



The Use of Technology in Stalking Cases

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Objectives

- ▶ In this on-line training course, we will accomplish the following:
 - ❑ Examine the role of technology in stalking investigations by describing the technologies available
 - ❑ Describe how these are used by those who engaging in stalking behaviors

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Stalking (Title IX): 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30)

- ▶ The term “stalking” means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to
 - A. fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or
 - B. (B) suffer substantial emotional distress.

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Stalking

- Acts of stalking behavior
- Directed at a specific person
- Two or more acts
- Fear or emotional distress
- Reasonable person

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Stalking Behaviors

Surveillance	Unwanted contact	Unwanted gifts	Threats	Forced confrontations
Violation of no contact orders	Approaches family and friends	Defamation or slander	Property damage	

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Additional Violations

- ❌ Unauthorized entry
- 🖥️ Network use policy
- 🏛️ Theft

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Technology

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Examples

- Computers
- Internet
- Texting
- Email
- Apps (Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, twitter, TikTok)
- Online dating apps

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Computers

- Spyware
- Keystroke logging (keylogging)
- Cameras and Webcams

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Internet

- Websites
- Internet searches
- Information brokers

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Texting Features

- Main method of communication
- High read rates
- High response rates
- If one person deletes a text, the other retains it until they delete it
- Ability to send messages to large groups

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GroupMe and WhatsApp

GroupMe: Mobile messaging app (owned by Microsoft)

- Syncs with contacts
- User can make groups up to 500 people, popular as a tool for staff groups

WhatsApp: Text messages, group chats, voice calls (owned by Facebook)

- Messages are not retained by WhatsApp once they are delivered
- End to end encryption does not allow WhatsApp to see the content

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Email

- Monitoring of emails by former partner
- False accounts
- Information gathering

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Social Media

Source: Surveys conducted 2005-2016

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Problematic Behaviors

- ▶ "Revenge porn"
- ▶ Impersonating target
- ▶ Cyberstalking
- ▶ Doxing
- ▶ Video recording
- ▶ Password access
- ▶ Location access

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Facebook

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Snapchat

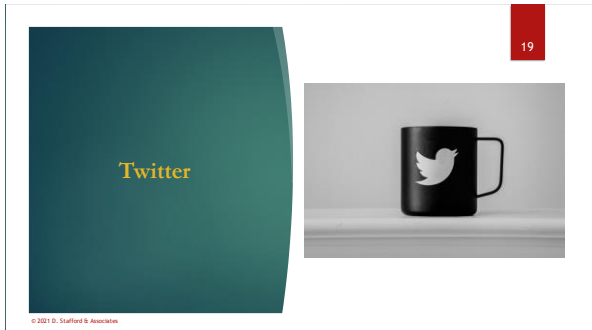
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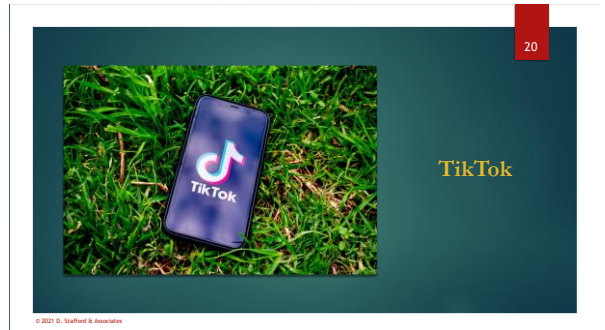
Instagram

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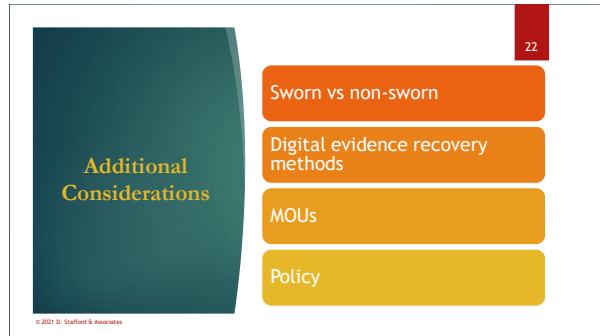
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