

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW
2011 REPORT**

**An Examination of
Domestic Violence Homicides
in Duval County, Florida
January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011**

and

**An Analysis of Domestic Violence Homicides
December 1996 through December 2011**

September 2012

Submitted By

**THE DUVAL COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY
REVIEW TEAM,
A Subcommittee of the
Domestic Violence Intervention Project**

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INTRODUCTION

This 2011 report of the Duval County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) examines and analyzes domestic violence homicides which occurred in Duval County (the consolidated city of Jacksonville), Florida, from January 1 through December 31, 2011. This report marks the fifteenth year that the DVFRT has reviewed all the domestic homicides occurring within Duval County. Therefore, this report also provides overall summary patterns on domestic violence homicides from 1997 through 2011.

In general, the purpose of fatality reviews of any kind is to identify patterns and trends in deaths which might have been prevented. One expert notes that “[l]ike the reviews conducted after an airplane crash, a fatality review helps determine what went wrong and what could have been done differently to prevent the tragedy” (Websdale, 2003, p. 27). Domestic violence fatality reviews in particular seek to identify patterns and trends in homicides among intimate partners and/or family members which arise from domestic violence and which might be prevented in future through revised responses from criminal justice or other service providers in the local community. It is important to note that the approach used in fatality reviews is not to seek to attach blame for the death(s) to anyone other than the offender/suspect in the case but, instead, to identify agency practices or policies which might be improved. The National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative notes that “[e]rror recognition, responsibility, honesty, and systemic improvement should be the focus rather than denial, blame, and personalizing the review” (NDVFRI at <http://www.ndvfri.org>).

For this reason a diversity of membership on the review team is valuable for ensuring that major local organizations involved in providing responses/services to domestic violence victims or families are also involved in assessing where improvements might be needed. The Duval County DVFRT is composed of a variety of representatives of key local agencies and independent experts in the field (see page 2), each of whom comes to the review process with the intent to examine how fatalities might be prevented in the future. The summary findings and recommendations which arise from this examination (Section 2 herein) are intended to give local authorities guidelines for change. As one well-known expert in this area has observed, “...a fatality review identifies relevant social, economic, and policy realities that compromise the safety of battered women and their children” (Websdale, 2003, p.27). Such reviews may also examine deaths of third parties (e.g., other family members, friends, coworkers, neighbors) which happen to arise from violent domestic interactions even when the primary parties are not killed.

There are many uses for these annual fatality reviews, the most important of which is to inform the public about how the criminal justice system responds to incidents of domestic violence reported to police. By identifying areas of response which might be altered or improved, this review offers the possibility of preventing future deaths. These reviews are also instrumental in identifying lethal domestic violence patterns and securing federal or other assistance for local initiatives. For example, the DVFRT team notes that Jacksonville has been fortunate to have the InVEST (Intimate Violence Enhanced Services Team) program, a local initiative geared toward reducing intimate partner homicides through

integrating victim services from a variety of criminal justice and social service agencies. During the three years prior to the start of the InVEST initiative in 1999, there had been a steady increase in the number of intimate violence homicides in Duval County. However, since the beginning of that program, there has been a dramatic decline in intimate violence homicides among those domestic violence cases reported to police. It was in these cases that InVEST had an opportunity to intervene to try to prevent the violence from becoming lethal. It should be noted that this year was the first time a victim who had stayed in shelter for more than 48 hours was killed by her abuser. On the whole, victims tracked by the DVFRT over the years were previously unreported to authorities and not receiving intervention services.

Research suggests that the nationwide drop in domestic violence homicides since the 1980s may be the result, at least in part, of improved services to victims and/or perpetrators (Brown & Williams, 1993; Brown et al., 1999; Dugan et al., 1999; Puzone et al., 2000). In Duval County, Florida, the reductions were so dramatic that the Florida Attorney General funded pilot InVEST initiatives in seven other Florida counties. The DVFRT believes that the proactive work done by InVEST in trying to intervene in intimate violence cases has had a positive impact on reducing domestic homicide cases in Duval County. These fatality reports also facilitated the receipt of a federal Arrest Grant® that continues effective local collaborations, as well as funding for a new special misdemeanor domestic violence court in Duval County.

A copy of this report is provided to all Fourth Judicial Circuit judges, the local sheriff, the local state attorney's office, victim advocates, batterers' intervention programs, local legislators, the military and local media. A copy is also placed on the web for public access (see listing at the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative at www.ndvfri.org).

The DVFRT hopes that the reader will find this report informative and useful. Any comments or questions about this report or the work of the DVFRT may be directed to 2011 Chair Theresa Simak at 904-630-2502 or via email at tsimak@coj.net.

METHODOLOGY

The Duval County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team, hereafter referred to as DVFRT or the Team, was created in 1997 by the Duval County Domestic Violence Intervention Project Committee (DVIP). The Team exists for the purposes of annually collecting, reviewing and analyzing all domestic homicide cases within Duval County (Jacksonville), Florida, and issuing this report. The Team is composed of representatives of several governmental and non-profit agencies which deal directly with domestic homicide cases within the jurisdiction of Duval County, plus other local experts in this field. A complete list of the members of the Team for the 2010 analysis may be found on page two of this report.

Cases selected for review by this Team are those in which the key parties of the case (e.g., the primary offender and the primary victim) meet the definition of having a domestic relationship as set forth in Section 741.28 of the Florida Statutes. This defines domestic relationships as:

Spouses, former spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are presently residing together, as if a family, or who have resided together in the past, as if a family, and persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have resided together at any time.

All homicide cases which meet this definition are flagged by the State Attorney's Office (SAO), Fourth Judicial Circuit, and are brought to the attention of the Team for review. In addition, the Homicide Division of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) flags cases which would not have been referred to the SAO for prosecution, such as homicide-suicides. From time to time, the Team has wrestled with additional cases in which a dispute between domestic partners or family members has resulted in the death of a third party (but not a person who fits the Florida Statute definition above). The first challenge is to identify third party cases, since they are not identified as "domestic" homicides by the JSO, but it seems clear in such cases that a death would not have resulted except for a domestic altercation of some kind. In the last several years, the team has also sometimes included cases involving intimate partners that did not fit the domestic violence statute as written since the couple had not lived together nor had a child in common. However, these relationships had been of sufficient duration and the patterns were so similar that the team felt the case should be included to get a true picture of homicides among intimate couples. **The Team identified one such case for the year 2011, in which a male suspect killed a male friend of his former girlfriend.**

It should be noted that the Team excludes child deaths resulting from domestic violence, unless the child was killed as part of an attack on an adult that fits the Florida Statute definition, as there is a separate local child death committee that reviews those fatalities.

In terms of procedure, the Team meets approximately monthly, normally beginning in January of each year, to review each identified case of domestic homicide from the

previous year. It is important to note that--unlike many other fatality review teams--this Team reviews and reports on **all** domestic homicide cases which occur within a given year of occurrence, regardless of the legal status of suspects at the time of the issuance of this report. Thus, this report accounts for all cases classified as domestic homicides in Duval County in 2010. For this reason, this report identifies cases by a number (e.g., 2011-01, 2011-02, etc.), an incident date, demographic facts, zip code, and police zone location only. No names of suspects or victims are used as some cases may still be pending legally. This approach provides a much more complete picture of domestic homicide in Duval County for any given year than is provided in those reports which include only closed cases. It also allows for more timely reviews and recommendations.

Case files are divided amongst Team members for intensive review in order to develop the elements of each case as presented herein. The documentary materials reviewed in each case include any the following:

1. Police reports involving the victim and suspect.
2. Department of Children and Families (DCF) referrals involving victim and/or suspect.
3. Shelter services, hotline contacts, court advocacy or other domestic violence services utilized by victim or suspect, when available.
4. Civil proceedings including Marchman and Baker Acts, Dissolutions of Marriage, paternity actions and Injunctions for Protection involving victim and/or suspect.
5. Criminal records of victim and suspect.
6. State Attorney files involving victim and/or suspect.
7. Batterers' intervention program (BIP) participation including performance, completion, violations and victim contact.
8. Helping At Risk Kids Program (HARK) attendance by children of the victim and/or suspect.
9. Animal abuse or neglect complaints, if available.
10. Other relevant known services provided to the victim and/or suspect.
11. Autopsy reports or other Medical Examiner's information.

