrate can issue an EPO barring contact with you and your family or household — it lasts 72 hours.

**Longer orders:** an EPO can be followed by a Preliminary Protective Order (up to about two weeks) and then a Protective Order lasting up to two years.

**Where to file:** the General District Court clerk's office — your local victim/witness program can explain how it works for your situation.

## Virginia Courts

Forms and instructions for Stalking and Serious Bodily Injury protective orders.

[vacourts.gov](http://vacourts.gov)

## If it's violated

Violating a protective order is a Class 1 misdemeanor, and the person can be arrested immediately.

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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 Protective Order

- 1 Report the stalking to your local police, and ask about seeking a warrant for stalking.
- 2 If a warrant is issued, ask a police officer or magistrate for an Emergency Protective Order — it lasts 72 hours.
- 3 Go to the General District Court clerk's office to file for a longer protective order.
- 4 A Preliminary Protective Order can follow, then a full Protective Order of up to two years after a hearing.
- 5 Keep a copy of any order with you, at home, and at work.

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## SPECIALIZED SUPPORT

## ●Specialized Support

**Virginia Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline (VDSS)****1-800-552-7096**

24/7, statewide · out of state: 804-786-8536 · hearing-impaired: 800-828-1120.

**Virginia Adult Protective Services Hotline (VDSS)****1-888-832-3858**

24/7 · adults 60+ and incapacitated adults 18+.

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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       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Emergency — Police, Fire, Medical</b>                           | <b>911</b>                                                         | Emergency   |
| <b>Virginia State Police</b>                                       | <b>Via <a href="https://vsp.virginia.gov">vsp.virginia.gov</a></b> | Emergency   |
| <b>VA Dept. of Corrections — Victim Services Unit</b>              | <b>1-800-560-4292</b>                                              | Emergency   |
| <b>Virginia Victims Fund (Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund)</b> | <b>Via the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission</b>           | Statewide   |
| <b>VA Dept. of Criminal Justice Services — Victim Services</b>     | <b>804-786-7802</b>                                                | Statewide   |
| <b>Virginia Courts — Protective Order Information</b>              | <b>Via <a href="https://vacourts.gov">vacourts.gov</a></b>         | Statewide   |
| <b>Virginia Child Abuse &amp; Neglect Hotline (VDSS)</b>           | <b>1-800-552-7096</b>                                              | Specialized |
| <b>Virginia Adult Protective Services Hotline (VDSS)</b>           | <b>1-888-832-3858</b>                                              | 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](https://stalking.org/about-us) · [stalking.org/contact-us](https://stalking.org/contact-us)

## Support the work

Donations keep every free tool and guide on [stalking.org](https://stalking.org) available for the next person who needs them — including this 50-state series.

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