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## "STALKING THROUGH CYBERSPACE" 9th Annual Family & Domestic Violence Conference

*Stanislaus County* - The Stanislaus County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council with support from the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence will hold its Ninth annual Domestic Violence Conference on Friday October 17, 2008. The conference will be held at the Modesto Centre Plaza 1000 L Street Modesto, California and is entitled "Stalking through Cyberspace."

Any law enforcement officers, prosecutors, court clerks, probation and parole officers, and advocates working in the field of domestic violence or victims rights are invited to attend, as well as any member of the public.

The purpose of this conference is to define stalking and its role in partner violence, identify the different types of technology and how they are used in stalking, describe how technology impacts the work of those investigating, collecting evidence from and providing counseling and safety planning for stalking victims. The conference attendees will also receive training to identify different legal system responses available to stalking victims, identify main areas of need for stalking victims and to learn how to use the best practices described in the advocacy model when working with stalking victims.

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The speaker will be Michele Garcia, Director of the Stalking Resource Center in Washington, DC. Prior to joining the National Center, Michelle was a Program Specialist with the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime. She has over fifteen years experience working with victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in both rural and urban settings and advocating for victims' rights on a local, state, and national level. Michelle is a former President of the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault and a former President of the National Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Michelle has trained nationally on various topics, including stalking, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and dismantling oppression. Michelle received her Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Chicago.

Admission is \$35 and advance registration is required. CEUs are available for an additional \$25.

For Additional Information call 525-8550. Registration forms available on-line at <a href="http://www.stancounty.com/dvcc/content/">www.stancounty.com/dvcc/content/</a>

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