The information which is sought about each case from these materials includes critical factors and sub-factors which are viewed as providing as complete a picture as possible about each of these tragic incidents. These factors and sub-factors are:

- I. CRIME
 - Relationship of parties
 - Case summary
 - Children present at the scene
 - Location of the crime (by zip code and police zone)

- II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS
 - Domestic violence
 - Non-domestic violent crimes
 - Drug or alcohol related offenses
 - Weapons offenses

- III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS
 - Domestic Violence Injunctions
 - Dissolutions of Marriage
 - Department of Children and Families Referrals
 - Baker Act and Marchman Act Commitments
 - Paternity Actions

- IV. SERVICES
 - Shelter services/hotline calls
 - Helping at Risk Kids Program (HARK) attendance
 - Batterers' intervention program (BIP) attendance
 - Substance abuse program referral/attendance

- V. OTHER CONCERNS/INFORMATION
 - Includes anything else pertinent to the cause of this incident that is not covered in the categories listed above.

Individual Team members develop case profiles for each case using these factors. The case profiles are then shared with, and analyzed by, the whole Team for a collective review of each case. Questions may lead to further research on the case. The key factors permit the Team to try to understand the dynamics of what happened and to ask in each case whether there was anything that reasonably could have been done to prevent those events from unfolding. That is, were there warning signs which were ignored? Were there opportunities for intervention which were missed? Were there services which could have been provided to either the victim or the offender which were not provided---or not adequately provided? The Team recognizes that ultimately offenders are responsible for their actions and the fatalities which ensue. However, the Team also recognizes that the dynamics underlying domestic violence are complex and that other parties often know about potential danger within domestic relationships, even if they do not report this to outside authorities who might intervene. Helping victims find assistance, and offenders find

intervention, before domestic violence becomes lethal is the goal of the DVFRT.

In section 4 of this report, the reader will find the profiles developed for each of the cases in 2011. In addition to these individual case profiles, this report also includes summary patterns for 2011 by gender, race, relationship, method of death, children present, criminal history of key actors, prior injunctions and other civil matters, prior child abuse referrals, shelter services extended to victims, services extended to children, interventions provided to abusers, prior alcohol/drug abuse by victims and suspects, mental health issues of suspects, and zip codes and law enforcement zones of the homicidal incident. Summary patterns for 1997-2011 are also provided. The Team uses these summaries to assess the long term patterns, as well as recurring problems and potential progress, in this area. It is from these long term and recurring patterns, as well as any unique event of the year, that the Team develops its annual findings and recommendations, which are set forth in the following Findings and Recommendations section.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS **(1997-2011)**

This report reviewed domestic violence homicide cases from Duval County, Florida specifically for the year 2011. In addition, the entire period 1997-2011 during which the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) has been in operation was reviewed. A variety of patterns emerge from this data, both for 2011 alone (see this report pages 41-45) and for the full fifteen year time span (see this report pages 49-56).

Based on these patterns, the DVFRT made a number of findings and sets forth herein some recommendations based on those findings.

Finding #1

Within the category of domestic homicide, the DVFRT distinguishes between intimate and non-intimate homicides (see Methodology, section 3). In 2011, two-thirds (64%) of the local domestic homicide cases (n=7) involved intimate partners. Over the previous fourteen years, the majority (75%) of domestic violence homicides in Jacksonville involved intimate partners.

It is worth noting that intimate homicides have decreased nationally quite dramatically over the past decade, at least for male victims. Most experts believe this decrease is due, at least in part, to the increasing availability of alternate resources for resolving domestic violence, such as refuges for battered women and intervention programs for batterers (Brown & Williams, 1993; Brown et al., 1999; Dugan et al., 1999; Puzone et al., 2000). Such interventions and refuges are presumed to reduce the number of instances in which battered victims believe that killing the abuser is their only recourse. Therefore, it is interesting to note that this year four females killed their male partners (57% of the intimate homicides for 2011). In three of these cases the male victims had histories of perpetrating domestic violence; one case was ruled a justified homicide. While one of these abusive males who became a victim had received some intervention services through the U.S. military, it was generally the case that these abusive men had not received such services prior to the homicidal actions by their female partners.

Recommendation:

Cases of domestic violence between intimate partners need to be taken seriously and viewed as potentially very lethal. Effective intervention can not only save the lives of battered victims, but can also sometimes save the lives of their abusive partners.

Finding #2

There continues to be a gender disparity in who commits domestic violence homicides in Jacksonville. In 2011, six of the eleven fatalities reviewed here involved male suspects (55%). For the 1997-2011 period covered in this report, males killed their female partners in 74% of intimate cases. In 88% of non-intimate cases, it was males who killed other

family members. In 88% of the overall homicide/suicide cases, the suspect was male. In all of the multiple homicides, the suspect was male. Thus, lethal violence in Duval County on average is predominantly committed by males, which is consistent with national statistics.

Recommendation: Domestic violence is still highly gendered, meaning that male offenders disproportionately victimize females in a wide variety of ways, including fatally. Public awareness efforts about this gender disparity in lethal domestic violence still need to be increased, so that men displaying violence toward women may be referred for intervention more often and women may be prompted to take self-protective actions sooner.

Finding #3

In 2011, the majority (64%) of both victims and suspects were white. This is consistent with the overall pattern from the past fourteen years (53% of victims and 51% of suspects were white). There was a departure from this pattern in the 2008, 2009 and 2010 reports in which blacks outnumbered whites, but the former pattern returned in 2011. Overall, between 1997-2011 the race/ethnicity of victims tended to somewhat mirror that of the Jacksonville community at large. That is, 53% of the victims were white, 43% of the victims were black, 2% were Asian, and 1% were Hispanic. However, it should be noted that, since 30% of Jacksonville is black (U.S. Census 2010), blacks are still disproportionately represented among victims and perpetrators of domestic homicide.

Recommendation:

Efforts need to continue to inform the community that domestic violence and domestic violence homicides affect all races. However, better intervention efforts may still need to be extended to the local black community.

Finding #4

In 2011, only 9% of suspects (one male) and 36% of victims (3 males and 1 female) had prior domestic violence arrests. In the overall period 1997-2011, 27% of suspects (38 males, 4 females) and 21% of victims (21 males, 11 females) had such criminal histories.

Viewed differently, this means that in 2011 and for all the prior years, the majority of the victims and suspects had **no** prior arrests for domestic violence which might have alerted authorities to the potential for fatal violence. Under these circumstances, there was no opportunity for the system to intervene to try to prevent a homicide. This is consistent with research showing that less than half of victims of attempted domestic homicide “report prior contact with a healthcare provider, law enforcement agency, or domestic violence service agency. Thus, many victims have little prior opportunity for their risk to have been formally assessed” (Campbell et al., 2009).

When you look specifically at intimate homicides, 73% of suspects had no prior domestic violence arrests. In the cases where there had been arrests prior to the homicide, 63% of the suspects (n=20) had only one arrest, 22% had two arrest (n=7), and 16% had three or more arrests (n=5). If family and friends do not alert authorities to the violence within families which may not yet have been reported to the police, there are no opportunities for interventions which may prevent the violence from becoming lethal.

In 2011 an equal number of victims and suspects (1 each, 9% each) were respondents to civil injunctions for protection or other civil matters relevant to the potential for violence. In 2010 more victims (29%) than suspects (14%) had such histories. Overall, in the past, between 1997-2010, victims and suspects were equally represented (7%) in terms of being such respondents. Over that fourteen year period, males were more likely than females to have injunctions against them while females were more likely than males to file injunctions, regardless of whether those males and females were victims or offenders.

