

A STALKING.ORG REFERENCE GUIDE

Reporting Stalking to West Virginia Officials

Statewide Edition

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

Statewide West 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** West 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: West Virginia has a Personal Safety Order for stalking by anyone who is not a family member or romantic partner — your first stop is your county Magistrate Court.

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 West Virginia agencies (Crime Victims Compensation Fund, Court of Claims, WV 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 West 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.

ACT NOW

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.

West Virginia State Police

Via [wvsp.gov](https://www.wvsp.gov)

For non-emergency matters outside local police jurisdiction.

[wvsp.gov](https://www.wvsp.gov)

WV DoHS Centralized Intake for Abuse and Neglect

1-800-352-6513

24/7 · for suspected abuse or neglect of a child or vulnerable adult.

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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● West Virginia — Statewide Agencies

These government agencies serve every county in West Virginia.

WV Crime Victims Compensation Fund (Court of Claims)

Via victims.wvlegislature.gov

Financial help for medical, funeral, and work-loss costs. Stalking is an eligible crime; adults generally must apply within two years.

victims.wvlegislature.gov

WV Courts — Personal Safety Order Information

Via courts.wv.gov

Official information and forms for Personal Safety Orders and domestic violence protective orders.

courts.wv.gov

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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 West Virginia.

Your county Magistrate Court**Find yours at your county courthouse**

Your first stop to file a Personal Safety Order for stalking by someone who is not a family member or romantic partner.

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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Personal Safety Orders in West Virginia

Personal Safety Order: available since 2012 to victims of stalking and sexual assault by someone who is not a family member and not a current or former romantic partner — or by a stranger.

Domestic violence protective order: used instead when the stalker is a family or household member or a romantic partner.

How it works: a judge can issue a temporary order, law enforcement serves it, and a hearing is held in magistrate court within roughly a week to ten days.

Magistrate Court

File at the magistrate's office in your county's courthouse.

courtsww.gov

Evidence helps

At the hearing the magistrate reviews testimony and any evidence — bring messages, photos, and your incident log.

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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 Personal Safety Order

- 1 Go to the magistrate's office in your county's courthouse and ask for a Personal Safety Order petition.
- 2 Describe each incident with as much detail as possible — dates, what happened, and any pattern you've noticed.
- 3 File the petition; a temporary order can be issued and then served by law enforcement.
- 4 Attend the hearing in magistrate court, where the magistrate reviews testimony and evidence and rules.
- 5 Keep a copy of any order with you, at home, and at work.

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SPECIALIZED SUPPORT

●Specialized Support

WV Centralized Intake for Abuse and Neglect

1-800-352-6513

24/7, 365 days — one number for suspected abuse or neglect of a child or vulnerable adult; call 911 for an emergency.

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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
West Virginia State Police	Via wvsp.gov	Emergency
WV DoHS Centralized Intake for Abuse and Neglect	1-800-352-6513	Emergency
WV Crime Victims Compensation Fund (Court of Claims)	Via victims.wvlegislature.gov	Statewide
WV Courts — Personal Safety Order Information	Via courts.wv.gov	Statewide
WV Centralized Intake for Abuse and Neglect	1-800-352-6513	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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