

Use of Technology to Stalk

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Stalking
resource center

www.victimsofcrime.org/src

Use of Technology to Stalk

- ☐ Phones – calls, messages, texts, pics, video
- ☐ Cameras
- ☐ Global Positioning Systems (GPS)
- ☐ Computers
- ☐ Social networking sites
- ☐ Email & IM
- ☐ Spyware
- ☐ Assistive technologies



Technology is not the enemy

- ☐ Criminals exploit the technology to **create an advantage** for themselves
- ☐ Most of the technologies used by stalkers have **legitimate and legal functions**
- ☐ We must **keep up with the criminals** and ensure our laws and policies reflect the reality of stalking

Cell Phones

- ☐ How can phones be manipulated by stalkers?
- ☐ Calls, texts, photos, video
- ☐ Cell phone settings can be manipulated to act as listening device
 - ☐ Access to victim
 - ☐ Hidden device
 - ☐ GPS tracking



Tracking via Cell Phones

- ☐ Stalkers may (mis)use legitimate phone services and features to track and stalk
- ☐ Stalkers may also use applications and install them on to a victim's phone to track and stalk

Tracking via Cell Phones

Sprint

Keep Your Family Safe with Sprint Family Locator

First 15 Days FREE.
Then \$5 per month to locate 4 phones. Cancel any time from the web during the trial period. No obligations.

Locate Phones Anytime

Whether your son is on a school trip, or someone lost their phone, SPL will allow you the phones GPS position on an interactive map anytime. Locate up to 4 phones on your account.

Safety Checks

Make sure your elderly mom made it to her home safely. See that your child got to school on time. SPL will check automatically at the time you set and send notifications directly to you via text message or email.

Unlimited Use. One Flat Fee.

Perform locates, set Safety Checks and send unlimited text messages from within SPL—only \$5 per month. Peace of mind for your entire family.

More Questions? Need Help?

Click on the links below to get help.



- Simple, easy, no download sign up!
- Locate from your mobile or computer
- No data plan needed to locate a phone
- Locate any Sprint or Nextel phone model
- FREE 15 day trial!

Get Your First 15 Days Free [Try Now](#)

Other Family Locator Apps



Location Based Services

Search for:

- Locate
- Find kids, find friends
- Track spouse

Find My Friends



GPS Tracking Lite

GPS Phone Tracker

Locate Anyone For Free



Followlee GPS Tracker

Trackster™ GPS locator



Family Tracker

Geotagging



Exif Viewers

Exif: Exchangeable image file format: Descriptive data (meta-data) in an image file that include the date the photo was taken, resolution, shutter speed, focal length and geolocation.

ExifViewer.org

Home About Privacy Contact

Welcome to the free online Exif Viewer

With this free online tool you can extract meta-data from image files of arbitrary type.

It provides easy read access to the Exif, GPS and XMP metadata of images in various formats.

Upload a file:

Browser: No file selected.

Max. filesize: 5MB!

Send file



Exif Wizard

By homedatasheet.com

Open iTunes to buy and download



View on iTunes

Jeffrey's Exif Viewer

Basic Image Information

Target file: img_px.jpg

Camera: Apple iPhone 5s

Lens: iPhone 5s back camera 4.12mm F2.2

Shutter: 1/30 sec

Digital Zoom: 1.089452603x

Exposure: Auto exposure Program AE, 1/4, 566 sec, F2.2, ISO 40

Flash: Auto, Did not fire

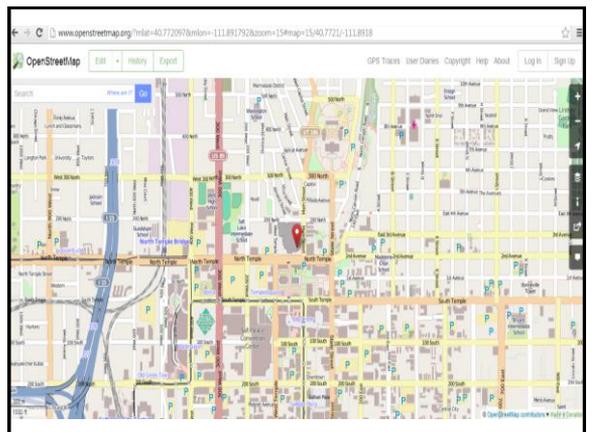
Date: July 30, 2014 5:30:10PM (timezone not specified)

(25 days, 17 hours, 46 minutes, 11 seconds ago, assuming image taken on of 'hawaii island (GMT)

Location: Latitude-Longitude: 40° 46' 19.5" North, 111° 57' 30.5" West (40.771917, -111.957027)

File: 480 x 640 JPEG

Color: WARNING: Color space tagged as sRGB, without an embedded color profile. Windows and Mac browsers and apps treat the colors randomly.



Disabling Geotagging

- Search "how to disable geotagging on a [phone make/model]"
- www.icanstalku.com



Listen to Calls

Locate

Cell Phone Spyware

Read text messages

Activate Speaker

Detecting Cell Phone Spyware

Offender knows things that they could only know if they have access to the phone

Battery overuse and/or high data usage

Offender has or had physical access

Clicks or sounds when on calls

Call & Text Spoofing

Gives caller ability to change number shown on caller ID or text, change sound of voice and to record calls



Spoofing

Most sites/apps offer 1 free spoofed call



Text Message Spoofing

Send text messages anonymously

SENDANONYMOUSSMS

This site is the only place to go when you need to send a free anonymous SMS text message.

Send Free Anonymous Text (SMS) Messages

No Fees. No Registration. Just FREE Anonymous text!



Disappearing SMS & MMS

Wickr, Snapchat & Facebook Slingshot:

- SMS & MMS
- Both users need to have the app



Considerations for Responders



Documentation

- Preserve audio, SMS (text), MMS (photo, video) on the phone and separate from phone
- Victims can get detailed copies of their own cellphone bills

Victim Safety

- Educate victims about GPS tracking, spoofing, spyware, etc.
- Option for victims to get new cellphone, but maintain current cellphone

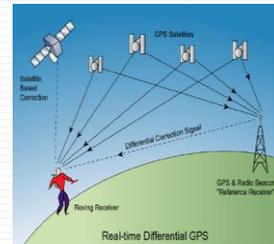


Cellphones – Victim Safety

- Regularly **ask victims** about their cell phone use
 - Discuss spyware potential
 - Discuss account privacy
- If offender has ever had access to phone:
 - Consider completely wiping phone & restoring to factory settings (discuss potential safety risks of this action)
 - Consider keeping phone but not using it for anything that could reveal location of victim but also using a different, safer phone (no-contract phones, donated phones)



Global Positioning Systems (GPS) & Locating Devices

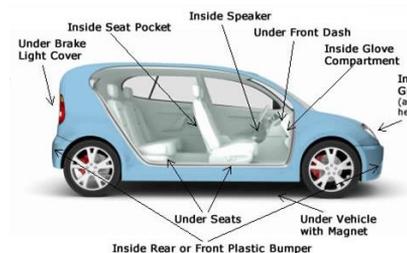


Global Positioning Systems: GPS



GPS Documentation & Evidence

1. Locate device on the victim's car
2. Tie suspect to the device



GPS Documentation & Evidence

Computer

- Tracking software
- Tracking websites

Phone

- Apps
- Websites
- Call-in numbers
- Texts

Financial Data

- Equipment purchase
- Real time tracking service charge

Email

How do stalkers use email?

Send email

Monitor email

Intercept email

Impersonate victim and send messages to others

Email Anonymizers

Sites/services that will mask the senders identity

- Email address
- IP address



SENDANONYMOUSEMAIL



Disappearing Emails

Send a message that "disappears" after a certain time period or when the viewer deletes it

Receiver clicks on a link to the private message

Some prevent screenshots or copy/paste function

Disappearing Emails - Documentation

Most self-destruct emails create a link to send

- Follow the regular steps in tracking email

Most of the "emails" are actually a message on a web browser

- Take screen shots

Advise victims to keep a log to show pattern of stalking

Email Tracing

- In order to determine the sender of an email, an investigator needs the email's header information.
- An email header is the information added to the beginning/top of the electronic message.
- By default, email clients and services only show an abbreviated form of the header.



Email Tracing

The complete email header is a record of:

- Who sent the email
- Which network it originated from
- Which email servers processed it
- Miscellaneous information:
 - Timestamps
 - Email client
 - Encoding information, etc.

Some of it is useful for tracing email, some of it is not

Read from the Bottom Up

Start at the bottom of the email header and read up until you find the first IP address

Received: from [12.10.116.2] by
web113110.mail.gq1.yahoo.com via HTTP; Thu, 24 Sep 2013
12:13:42 PDT
X-Mailer: YahooMailRC/157.18YahooMailWebService/0.7.347.2
Date: Thu, 24 Sep 2013 12:13:42 -0700 (PDT)
From: Creepy Stalker <creepy_stalkerguy@yahoo.com>
Subject: do you think i am kidding?
To: stalking.victim@yahoo.com

Reading the Header

After noting the IP address of the sender you must note the date and time stamp of the email

Received: from [12.10.116.2] by
web113110.mail.gq1.yahoo.com via HTTP; Thu, 24 Sep 2013
12:13:42 PDT
X-Mailer: YahooMailRC/157.18YahooMailWebService/0.7.347.2
Date: Thu, 24 Sep 2013 12:13:42 -0700 (PDT)
From: Creepy Stalker <creepy_stalkerguy@yahoo.com>
Subject: do you think i am kidding?
To: stalking.victim@yahoo.com

Find the ISP

- IP addresses are assigned to providers
- Use search engines to find the owner of the address
 - www.samspace.org
 - www.dnsstuff.com
 - www.arin.net
 - www.geektools.com

