



CREDIBLE THREATS TO JOURNALISTS NATIONWIDE

January 15, 2021

(Washington, D.C.) – Following the disruption of a joint session of Congress at the U.S. Capitol and election-related civil unrest in other parts of the country on January 6, the Radio Television Digital News Association has been made aware of credible threats to the safety of journalists in all 50 states.

Many of these new threats appear to be part of a larger effort to interfere with Inauguration Day activities on and around January 20 and in the early weeks of the new administration. However, they are not limited to the Washington, D.C., area.

The risks to the safety of journalists reporting from the field – particularly, although not exclusively, those who work alone – are especially elevated at this time. These threats toward news media personnel, facilities, vehicles and equipment across the country are expected to remain high during at least the next 30 days or so.

RTDNA has created the **SAFE Journalist Training & Resource Center** to provide newsroom managers, field journalists and freelancers with the knowledge and tools to stay safe during daily reporting and escalated events including civil unrest. It will be updated frequently as events warrant.

All resources are available free and on demand at [RTDNA.org/safety](https://www.rtdna.org/safety).

We strongly urge every journalist to review these resources and practice increased awareness at this time.

A free press is a fundamental element of democracy. Journalists, know your rights, report responsibly and stay safe. Always report threats against yourself or your newsroom to law enforcement, to the [U.S. Press Freedom Tracker](https://www.pressfreedomtracker.org) and to us at pressfreedom@rtdna.org.