

For Immediate Release: January 10, 2011
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National Network to End Domestic Violence Recognizes Stalking Awareness Month

Washington, D.C. – The National Network to End Domestic Violence today recognized January as National Stalking Awareness Month. Stalking affects 3.4 million victims every year.^[1] This year’s theme – *Stalking: Know It. Name It. Stop It.* – urges people to end this dangerous crime by learning more and taking action.

“Many survivors of domestic violence escape abuse but are re-victimized by their former partners who stalk them and keep them living in fear,” said Sue Else, president of the National Network to End Domestic Violence. “Stalking is a serious crime that could lead to deadly results.”

In one of five cases, stalkers use weapons to harm or threaten victims,^[2] and stalking is one of the major risk factors in domestic violence cases that end in homicide.^[3]

Three out of four victims are stalked by someone they know, and nearly forty percent are stalked by an intimate partner or a friend, roommate or neighbor.^[4]

Stalking takes many forms including assaults, threats, vandalism, burglary, animal abuse, and unwanted cards, text messages, calls, gifts, or visits. One in four victims reports that the stalker uses technology, such as computers, GPS devices, or hidden cameras to track their activities.^[5]

“We hope more people will learn about stalking and take action to support its many victims,” said Else.

To mark Stalking Awareness Month, the National Network to End Domestic Violence [Safety Net Project](#) & the National Center for Victims of Crime [Stalking Resource Center](#) will co-host a conference on ["The Use of Technology in Intimate Partner Stalking"](#) (Jan. 25-27) in Gulfport, Miss. for organizations and individuals who receive funding from the U.S. Department of Justice. There will also be an advanced seminar for criminal justice professionals (Jan. 28).

For additional resources to help promote Stalking Awareness Month, please visit <http://stalkingawarenessmonth.org> and for NNEDV’s resources on technology and stalking, visit www.nnev.org/safetynetdocs.

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^[1] Baum et al., *Stalking Victimization in the United States*, Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2009, <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/svus.pdf> (accessed September 29, 2009).

^[2] Ibid.

^[3] Jacquelyn C. Campbell et al., “Risk Factors for Femicide in Abusive Relationships: Results from a Multi-site Case Control Study,” *American Journal of Public Health* 93 (2003): 7.

^[4] Ibid.

^[5] Baum, *Stalking Victimization in the United States*.

NNEDV, a 501(c)(3) organization, is the leading voice for domestic violence victims and their allies. Its members include the 56 state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence. It works closely with them to understand the needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs. NNEDV has been a premiere national organization advancing the movement against domestic violence for the past 15 years, after leading efforts among domestic violence advocates and survivors in urging Congress to pass the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994. To learn more, please visit www.nnedv.org.