Recommendation: More work needs to be done to help criminal justice personnel and the community at large realize that violence between intimate partners and family members can turn lethal at any time. Police, domestic violence programs, victim advocates, and courts need an opportunity to intervene in order to prevent domestic fatalities. The DVFRT recommends that all agencies dealing with domestic violence perpetrators and victims become more sensitive regarding records of prior violence, regardless of whether that prior violence was directed against the current victim or toward others. In particular, *any* history of violence—whether prior arrests or civil injunctions for protection—should be taken very seriously. Whenever possible, the prosecution and sentencing of offenders should be aggressive.

Finding #5

In 2011, 18% of the suspects had a history of substance abuse arrests. This is lower than the overall percentage of suspects with substance abuse arrests (34%) between 1997 and 2010. In fact, in 2011 there were more victims than suspects with a prior substance abuse arrest, though that had not been the overall pattern for 1997-2010. While substance abuse is not a cause of domestic violence, it is highly correlated with such abuse nationally (see *Macy & Goodbourne, 2012*).

Recommendation: Violent individuals who abuse substances have two issues requiring treatment: the substance abuse and the domestic violence. Police officials should continue to note the substance abuse status of all individuals who are arrested for domestic violence incidents. In addition, substance abuse treatment programs should screen for domestic violence. And victims of domestic violence should also be monitored for substance abuse. Victims who abuse substances do not bring violence upon themselves and are not responsible for the violence inflicted upon them, but such abuse clearly does not help victims respond appropriately to the violence in their lives.

Finding #6

In 2011 there was one male suspect, three male victims and one female victim with a history of at least one domestic violence arrest. Batterers' intervention was not ordered in any of those cases, although, there was one case where it was recommended through the Navy. The DVFRT team has concerns regarding interventions for abusers. Though 42 suspects had prior arrests for domestic violence during the 1997-2011 time period, only 14 were ordered to batterers' intervention programs and *only one* actually completed the program. It appears that local referrals to intervention for abusers need to be more closely monitored since completion percentages are so low among those who eventually kill. The consequences for noncompliance are apparently insufficient. It is important to note that the success rate for individuals who **do** complete batterers' intervention programs locally is high: 88% were not rearrested during a follow-up three-year tracking period, according to arrest records checks done by the State Attorney's Office. The DVFRT believes that referral to and successful completion of a BIP is an underutilized tool for preventing future homicides. A certified batterers' intervention program appears to be an effective but underutilized means to reduce gender violence.

As of July 1, 2012, the state of Florida has eliminated certification and monitoring of batterers' intervention programs. The DVFRT is concerned that the courts will see programs develop that do not meet the standards established by the state, some of which are still in statute (see Florida Statute 741.325). The quality of these programs may not have the high success rate of existing certified programs.

Recommendation: The criminal justice system should make full use of batterers' intervention programs, and not only when mandated by statute. Furthermore, when batterers' intervention is ordered by the courts, penalties for noncompliance should be severe. It is also recommended that the courts continue to order offenders only to those programs that have been certified and that have a proven track record of low recidivism.

Finding #7

In 2011, one (14%) of the intimate fatalities involved a couple who were not cohabiting at the time of the homicide. During the prior fourteen years, 33% of the couples were no longer living together at the time of the homicide. A considerable body of research has shown that threats or acts of separation are often precursors to lethal violence. It is important for victims and for system professionals to know that the danger does not go away just because the couple is no longer living together. In fact, issues of separation and/or feelings of abandonment (whether real or imagined) may exacerbate violence to the point of homicide.

Recommendation: The DVFRT recognizes the need for increased public and criminal justice personnel awareness of the fact that separation, or efforts to leave a violent household, may not alleviate the potential for fatal violence. It may even increase the lethality of domestic violence. The criminal justice system should not assume that there is no longer a need for intervention efforts if the couple has separated or divorced.

Date of Homicide: 1/15/11

Victim: Black Male, 21

Suspect: Black Male, 20

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Victim was the friend of Suspect's girlfriend. Suspect and girlfriend have a child together but were not cohabiting.
- B. CASE SUMMARY: Suspect had become aware that his girlfriend was talking to Victim and was spending time with Victim. Suspect had previously seen a text from Victim to Suspect's girlfriend stating that he (Victim) wanted to have sex with her. Suspect had told his girlfriend to stay away from Victim. On January 15, 2011, Suspect stole a gun from his friend when he found out his girlfriend was not going to a barbecue with him. Suspect assumed she was going to see Victim. Suspect saw Victim talking to his girlfriend, and heard Victim talking about him. They were confronted by Suspect who ordered Victim to get on the ground. Victim ran and the suspect fired three times. Victim was shot in the back by Suspect. Suspect then told the girlfriend that the only reason he did not kill her was because he loved her too much. The girlfriend spent the night with Suspect that night by choice, then lied to the police multiple times about the incident to protect Suspect. Suspect admitted on the witness stand at trial that what he did was wrong, and stated that he just snapped. Suspect was convicted at trial and sentenced to life in prison.
- C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None
- D. LOCATION: 32206 (Zone 1)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
 - 1. Victim: No Record
 - 2. Suspect: No Record
- B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES
 - 1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: a) 12/30/10 – Respondent to Petition for Repeat Violence Injunction (involving a female unrelated to the homicide). Petition denied 01/03/11.

b) 01/12/09 – Respondent to a Petition to establish paternity, child support, or other relief.

c) 07/01/08 – Respondent to a Petition to establish paternity.

IV. SERVICES

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS:

There were no other concerns.

Date of Homicide: 5/22/11

Victim: White Male, 56

Suspect: White Male, 49

I. CRIME

A. RELATIONSHIP: Brothers

B. CASE SUMMARY: On May 22, 2011, Victim was with Suspect, at Suspect's residence. According to a witness, Suspect and Victim had just returned in Suspect's vehicle. Suspect parked the vehicle in the garage and Victim exited the vehicle on the passenger side. Victim walked out of the garage into the driveway. Suspect came from inside the house to the driveway and words were eventually exchanged. Suspect "escorted" Victim back into the garage where Suspect fired a .357 Smith and Wesson revolver at Victim. Victim fell to the ground. Suspect eventually fell to the ground, got back up and fired the revolver one more time in the direction of Victim. Victim was lying motionless on the ground as Suspect fired the last shot. The revolver was recovered in the driveway beside Suspect. Another witness observed Suspect shoot the revolver in the direction of Victim. This same witness then observed Suspect get up off the ground and fire another shot in the direction of Victim's lifeless body. This witness was describing this incident to the 911 dispatcher and one gun shot was clearly heard.

The .357 revolver had six (6) spent casings recovered in the cylinder. There were four (4) gunshot wounds located by the Medical Examiner on Victim's body. Suspect had one gunshot wound to his chest. There was a bullet strike located in the concrete garage flooring beside the vehicle (passenger side). Fragments were collected from the immediate area of this strike. Fragments were also collected from Victim's body. Suspect was arrested for the homicide of Victim.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None

D. LOCATION: 32207 (Zone 2)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1. Victim:
 - a) 02/08/08 – Violation of Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence (not Suspect) – Dropped.
 - b) 01/14/08 – Violation of and Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence (not Suspect) – Nol Pros. Stalking after Injunction – Nol Pros.
 - c) 01/08/08 – Violation of an Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence (not Suspect) – Nol Pros. Assault (Domestic) – Nol Pros. Stalking Aggravated after Injunction – Nol Pros.
 - d) 10/26/07 – Stalking / Aggravated (not Suspect) – Nol Pros. Stalking / Aggravated after Injunction – Nol Pros.
2. Suspect: No Record

B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

1. Victim: No Record
2. Suspect: No Record

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record
2. Suspect: No Record

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record
2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

IV. SERVICES

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

During this investigation, it was reported Suspect had loaned Victim a large sum of money to assist him (Victim) in a divorce. The money had not been paid back and this caused the suspect great financial problems. Suspect was also unemployed. Suspect left many letters describing his problems and hatred for members of his family. He also left a letter apologizing for all his wrongs to the family.

Date of Homicide: 6/26/11, Date of Suicide: 7/24/11

Victim: White Female, 31

Suspect: White Male, 32

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Boyfriend/Girlfriend (cohabitating)
- B. CASE SUMMARY: Victim and Suspect had been out Saturday night with friends. Both Victim and Suspect had been drinking and arguing all evening. A friend took Victim to pick up an overnight bag leaving Suspect at the bar. Victim then spent the night at the friend's apartment. Victim stated she was tired of Suspect being verbally and mentally abusive and that Victim was going to leave Suspect.

Suspect was angry at being left and called someone for a ride. The next morning, Sunday, Suspect talked to a mutual friend and said he had cut up their bed so Victim couldn't have it. Suspect also threatened to cut up the sofa.

On Sunday afternoon Victim got her friend to take her to pick up her car that had been left at the restaurant. Victim told her friend that she was going to get her things from the apartment and break up with Suspect. Suspect had been calling Victim throughout the day apologizing and then started yelling at Victim.

While at the apartment Victim called another friend. The friend could hear Suspect in the background and then heard Victim yell for help. The friend told Victim she was on her way with the police. Because the friend could not remember the address or name of the complex police could not be dispatched at that time.

Suspect beat Victim with a hammer and also stabbed her multiple times with a box cutter. Suspect then covered Victim's body with a blanket and wheeled it out into the parking lot in a chair. Victim's body was left behind some bushes when Suspect saw the friend in the parking lot. Suspect then fled the scene in Victim's car. The friend went into the apartment to find Victim and saw the blood and signs of a struggle. The friend left the apartment and then saw the victim's body outside.

Suspect was found in Maine on July 7, 2011 and taken into custody. JSO detectives went to Maine to interview Suspect and Suspect confessed to killing Victim. On July 24, 2011, while in custody and awaiting extradition, Suspect committed suicide.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None

D. LOCATION: 32244 (Zone 4)

II. CRIMINAL HISTORY

A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1. Victim: No Record
2. Suspect: a) 10/15/2002 – Arson/Burglary in Maine where suspect set his ex-girlfriend's house on fire. He was sentenced to 15 months in prison.

B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

1. Victim: No Record
2. Suspect: a) 2009 – Burglary – sentenced to 15 months in prison (released 09/30/10).

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

1. Victim: a) 6/29/2003 – Driving Under the Influence – one year probation.
b) 3/29/2001 – Driving Under the Influence/ Leaving the scene of an accident – one year probation.
2. Suspect: a) 4/11/1999 – Driving Under the Influence – unknown disposition.
b) 7/4/1998 – Disorderly Intoxication – time served.

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: a) 2009 – Grand Theft Auto/Burglary/Grand Theft of firearm. Community Control/Probation violated by the arson.

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. Victim: a) 6/16/2009 – Respondent in an injunction not related to domestic violence. The injunction was dismissed.

B. Suspect: None Found

IV. SERVICES

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Victim's parents told police that Victim had a problem with drug abuse (prescription pills) and had been taking methadone. Victim's father told officers that Suspect and Victim had been together for nine months and had a history of arguing. The parents also told police that Victim had an abortion two months earlier and Suspect was not handling that well.

Date of Homicide: 7/2/11

Victim: White Female, 41

Suspect: White Male, 45

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Husband/Wife (cohabitating)
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On July 2, 2011, Suspect called 911 and said he had shot his wife and she was dying. He asked for an ambulance and said he would wait outside the residence for the police to arrive. When the 911 operator asked him why he shot his wife he said, "Long story...make it short...no longer in love." Suspect denied there was an argument. When police arrived, they found Victim shot several times and deceased in the master bedroom and the gun on the kitchen counter, both where Suspect said they would be. Suspect refused to say more at that time but later told police he awoke with a ringing in his ears and saw his wife shot and dying. He stated he did not remember shooting her but acknowledged the house was locked. Autopsy revealed Victim was shot seven times. Suspect was arrested and charged with First Degree Homicide. Suspect is retired military.
- C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None
- D. LOCATION: 32226 (Zone 6)

II. CRIMINAL HISTORY

- A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
 - 1. Victim: No Record
 - 2. Suspect: No Record
- B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES
 - 1. Victim: No Record
 - 2. Suspect: No Record

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

- 1. Victim: No Record
- 2. Suspect: No Record

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

- 1. Victim: No Record
- 2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. Victim: None Found
- B. Suspect: None Found

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim: None Found
- B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

There were multiple weapons in the house and both parties owned guns. A coworker said Victim had earlier told him that the couple argued a lot and were no longer in love and would probably be getting divorced. Neighbors said Suspect had insomnia and would be up at all hours playing online games but did not mention anything about the parties not getting along. In fact, the couple had friends over for dinner the night before. There doesn't appear to be any one item that led to the homicide.

Date of Homicide: 7/22/11

Victim: Black Male, 43

Suspect: Black Female, 40

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Husband/Wife (cohabiting)
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On July 22, 2011, Victim and Suspect were arguing after being out together. Suspect stated that Victim began to beat her. Suspect stated that she was attempting to leave the area and Victim jumped in the back seat of the vehicle and began to beat her again. Suspect stated that she fired shots in the back seat and realized her husband was shot. She got out of the car and began to perform CPR on Victim. Witnesses stated that they observed Suspect performing CPR stating "he was beating me so I shot him." Suspect had injuries on her hands, arms, chest, face and head. During the investigation, Suspect stated that there was a previous incident of domestic violence in which Victim was beating her and she pulled her gun in order to get him to stop. The couple's two children denied witnessing any incidents of violence between the parents however two other witnesses recalled the previous incident stating that Victim had to be pulled off of Suspect. Suspect was charged with second degree homicide and the case is still pending.
- C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None
- D. LOCATION: 32211 (Zone 2)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
 - 1. Victim: No Record
 - 2. Suspect: No Record
- B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES
 - 1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. Victim: a) 6/28/08 – Petition to Determine Paternity filed against Victim.

B. Suspect: None Found

IV. SERVICES

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Although there are no alcohol related offenses by either party, alcohol was involved in the homicide case as well as in the previous domestic violence incident. Suspect was a United States Marine at the time of the homicide.

Date of Homicide/Suicide: 9/11/11

Victim: Black Female, 27

Suspect: Black Male, 28

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Boyfriend/Girlfriend (not cohabiting)
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On September 11, 2011, Suspect asked Victim to pick him up from a nearby area. Victim picked up the suspect and they returned to Victim's home. Two friends of Victim were sitting in a car outside Victim's home waiting for Victim to return. Suspect approached the driver's side of the friend's car and shot the (male) driver. The (female) passenger jumped out of the car and ran to the neighbor's house for help. Suspect went inside the home of Victim and shot her in the head and shoulder. Suspect fled the scene in Victim's car and was eventually arrested in South Carolina. Victim and Suspect lived together for 10 years and had been separated one week.
- C. CHILDREN PRESENT: Victim and Suspect had one child in common. The child was not present at the time of the homicide.
- D. LOCATION: 32208 (Zone 5)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- 1. Victim: a) 1999 – Another domestic violence case with a different suspect – pled no contest – sentenced to 14 days.
- 2. Suspect: No Record

B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

- 1. Victim: No Record
- 2. Suspect: No Record

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

- 1. Victim: No Record
- 2. Suspect:
 - a) 10/17/07 – Poss/Purchase of Substance – pled no contest – adjudicated guilty – sentenced to 19 days.
 - b) 01/20/06 – Possession of Controlled Substance – pled guilty – sentenced to 30 days.
 - c) 10/26/00 – Sale of Cocaine – pled guilty – sentenced to 8 months.

