

The Stop Cyberstalking and Harassment Task Force met in-person and virtually on December 4, 2025.

The following task force members were in attendance:

Mark Kurkowski, St. Louis City Family Violence Council

The following members participated virtually:

Tracy McCreery, State Senator

Lt. Adam Caupp, St. Charles County Police Department

Heidi Coleman, Missouri Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

Shawn Ivy, Missouri Office of Administration

Jonathan Krueger, BJC Behavioral Health

Brenda Sites, Safe at Home, Secretary of State's Office

Rhonda Stanley-Weber, St. Louis Counseling

Judge Michael Randazzo, 42nd Judicial Circuit

Catherine Vannier, MO Office of Prosecution Services

The following guests were in attendance in-person or virtually:

Emily O'Laughlin, Chief of Staff for Senator McCreery

Bob Klausmeyer, K-12 Safety & Center for Education Safety

Connie Berhorst, Department of Public Safety, Director's Office

Judy Murray, Department of Public Safety, Director's Office

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Connie Berhorst for Mark Kurkowski. The first item on the agenda was a welcome to attendees.

Minutes from October 8, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Mark Kurkowski made a motion to accept the minutes and Heidi Coleman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation One - Enhanced Training, Coordination and Tools to Combat Cyberstalking and Harassment

Mark Kurkowski informed members that the Stalking Prevention Awareness and Resource Center (SPARC) has offered to hold a statewide conference free of charge. The only requirement would be to cover the cost of a couple of hotel rooms for one or two nights for the presenters. Catherine Vannier offered to host the SPARC training.

Lt. Caupp began a candid discussion on training. He feels police academy baseline training is going to be the best option to put forward. There are two groups of officers who need to be trained. The new hires and existing officers. As mentioned in a previous meeting, rural areas are somewhat disconnected from having a heavy tactical competency. Rural areas should be the first focus with major cities and urban areas as the secondary focus. The Missouri Police Chiefs Association and MO Sheriffs Association could be consulted to inquire how to approach training. However, agencies are going to have to choose to implement training. It's unrealistic to think bare basics would be cut from a training program to make room for cyberstalking and harassment training. We need collaboration with the prosecutor's offices. Legal updates are provided to officers through prosecutors and that would be a good starting point for existing officers. New training could be added for recruits at the academy. It should not be difficult to add a block of training to the academy curriculum. There is a lot of turnover in law enforcement, so training existing officers would not be as productive. New officers will take the training on the streets with them.

Judge Randazzo commented that he has had conversations with local sheriffs in his circuit. They don't have funding to pay for training and don't have the ability to let people off work for training. Training would have to be free and at their location on their terms. Judge Randazzo is now certified to train officers locally. It would be helpful to recruit more people to get their training certification. He is willing to make connections with people to become certified. Training cannot be mandated or officers will despise the program and not accept it. Judge Randazzo feels the key to get the issue brought to the forefront is to create a multi-jurisdictional group. Resources would be offered to one consolidated group to make them the experts to investigate cyberstalking and harassment. There would be a centralized set of procedures/policies to follow each time a call is received. Sheriffs he's talked to indicated they would be willing to work with a multi-jurisdictional group. He feels a multi-jurisdictional group could be placed in a state agency that has the authority to investigate statewide. He dismisses cases because officers don't have probable cause for stops. We can't expect officers to have the ability to perform a thorough investigation on something they don't understand.

Mark Kurkowski said a statute to require stalking training in academy curriculum would be helpful. There is currently not a requirement for stalking training. Lt. Caupp recommended adding cyberstalking to the stalking definition.

Shawn Ivy recently attended a conference where the creation of a state endorsed digital identity when using online platforms was discussed. Basically, the state would conduct identity proofing when a person signs up. When that person is online, they would have a little symbol or something like that next to their name. Lt. Caupp mentioned that adult websites don't even want you to verify your age on their platforms because they don't want everyone uploading a picture of their photo ID due to identity theft and compromise.

Lt. Caupp was at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in Alexandria, VA for a roundtable with industry leaders and global law enforcement. Sadistic online exploitation (SOE) is going through the roof. He feels this type of harassment should be included in the definition of cyberstalking and harassment.

It was decided that bench cards are a helpful tool for judges. It's a centralized place that judges can get information without having to go search for it when they are on the bench.

Recommendation Two - Legislative Action

Recommendation Three - Public Education, Awareness, Knowledge and Safety: Addressing Stalking, Cyberstalking and Harassment

Heidi Coleman and Emily O'Laughlin feel they have enough information on these two recommendations to complete the Annual Report.

Heidi and Emily will finish drafting the report and have it sent to task force members. They will need any edits by Dec. 16. Additional edits will be made if necessary and the final report will be sent to task force members for an electronic vote.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned.