



TRAINING INSTITUTE on
STRANGULATION
PREVENTION

Identifying, Investigating, and Prosecuting Domestic Violence Strangulation Cases

STOP TRAINING 2019

presented by Shira Burns

TRAINING INSTITUTE ON STRANGULATION PREVENTION

DECEMBER 13, 2019

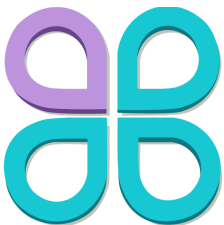
8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 7:30AM

St Paul United Methodist Church
750 Norland Avenue
Chambersburg, PA 17201

TO REGISTER BY DECEMBER 9TH, EMAIL ALEXA AT
ALEXAB@WINSERVICES.ORG,
GO ONLINE AT WWW.WINSERVICES.ORG,
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WOMEN IN NEED
ADVOCATING FOR PEACE AT HOME
THROUGH JUSTICE AND EDUCATION

This project was supported by grant No. 28807 awarded by Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in in this training are those of the speaker and do not necessarily reflect the views of this state or the Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women.

Shira Burns

TRAINING INSTITUTE ON STRANGULATION PREVENTION

Shira Burns is a prosecutor specializing in domestic violence and sexual assault cases in York County, Maine. She is a former attorney for the State of Maine Judicial Branch and defense attorney. Shira teaches at the Maine Academy of Criminal Justice and guest lectures at the University of Maine. She is part of a statewide strangulation training team that teaches all disciplines about the use of strangulation. Shira attended the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention for both the 4-day Advanced Course and the Masters' Course in San Diego, California. She set Maine precedent in *State of Maine v. Lee Perry, 2017 ME 74*, when she used a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) as an expert witness in regard to strangulation. Shira serves on the Board of Directors of Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine and has her own organization called Cops with Cakes that connects police officers with youth in shelters.

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, especially to the point of unconsciousness, it is not only a felony but it may be an attempted homicide. Strangulation is an ultimate form of power and control that can have a devastating psychological effect on victims. The inability to breathe is one of the most terrifying events a person can endure.

Attendees of this training will learn how to: identify the signs and symptoms of non-fatal strangulation cases; understand and recognize the anatomy and medical aspects of surviving and non-surviving victims; investigate and document cases for prosecution; prosecute cases, including using experts in court; and, most importantly, enhance victim safety through trauma-informed advocacy services.

8:00AM

BECAUSE WE DIDN'T KNOW

History, lethality of strangulation, link to officer and mass shooting

9:30AM

IF WE ONLY KNEW - ALL THINGS MEDICAL

Understanding anatomy, signs & symptoms, loss of consciousness, consequences

11:00AM

LUNCH BREAK

Lunch is on your own. See hand out for ideas!

12:00PM

HOW DO YOU KNOW - INVESTIGATIONS

Trauma informed interviewing, anticipating common defenses, group exercise: the crime scene investigation

1:15PM

HOW DO YOU PROVE IT - LEGAL

Court considerations, using and developing local experts, group exercise: demonstration

2:30PM

THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW - ADVOCACY

Educating yourself and others, risk assessment tools, medical and court advocacy, ACES & HOPE, best practices, resources, and implementation