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

- 1. Victim: No Record
- 2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. Victim: a) 08/08/07, 08/16/06, 12/27/05 – Eviction.
- B. Suspect: a) 12/27/05 – Eviction.

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim: a) 2010 – Emergency Shelter services
- B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

During an interview with a South Carolina officer (after the homicide), Suspect stated that he told Victim that he was suicidal to keep Victim in the relationship. Suspect also stated that he suffered from depression and used drugs (marijuana and ecstasy). According to Victim's friend, there was a history of domestic violence between Victim and Suspect. However, there were no police reports.

Date of Homicide: 9/11/11

Victim: Black Male, 33

Suspect: Black Female, 31

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Boyfriend/Girlfriend (cohabiting)
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On September 11, 2011, Suspect contacted family members stating that Victim had “gotten drunk and beat her up” at the home that they shared. Suspect’s brother and his roommate went to the home to help Suspect. Victim was not at the home when they arrived, but returned shortly after they arrived. There was a confrontation outside the home between Suspect’s brother and Victim. Suspect came outside and stabbed Victim. JSO was called to the residence and found Victim lying down outside the residence in the front yard. Victim was transported to the hospital and was pronounced dead. Death was caused by a stab wound to the chest. Suspect was arrested at the residence for homicide.
- C. CHILDREN PRESENT: There was one child present during the homicide. The child, age 11, is the son of Suspect and lived in the residence with Suspect and Victim.
- D. LOCATION: 32254 (Zone 5)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
 - 1. Victim:
 - a) 07/28/07 – Domestic Battery (not Suspect) – pled no contest – sentenced to 6 months – served 40 days.
 - b) 06/30/04 – Aggravated Domestic Battery Against Pregnant Minor (against Suspect), - pled guilty – served 117 days.
 - c) 4/28/96 – Attempted Carjacking, First Degree Homicide, Aggravated Battery, Aggravated Domestic Assault with

Deadly Weapon (not Suspect) – adjudicated guilty- sentenced to 85 months.

2. Suspect: No Record

B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

1. Victim:
- a) 9/22/04 – Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer - pled guilty – sentenced to 13 months.
 - b) 2/19/03 – Robbery, Aggravated Assault – adjudicated guilty – sentenced to 85 months.
 - c) 7/20/95 – Kidnapping, False Imprisonment, Resisting with violence, Aggravated Battery on Police Officer, Battery, and Obstruction – sentenced to 20 months.
 - d) 3/25/95 – Simple Battery – pled no contest – sentenced to 30 days.
 - e) 9/30/94 – Battery – charges dropped.
 - f) 6/17/93 – Battery against Person over 65 – pled guilty – sentenced to 6 months.
2. Suspect:
- a) 4/98 – Battery of School Employee – pled guilty – placed on probation.

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

1. Victim:
- a) 6/21/11 – Disorderly Intoxication – pled guilty – sentenced to 10 days.
 - b) 4/16/08 – Possession of Controlled Substance Paraphernalia – pled guilty – sentenced to 2 days.
 - c) 9/5/07 – Violation of Probation for 6/2/07 charges – sentenced to 148 days.
 - d) 6/2/07 – Possession of Controlled Substance – pled no contest – 1 year probation.
 - e) 2/93 – Disorderly Intoxication.

2. Suspect: No Record

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: a) 4/29/96 – Armed Robbery with Deadly Weapon – pled guilty – sentenced to 85 months.

b) 9/30/94 – Armed Robbery with Firearm; charges dropped.

2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. Victim: a) 10/09 – Foreclosure

b) 7/31/09 – Served with Petition to Determine Paternity (Department of Revenue – not Suspect) – Final Judgment entered, ordered to pay Child Support.

c) 6/8/99 – Served with Petition to Determine Paternity (Department of Revenue – Suspect) – Final Judgment entered - ordered to pay Child Support.

B. Suspect: None Found

IV. SERVICES

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Victim had history of domestic violence against multiple partners but there is no record of related services. Victim has been arrested 22 times in several different Florida counties, including two arrests for domestic battery against two different women, seven other violent offenses, and two weapons offenses.

By statute, Victim would have been ordered to attend a Batterers' Intervention Program but there is no record of this service. Victim has significant history of public intoxication and drug arrests, but there is no record of treatment for substance abuse.

Date of Homicide: 9/14/11

Victim: White Male, 44

Suspect: White Female, 41

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Husband/Wife (cohabiting)
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On September 14, 2011 Suspect flagged down an officer in Homerville, Georgia and advised the officer that she did not feel well and needed to go to the hospital. Suspect also advised that she had shot her husband and that he was at their home, probably dead. Suspect advised she and her husband were arguing because she was upset about not being able to fill a prescription. According to Suspect, the couple continued to argue while drinking beers through the night and Victim continually called her names and demeaned her. Suspect advised that she went and got the gun out of the bedroom and threatened suicide. Suspect advised she did not use the gun on herself, but instead shot her husband, then went to the bedroom and got \$900.00 cash out of a box and left the house. Suspect stated she started to feel guilty about what she had done and decided to flag down the police and tell them what she had done. Suspect pled guilty and was sentenced to 40 years in prison.
- C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None
- D. LOCATION: 32205 (Zone 4)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
 - 1. Victim: No Record
 - 2. Suspect: No Record
- B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES
 - 1. Victim: No Record
 - 2. Suspect: No Record

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

- 1. Victim: No Record
- 2. Suspect: a) 4/18/1997-Driving Under the Influence of Intoxication. Served one day and was ordered to attend DWI school.

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

- 1. Victim: No Record
- 2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. Victim: None Found
- B. Suspect: a) 1/12/2011 – Baker Act

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim: None Found
- B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS:

On September 14, 2011, Suspect was seen by a neighbor walking in the middle of the street talking loudly to herself. When the neighbor waved at Suspect, she appeared to be in a daze and did not wave back or acknowledge the neighbor. Another neighbor advised that Victim had previously attempted suicide and was released from a hospital with a diagnosis of depression. At 10:06pm on the evening of the homicide, Suspect is seen at a gas station casually buying water, cigarettes and paying for gas. None of the neighbors or family members mentioned anything about the couple arguing or signs of domestic violence.

Date of Homicide: 12/17/11

Victim: White Male, 83

Suspect: White Male, 50

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Father/Son
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On October 31, 2011, JSO was called to Victim's home in reference to an aggravated battery (on an elderly person – Victim was 83 years old). At the time Victim was physically battered; although he was responsive, he was considered in serious condition because of his age. On December 17, 2011 Victim died as a result of the injuries sustained. The Medical Examiner ruled the case a homicide. Victim's 50 year old son, who resided with him, was placed under the Baker Act due to mental health issues. Eleven days later, after Suspect had already been released, officers came in contact with Suspect on an unrelated matter in which he called 911 stating "I did something bad."
- C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None
- D. LOCATION: 32223 (Zone 1)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
 - 1. Victim: No Record
 - 2. Suspect: No Record
- B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES
 - 1. Victim: No Record
 - 2. Suspect: No Record
- C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES
 - 1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: a) 08/22/11 – Baker Act

IV. SERVICES

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Suspect was Baker Acted on August 22, 2011 by Petition for Involuntary Placement. According to police report synopsis, Suspect's sister stated Suspect was Baker Acted for schizophrenia. Victim's family had concerns that Suspect was not giving the proper care to Victim and that in the past there was violence towards other family members and also neglect towards Victim that was never reported to authorities.

Date of Homicide: 12/08/11

Victim: White Male, 25

Suspect: White Female, 38

I. CRIME

A. RELATIONSHIP: Husband/Wife (cohabiting)

B. CASE SUMMARY: On December 8, 2011 at about 12:55am the Atlantic Beach Police responded to two 911 calls regarding someone being shot. When they arrived at the residence, they found Suspect, who was wearing bloody clothes. They also found two witnesses, both white males, who also live in the residence and each of whom had called the police. Suspect made a spontaneous statement that she had shot Victim.

