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Georgia Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence

YWCA of Northwest Georgia

Georgia Criminal Justice  
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In partnership with



Training Institute on  
Strangulation  
Prevention

**REGISTER BY**  
**October 3rd**

Click [HERE](#) to register  
for this training.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?**

- Judges
- Law enforcement officers
- Prosecutors
- Paramedics and EMTs
- Advocates and VWAPs
- SANE nurses and other medical professionals
- Civil legal attorneys

**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

**CREDIT:** POST credit, EMT credit, CLEs, and advocate CEUs have been applied for

**For more information about this training, contact:**

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404-463-1662

# Identifying, Investigating, and Prosecuting Domestic Violence Strangulation Cases

October 12<sup>th</sup> in Valdosta • October 13<sup>th</sup> in Canton • October 14<sup>th</sup> in Morrow

Registration: 7:30am – 8:00am

Training: 8:00am – 5:00pm (5:30 pm for Morrow training)

Strangulation has been identified as one of the most lethal forms of domestic violence and sexual assault. Unconsciousness may occur within seconds, and death may occur 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, Mike Agnew and Kim Nash from the **Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention** 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."*

Casey Gwinn, J.D. & President, Alliance for HOPE International