



FBI Virtual Command Center (VCC) National Common Operational Picture (NCOP) - SWATTING Facilitates Near Real-Time Secure Information Sharing for Public Safety During Swatting Incidents

# WHAT IS SWATTING?

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Swatting is the malicious tactic of making hoax emergency calls to an emergency service, such as a police department, to falsely report a fictitious ongoing emergency at a particular location. Swatting is extremely dangerous and carries a high risk of violence with the aim of causing chaos and provoking a large law enforcement response.

## **FBI'S RESPONSE**



On May 1, 2023, the FBI launched the VCC-NCOP in response to a request by law enforcement partners during an April 2023 national call on the swatting threat. This VCC-NCOP on swatting is an awareness initiative jointly spearheaded by the FBI Office of Partner Engagement (OPE) and the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division.

The VCC-NCOP serves as a collaborative space for domestic public safety partners to input their swatting incidents in a secure environment for national awareness and creates a near real-time operational picture of swatting events in an effort to mitigate criminal activities associated with swatting.

#### **PARTICIPATION**



The VCC-NCOP is open to all law enforcement agencies and fusion center partners who have access to the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP) and wish to participate in tracking and sharing information regarding swatting calls and incidents in their respective jurisdictions.



### **TRAINING**

Virtual training is available by contacting the VCC Program Office at <a href="mailto:vccops@leo.gov">vccops@leo.gov</a>. A 24/7 Help Desk also provides assistance to LEEP/VCC users as needed. VCC resource pages are also available, to include user guides and training materials.

**CONTACTUS:** 

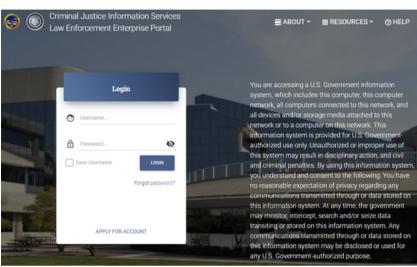




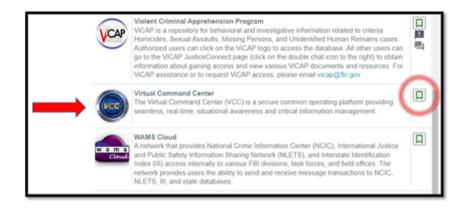


FBI Virtual Command Center (VCC) National Common Operational Picture (NCOP) - SWATTING (VCC-NCOP) Facilitates Near Real-Time Secure Information Sharing for Public Safety During Swatting Incidents. Access steps below:

Step 1: Log into www.cjis.gov. Enter your one-time passcode.



Step 2: Scroll to the bottom of the list of LEEP services, and click on the "Virtual Command Center" icon. Click the favorite bookmark for future ease of access.



Step 3: In the VCC Access box, which can be found on the left side under the Announcements and Settings sections, click the blue "Find VCCs" hyperlink.





Step 4: In the search box, type "Swatting".



Step 5: Click "Request VCC Access".



Step 6: In the "Request Comments:" text box, provide a justification for the request.



Once a VCC access request has been submitted, the VCC administrator will accept or decline the request and notify the requestor via email. If approved, access LEEP and locate the newly requested VCC in the "My VCCs" box on the VCC homepage.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR REPORTING ACTIVITIES:**

To report any leads, threats, and/or suspected criminal activity, you may also visit <a href="https://tips.fbi.gov/">https://tips.fbi.gov/</a> or contact your local FBI Office: <a href="https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us">https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us</a>. Note: This website cannot be used to report emergencies or immediate threats to life.

We also encourage law enforcement to use the unclassified information-sharing system eGuardian to report suspicious activity reports (SARs) to the FBI. Access eGuardian via LEEP: <a href="https://www.cjis.gov/">https://www.cjis.gov/</a>. If the information is urgent in nature, please contact your local FBI field office directly and follow up with an eGuardian report.







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