Inside the residence they found Victim lying in a hallway with multiple gunshot wounds to the neck. Despite being life-flighted to Shand's Hospital, he was pronounced dead upon arrival.

Investigation revealed that Victim and Suspect had been arguing after coming home from a local bar. They were newly married as of November 22, 2011. Suspect and the two witnesses said that Victim had choked Suspect, pulled her hair when she tried to escape out a window, kicked in their bedroom door when she retreated there, beat her in the face and head with his hands, and held a screwdriver and a knife to her throat as he threatened to end her life. Suspect retrieved a 12-gauge shotgun from under the bed, and told Victim to leave her alone or she would kill him. Victim stated that he was ready to die. Suspect fired one round from inside the bedroom toward Victim down the hall, and Victim collapsed in the hallway.

Detectives observed multiple bruises and bumps on Suspect's head and face, as well as a black eye, scratches on her neck, and a lacerated lip. In addition, evidence at the scene supported the account by Suspect and both witnesses. Suspect was released and the case was ultimately ruled as justified by JSO.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None

D. LOCATION: 32233 (Zone Atlantic Beach)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1. Victim:
 - a) No criminal records found, however, in 2007, Victim was recommended to attend batterer's intervention program and counseling as a result of violence against his former spouse (not Suspect). Victim completed batterer's intervention program, stress management, parenting class, anger management, and a course on the effects of domestic violence on children.
 - b) A case was opened in another state in 2006 by the U.S. military for abuse against a former spouse (not Suspect); case was changed to child abuse charges since he pushed his former wife while a baby was in her arms.
2. Suspect: No Record

B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

1. Victim:
 - a) 01/11 – Aggravated Assault with a deadly weapon (not Suspect); charges were reduced to misdemeanor battery/assault in March 2011; he pled guilty, received probation and referral to anger management, which he completed and probation was terminated 8/19/11.
2. Suspect: No Record

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record
2. Suspect: No Record

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record
2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. Victim: a) 11/16/11 – Marriage license to Suspect
b) 2008 – Divorced from former wife with whom he had domestic violence cases
- B. Suspect: a) 11/22/11 – Marriage license to Victim

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim: a) 2007 – Case opened with Fleet and Family Support when the wife reported that he pushed her while a baby was in her arms. He was referred to anger management, completed it and it also counted for previous case.
b) 2006 – A former wife was abused by this victim in 2006 in another state and she received victim advocacy from the Fleet and Family Support Center, Naval Air Station Jacksonville – he was referred to anger management but did not complete due to deployment.
- B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Both Victim and Suspect were in the military and, though Victim was no longer in the Navy when he was killed in this incident, Suspect was still active duty. It appears that Victim had been involved in at least two prior domestic violence/child abuse cases with a different spouse in another state, which were documented and addressed by the Navy.

Victim had been referred for and ultimately completed remedial courses in 2008 provided by the Family and Fleet Support Center. Despite this, the current incident in which Victim was killed occurred less than two weeks after he married Suspect.

Date of Homicide: 12/17/11

Victim: White Female, 24

Suspect: White Female, 53

I. CRIME

A. RELATIONSHIP: Mother/Daughter

B. CASE SUMMARY: Suspect reported to police that she had gone out for about an hour and came home to find Victim, her daughter, dead in the bedroom. Suspect stated she found Victim with a pillow over her face and a gunshot wound to the head. Suspect moved the pillow before calling a neighbor to tell her Victim was dead. The neighbor called police.

Suspect had told law enforcement that when she left the house Victim was fine. Suspect stated she had gone out to run some errands and visit her mother. The neighbor told law enforcement that when she came to Suspect's house and called police Victim's feet were already purple, suggesting that Suspect's timeline was off.

Suspect owned a gun but told law enforcement she did not have a gun. Suspect's brother was able to get Suspect to admit that she had gotten rid of the gun. Suspect's phone records were inconsistent with what Suspect told police about her whereabouts at the time of the homicide and immediately afterwards.

Suspect was interviewed several times and had multiple explanations of what had happened but ultimately confessed to shooting and killing her daughter. Suspect dumped the gun in the river.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None

D. LOCATION: 32257 (Zone 3)

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

1. Victim: a) 9/17/2010 – Possession of Cocaine – case dropped.

b) 11/13/2007 – Driving Under the Influence – 1 year probation.

2. Suspect: a) 3/14/2012 – Sale of Controlled Substance (pending).

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: No Record

III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

IV. SERVICES

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Further investigation revealed that Suspect and Victim had a very strained relationship. Victim had been stealing Suspect's prescription pain medication. Suspect also had a drug problem and they often fought over drugs.

PATTERNS/2011 ONLY

GENDER (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

- ! Male suspects: (n=6 cases, 55% of cases)
 - o 3 males killed female partners; one of these males also committed suicide
 - o 1 male killed his brother
 - o 1 male killed his father
 - o 1 male killed a male friend of his girlfriend

- ! Female suspects: (n=5, 45%)
 - o 4 females killed their male partners
 - o 1 female killed her daughter

Male victims (n=7, 64%)

Female victims (n=4, 36%)

Among all suspects, six males represented a slight majority (55%) compared to the five females (45%). Among all victims, seven males represented a majority (64%) compared to the four females (36%). However it should be noted that the five female suspects represent a substantial increase of females compared to 2010 and most of the last fifteen years.

RACE (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

- ! Victims (n=11)
 - o 7 White (64% of cases, 64% of victims)
 - o 4 Black (36% of cases, 36% of victims)

- ! Suspects (n=11)
 - o 7 White (64% of cases, 64% of suspects)
 - o 4 Black (36% of cases, 36% of suspects)

Domestic homicides generally tend to be intra-racial (occurring between persons of the same race/ethnicity). This was true of the Duval County cases in 2011.

RELATIONSHIP (BY NUMBER OF CASES) – changed to match overall patterns

Intimate Relationships – 7 cases (64% of 11 cases) with 7 victims involved intimate relationships.

- ! In 6 cases (86% of intimate cases), the parties were cohabitating at the time of the homicide.
 - o 4 married and cohabiting (57% of intimate cases)
 - o 2 not married and cohabiting (29% of intimate cases)

- ! In 1 case (14% of intimate cases), the parties were separated or divorced at the time of the homicide.
 - o 1 not married and not cohabiting (14% of intimate cases)

Non-Intimate Relationships – 4 cases with 4 victims involved non-intimate relationships.

- 1 male killed his father (25% of non-intimate cases)
- 1 male killed his brother (25% of non-intimate cases)
- 1 male killed a male friend of his former girlfriend (25% of non-intimate cases)
- 1 female killed her daughter (25% of non-intimate cases)

Intimate homicides usually outnumber non-intimate homicides, and this was true for 2011.

METHOD (BY NUMBER OF VICTIMS)

Of the 11 total cases:

- ! 8 gunshot wounds (73%)
 - ! 1 knife wounds (9%)
 - ! 2 blunt force trauma* (18%)
- * 1 also included knife wounds

Though homicides in the United States generally tend to involve mostly firearms (67% according to the FBI www.fbi.com), domestic homicides are more likely to also involve a variety of other fatal methods, which was true for these cases in 2011. There were more gunshot wounds in 2011 than in the overall patterns (56%), but this is consistent with the national trend.

CHILDREN (BY NUMBER OF CASES)

In only one of the eleven cases (9%), a minor child was present at the scene and/or witnessed the homicide. This is fewer than in past years (26%).

