

# Identifying, Investigating, and Prosecuting Domestic Violence STRANGULATION Cases

Sponsored By:



Training offered two separate days:

October 3<sup>rd</sup> or October 10<sup>th</sup>

7:30am - Registration

8:00am – 5:00pm - Training

Location:

Courtyard by Marriott Walla Walla

550 W Rose St, Walla Walla

For more information about this training contact:

Chalese Rabidue Braman 509.524.4400 [crabidue@wallawalla.gov](mailto:crabidue@wallawalla.gov)

In Partnership with



Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention

[www.strangulationtraininginstitute.com](http://www.strangulationtraininginstitute.com)

Strangulation has been identified as one of the most lethal forms of domestic violence and sexual assault: unconsciousness may occur within seconds and death within minutes. When domestic violence perpetrators choke (strangle) their victims, not only is this felonious assault, but it may be an attempted homicide. Strangulation is an ultimate form of *power and control* where the batterer can demonstrate control over the victim's next breath; it may have devastating psychological effects or a potentially fatal outcome.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Specialized experts in the identification, investigation, and documentation of strangulation in intimate partner violence cases, will cover the following:

- Findings from a study of 300 misdemeanor strangulation cases
- Understanding the lethality of strangulation
- Identifying the signs and symptoms of strangulation cases
- Anatomy and medical aspects in surviving and non-surviving victims
- Investigating and documenting a Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Strangulation case for prosecution
- Legal aspects of strangulation cases with surviving victims
- Tools and Resources for Advocates
- Resources and handouts developed by the Institute
- Use of experts in court

*"For many years, we didn't realize what strangulation was. We would see it over and over in police reports. We would hear victims say over and over 'choking, choking, choking' 'he grabbed me' 'he choked me'. It didn't mean anything to us, and we certainly didn't understand how lethal it was. But, as we started to deal with it, put the medical experts on the stand and started hearing the actual accounting of what was going on, and then had research to back it up, we found out that choking wasn't down here, choking was right here. A homicide was right here. And suddenly, choking is strangulation, and now we realize if you're at strangulation, you're at death. You're right on the edge of murder."*

Gael Strack, CEO & Casey Gwinn, President  
Alliance for HOPE International & the Strangulation Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Judges | Law Enforcement Officers | Prosecutors | Paramedics, EMTs | Advocates | Civil Legal, Attorneys Medical Providers | Psychologists, MFTs, LCSWs

## CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT:

This training session has been approved for Walla Walla. Documents necessary to receive credit will be provided after completion of the training.



A Program of Alliance for HOPE International

# Agenda

October 3<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>th</sup>  
 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
 Walla Walla, Washington

STRANGULATION TRAINING: THE LAST WARNING SHOT	
Time	Agenda
7:30 – 8:00am	<b>Registration</b>
8:00 – 8:15am	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>
8:15 – 9:45am	<b>Because We Didn't Know:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stranglers, Cop Killers and Terrorists</li> <li>• Understanding Lethality and the Need for Training</li> <li>• The Need for a Stand-alone Law and Training</li> <li>• Lesson Learned from San Diego</li> <li>• <b>Group Exercise: Lethality Cards</b></li> </ul>
9:45 – 10:00am	<b>Break</b>
10:00 – 11:45am	<b>If We Only Knew - All Things Medical:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anatomy and Physiology</li> <li>• Identifying the Signs and Symptoms</li> <li>• The Short and Long-Term Consequences</li> <li>• Need for Imaging and the DV/Strangulation Clinical Exam</li> </ul>
11:45 – 12:30pm	<b>Lunch – Provided</b>
12:30 – 2:15pm	<b>How Do You Know – Strangulation Investigations:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding Trauma</li> <li>• Trauma-Informed Interviewing, Top questions to ask, and Documentation</li> <li>• Conducting the Investigation and Need for Follow-up</li> <li>• Anticipating Common Defenses and the Impact of Porn</li> <li>• <b>Group Exercise: The Crime Scene Investigation</b></li> </ul>
2:15 – 2:30pm	<b>Break</b>
2:30 – 4:00pm	<b>Strangulation Investigations Continued and How Do You Prove It – All Things Legal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful Prosecution Strategies</li> <li>• Use of Experts</li> <li>• Court Considerations</li> <li>• <b>Group Exercise: Demonstration</b></li> </ul>
4:00 – 5:00pm	<b>They Have a Right to Know – Advocacy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educating yourself and others</li> <li>• Listening to Survivors</li> <li>• Use of Risk Assessment Tool</li> <li>• “DO MORE” Advocacy Tips</li> <li>• Educating Victims – Short- and Long-Term Consequences</li> <li>• Medical and Court Advocacy</li> <li>• Integrating Promising Practices, ACES and HOPE</li> <li>• Best Practices, Resources, and Implementation</li> </ul>

# Registration Information

**Dates:**

Training offered two separate days:

October 3<sup>rd</sup>

October 10<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**Location:**

Courtyard by Marriott Walla Walla

550 W Rose St,

Walla Walla, WA 99362

**Registration Fee:**

\$200 per person

**Register for the training here:**

<https://rb.gy/3wo9a>

**For hotel room reservations:**

Call 1-509-876-8100 Directly.

- October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Use block code **HOPE**
- October 10<sup>th</sup> – Use block code **JUSTICE**
- Nightly Rate is \$98.00 + tax
- To receive the discounted rate, the room must be booked by September 8, 2023.

Other area lodging is available.

**Coffee, snack, and catered lunch is included with registration.**

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