

NORTHERN ILLINOIS TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD

Jeff Schelling, Executive Director
527 Colman Center Drive ** Rockford, IL 61108
Tel 779-210-8422
www.nitab.org

**IDENTIFYING, INVESTIGATING AND PROSECUTING DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE CASES**

Date: April 22-23, 2026 **Registration Deadline: April 20, 2026**

Times: 0800-1600 hours

Location: UW Health Women's and Children's
Schwartz Auditorium – 1st Floor
1350 Charles Street
Rockford, IL

Instructor: Gael Starck & Casey Gwinn
Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention

Member Fee: \$0 Non-MTU Member & Non-Sworn Fee: \$0

**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.