CRIMINAL HISTORY: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only those cases in which victims and suspects were previously arrested for domestic violence are included below. (n=5 cases)

- ! Victims (n=4, 36% of total cases, 36% of victims)
 - 1 female with 1 domestic violence arrest
 - 1 male with 3 domestic violence arrests
 - 1 male with 4 domestic violence arrests
 - 1 male with at least 2 domestic violence arrests in another state
- ! Suspects (n=1, 9% of total cases, 9% of suspects)
 - 1 male with 1 domestic violence arrest

Though prior arrest for domestic violence is considered a high risk indicator for possible lethal behavior (see Campbell, et al., 2007), almost half of cases in 2011 involved offenders or victims who had previously been arrested for this offense. This does not mean that the other cases did not involve prior domestic violence; only that it did not come to the attention of the police.

INJUNCTIONS AND OTHER CIVIL MATTERS (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only those cases in which victims and suspects had prior injunctions or other civil matters are included below. (n=2 cases).

- ! Victims (9% of total cases, 9% of victims)
 - o 1 female was the respondent to a repeat violence injunction not involving suspect.
- ! Suspects (9% of total cases, 9% of suspects)
 - o 1 male was the respondent to a repeat violence injunction not involving victim.

One victim and one suspect had been respondents to injunctions for protection prior to the 2011 homicidal incident, but these were not domestic violence injunctions.

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

There were no child abuse referrals in 2011 cases.

SHELTER SERVICES (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

- ! 1 female victim was sheltered from the suspect a year before the homicide.

Help for At Risk Kids (HARK) SERVICES (BY NUMBER OF CASES)

- ! There were no children involved in these cases that received HARK services either before or after the homicide cases reviewed this year.

Though there was one case which involved prior domestic violence arrests, and the child was present at the time of the homicide, such situations are known to be high-risk indicators for future child delinquency or violence (see Hallet, 2003). We found no record that this child received services which might prevent or reduce future bad outcomes.

INTERVENTION (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects who were ordered to complete a batterers' intervention program (BIP) or other interventions are included below (n=1 case).

- ! Victims (9% of cases, 9% of suspects)
 - o 1 male completed anger management and a BIP.
- ! Suspects (no cases)

ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects who were previously arrested for substance abuse are included below. (n=5 cases).

- ! Victims (27% of total cases, 27% of victims)
 - o 1 male with 5 substance abuse arrests
 - o 2 females with 2 substance abuse arrests each

- ! Suspects (36% of total cases, 36% of suspects)
 - o 1 male with 3 substance abuse arrests
 - o 1 male with 2 substance abuse arrest
 - o 2 females with 1 substance abuse arrest each

Though alcohol and drug abuse do not cause domestic violence, they are known to be correlated with such violence.

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects with prior documented mental health issues are included below. (n=2 cases).

- ! Victims (no cases)

- ! Suspects (18% of total cases, 18% of suspects)
 - o 1 male had documented mental health issues
 - o 1 female had documented mental health issues

Though prior mental health problems are a known predictor for domestic violence, only two cases this year involved suspects with pre-existing documented mental health issues. Most domestic homicides are not related to mental illness (see Campbell, et al., 2007).

ZIP CODES

Zip codes where the homicide occurred (n=11)

- ! 32205 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32206 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32207 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32208 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32211 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32223 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32226 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32233 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32244 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32254 - 1 (9% of cases)
- ! 32257 - 1 (9% of cases)

LAW ENFORCEMENT ZONES

Law Enforcement Zones where the homicide occurred (n=7).

Zone 1 B 2 (18% of cases)

Zone 2 B 2 (18% of cases)

Zone 3 B 1 (9% of cases)

Zone 4 B 2 (18% of cases)

Zone 5 B 2 (18% of cases)

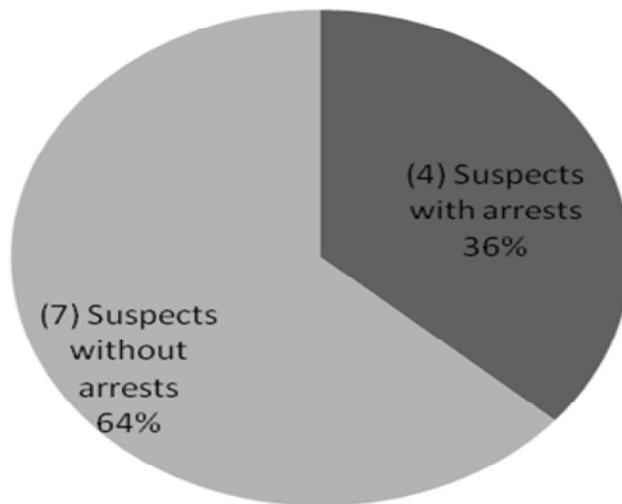
Zone 6 B 1 (9% of cases)

Atlantic Beach - 1 (9% of cases)

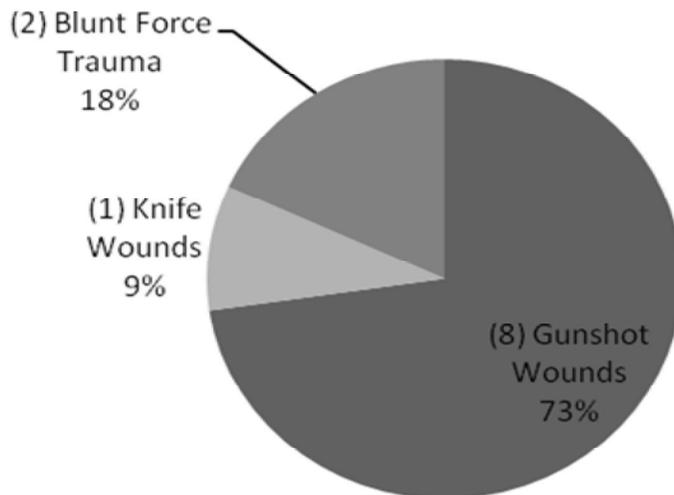
These distributions of cases indicate that domestic homicides can—and have—occurred anywhere in the city.

GRAPHS 2011 ONLY

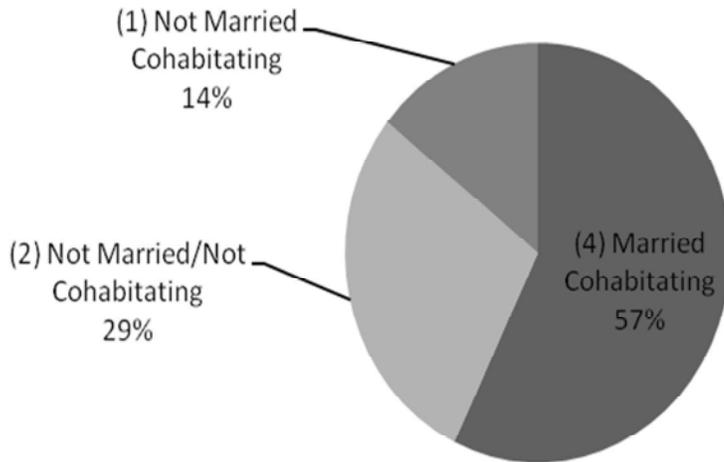
Suspects by Prior Alcohol/Drug Abuse Arrests 2011



