



Northwest Illinois Criminal Justice Commission

Jeff Ragan, Regional Director
2308 E. Lincolnway, Suite E - Sterling, IL 61081
Phone: 815-288-6695- Fax: 815-288-6787- www.mtu1.com

Mobile Team Unit #1 is funded in partnership with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board

Identifying Investigating and Prosecuting Domestic Violence Strangulation Cases

DATE: April 22 & 23, 2026

Registration Ends: April 20, 2026

TIME: 8:00 AM—4:00 PM 16 Hours

LOCATION: UW Health Schwartz Auditorium, 1350 Charles St., Rockford, IL

INSTRUCTOR: Gael Starck & Casey Gwinn

THIS COURSE IS PENDING APPROVAL FROM ILETSB FOR MANDATES

Course Description:

- Findings from a study of 300 misdemeanor strangulation cases
- Understanding the lethality of strangulation
- Identifying the signs and symptoms of strangulation cases
- Anatomy of 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

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.

REGISTRATION:

All registrations are received on the [MTU#1 website](#). Find Registration instructions [here](#)

THIS IS NOT A PUBLIC MEETING