Go to one of these sites and choose the "who is" function or similar search

Email – Documentation

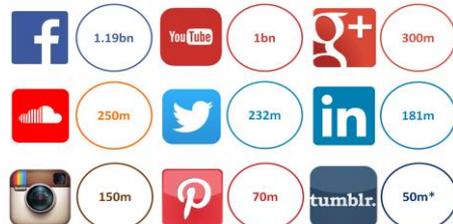
- Save emails - electronic and hard copies with expanded headers

Received: from [12.10.116.2] by web113110.mail.gq1.yahoo.com via
HTTP; Thu, 27 Sep 2013 12:13:42 PDT
X-Mailer: YahooMailRC/157.18YahooMailWebService/0.7.347.2
Date: Thu, 27 Sep 2013 12:13:42 -0700 (PDT)
From: Creepy Stalker <creepy_stalkerguy@yahoo.com>
Subject: do you think i am kidding?
To: stalking.victim@yahoo.com

- Do not have victims forward emails – will alter IP address

Social Networking Sites

Active Monthly Users of the 'Big 9'



As at 15 November 2013 (multiple sources cited)
*Tumblr does not release active monthly user data and this figure is based on an estimate from BusinessInsider.com. It does reveal that the site and its domains receives 300m visits per month.

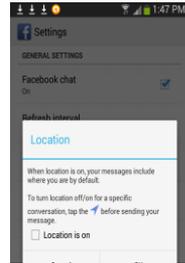
kimber

How are Online Spaces Misused?

- **Creating Fake Accounts:**
 - get “around” blocking.
- **Impersonation:**
 - Taking over accounts, pretending to be victim.
- **Stalking:**
 - Gathering information through search engines and public profiles.
- **Posting pictures/videos online – revenge porn, recording assaults**
- **Sextortion/extortion**
- **Harassment through email, instant messaging, or social networking sites.**
 - Sending numerous and/or hateful, threatening messages.
- **Posting negative, harmful, or false information**

Social Media + Phones + Location

- Need to check settings for all social media accounts on each device used.

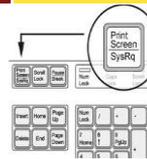


SNS - Documentation

- Capture and save screenshots (PrntScrN)
- Some sites offer a “download your information” service in account settings



Considerations for Responders



Documentation

- Preserve emails electronically and hard copy with expanded header
- Do not forward emails
- Screen shot social networking posts

Victim Safety

- Explore online presence, account security, privacy settings
- Discuss freedom/safety balance
- What is on other people's pages



Cameras



Laptop & Web Cams



Built-in Camera of the Laptop



Software

- ❑ Tincam.com (Windows)
- ❑ Evological.com (EvoCam) (Mac)
- ❑ Periscope (Mac)

TinCam

evological



- Run in background
- Take images and video secretly

How can they be disguised?



How Cameras are Used

Keep track of victims – learning their routine, monitoring behaviors, etc.

Watch victim without being seen – be omnipresent

Obtain information they otherwise wouldn't be able to have

Manipulate victim; blackmail

Scare and harass— "I'm watching and know what you are doing"

Camera Considerations



Equipment is inexpensive and easy to access



Look for cameras or common objects in which cameras may be hidden



Camera detection

- Signal detectors
- Lens detectors

Turning the Camera

Why use video surveillance?

- ❑ Excellent evidence
- ❑ Always active
- ❑ Cheaper than physical surveillance
- ❑ Provides victims with sense of security

Computers & Tablets



Computer Spyware

- ❑ See everything the victim does on the computer
- ❑ Control the functioning of the computer
 - ❑ Power
 - ❑ Camera
 - ❑ Sound
- ❑ Can be installed remotely or by physical accessing the computer



Keystroke Logging Hardware

- ❑ Can be keyboard ports, special keyboards, or mouse
- ❑ No software to install or configure - just plug it in
- ❑ Need physical access to install & remove



Spyware – Victim Safety

- ❑ **Educate** victims about remote access/spyware possibilities
- ❑ **Encourage** victims to use a “safer” computer
 - ❑ Not connected to the Internet
 - ❑ Shared computers at the library or elsewhere
- ❑ Spyware “cleaners” do not guarantee safety
- ❑ **Removal of spyware may escalate offender's behavior**

Online Victim Safety

Educate victims about availability of info

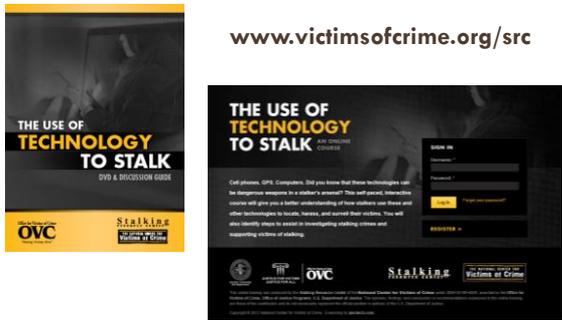
Encourage victims to routinely search for themselves

Discuss options for having information removed

- Safe Shepherd: www.safeshepherd.com/advocates
- Reputation.com: www.reputation.com/domesticviolence

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www.victimsofcrime.org/src



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