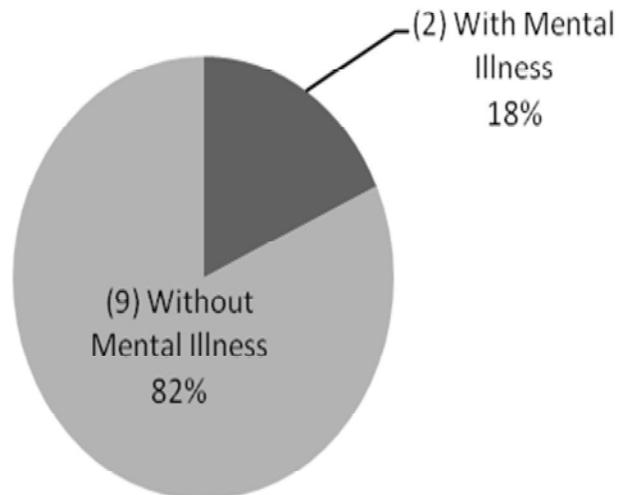
Method of Homicide 2011



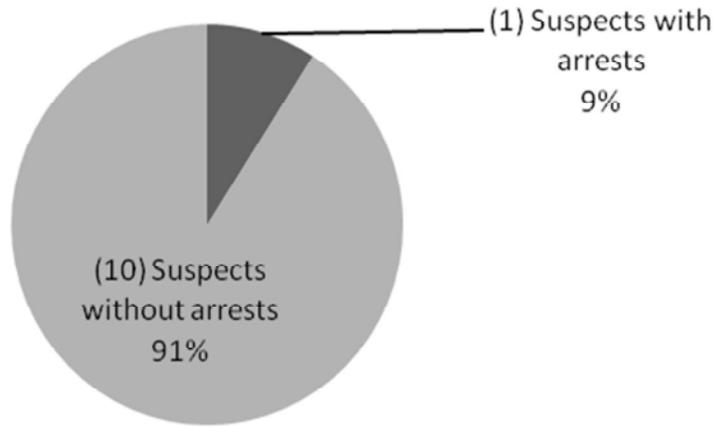
Intimate Homicides of 2011 Relationship Status (7 cases)



Suspects by Documented Mental Illness 2011



Suspects by Prior Domestic Violence Arrests 2011



PATTERNS (1997 - 2011)

(181 Months, Including December 1996)

TOTALS

155 Cases, 117 of these Intimate Cases (75%)

201 Deaths

- 169 Homicides, 128 of these Intimate Homicides (76%)
- 32 Suicides (21%)

GENDER (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Intimate homicides (117 cases with 128 homicides, 75% of cases)

- ! 86 males killed their female partners resulting in 101 homicides (74% of intimate cases)
 - o 2 also killed the wife-s boyfriend
 - o 1 also killed his grown daughter and son-in-law
 - o 1 also killed his ex-girlfriend-s minor daughter and current boyfriend
 - o 1 also killed his father-in-law and brother-in-law
 - o 1 also killed his ex-girlfriend
 - o 1 also killed his ex-girlfriend-s father
 - o 1 also killed his wife's adult son

- ! 29 females killed their male partners resulting in 29 homicides (25% of intimate cases)
 - o In one case the current boyfriend was also a suspect

- ! 2 males killed same sex partners (1% of intimate cases)

Non-Intimate homicides (38 cases with 41 homicides, 25% of cases)

- ! 31 males killed other family members resulting in 34 homicides (85% of non-intimate cases)
- ! 5 females killed other family members resulting in 5 homicides (12% of non-intimate cases)
- ! 2 males killed a non-family member during an attack on an intimate partner.

Above cases involving Homicide/Suicides (32 cases, 21% of cases)

- ! 28 males committed suicide (88% of suicides)
- ! 4 females committed suicide (12% of suicides)

In all multiple homicide cases, the suspect was male.

RACE (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

- ! Victims (total 169)
 - o 90 White (53% of victims)
 - o 73 Black (43% of victims)
 - o 4 Asian (2% of victims)
 - o 2 Hispanic (1% of victims)

- ! Suspects (total 155)
 - o 79 White (51% of suspects)
 - o 72 Black (46% of suspects)
 - o 3 Asian (2% of suspects)
 - o 1 Hispanic (<1% of suspects)

RELATIONSHIP

Intimate Relationships – 117 cases (75% of 155 cases) with 128 victims involved intimate relationships.

- ! In 78 cases (66% of intimate cases), the parties were cohabiting at the time of the homicide.
 - o 41 married and cohabiting (35% of intimate cases)
 - o 34 not married and cohabiting (29% of intimate cases)
 - o 3 divorced and cohabiting (3% of intimate cases)

- ! In 39 cases (33% of intimate cases), the parties were separated or divorced at the time of the homicide.
 - o 16 married and not cohabiting (14% of intimate cases)
 - o 22 not married and not cohabiting (19% of intimate cases)
 - o 1 divorced and not cohabiting (1% of intimate cases)

Non-Intimate Relationships – 38 cases (25% of 155 cases) with 41 victims involved non-intimate relationships

- o 17 males and 1 female killed parents/step-parents/grandparents (45% of non-intimate cases)
 - 3 cases where sons killed both parents
 - 5 cases where sons killed their mothers
 - 3 cases where sons killed their fathers
 - 2 cases where step-sons killed step-fathers
 - 4 cases where grandsons killed grandparents, one also killed a companion
 - 1 case where daughter killed mother

- o 6 males and 2 females killed children/step-children (16% of non-intimate cases)
 - 1 case where step-father killed step-son
 - 1 case where step-father killed step-daughter
 - 1 case where ex-boyfriend killed ex-girlfriend's son
 - 1 case where father killed infant son
 - 2 cases where fathers killed adult sons
 - 1 case where mother killed her son
 - 1 case where mother killed her daughter

- o 4 males killed their brothers (10% of non-intimate cases)
- o 1 male killed brother-in-law (3% of cases)
- o 1 male killed sister-in-law (3% of non-intimate cases)
- o 1 female killed mother (3% of non-intimate cases)
- o 2 females killed their brothers (5% of non-intimate cases)
- o 1 male killed his ex-mother-in-law (3% of non-intimate cases)
- o 1 male killed his niece (3% of non-intimate cases)
- o 1 male killed his ex-wife's boyfriend during an attack on ex-wife (3% of cases)
- o 1 male killed a male friend of his girlfriend (3% of non-intimate cases)

METHOD (BY NUMBER OF VICTIMS)

Of the total homicides (n=169):

- ! 94 gunshot wounds (56% of victims)
- ! 36 knife wounds (21% of victims)
- ! 15 strangulations (9% of victims)
- ! 16 blunt force trauma* (9% of victims)
- ! 8 other (5% of victims)
 - o 1 died of a heart attack during the crime
 - o 1 complications caused by paralysis after a broken neck
 - o 2 asphyxiation (one during a wrestling restraint)
 - o 1 hit by car
 - o 1 thrown off a bridge
 - o 1 rectal trauma
 - o 1 bombing

* 1 also included knife wounds

CHILDREN (BY NUMBER OF CASES)

- ! In 40 cases (26% of cases), a total of at least 89 children were present during and/or witnessed the homicide. All were intimate cases. (The 1997 and 1998 reports did not always list the number of children but would list "child" or "children." When the plural form was used we counted it as only two children, though the number could be greater.)
- ! In 2 cases (<2% of cases), the children were killed during an attack on an adult.
 - o In one case victim-s 16-year-old daughter was killed
 - o In one case suspect killed his infant son

CRIMINAL HISTORY B DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Only victims and suspects who were previously arrested for domestic violence are included below.

- ! Victims (n=32, 21% of cases)
 - o 21 males had prior arrests for domestic violence
 - o 11 females had prior arrests for domestic violence
- ! Suspects (n=42, 27% of cases)
 - o 38 males had prior arrests for domestic violence
 - o 4 females had prior arrest(s) for domestic violence

Only 33% of suspects (n=14 of 42) with criminal history were ordered to BIP. In addition, 33% of victims (n=12 of 32) with criminal history were ordered to BIP. Eleven of the 12 victims (92%) were male.

INJUNCTIONS AND OTHER CIVIL MATTERS (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects with prior injunctions or other civil matters are included below.
Seven percent of victims had an injunction against the suspect at the time of the homicide; 7% of suspects filed for or were respondents to injunctions at the time of the homicide.

! Victims

- o 12 females had injunctions in place
 - 2 reported violations
- o 1 female had a prior injunction
- o 1 female had a temporary injunction dismissed for failure to appear
- o 1 female had an injunction against her husband's ex-girlfriend
- o 1 female filed for an injunction against the suspect's ex-wife but was denied
- o 1 female filed for an injunction against former boyfriend but was denied
- o 1 female was respondent to one injunction by a different person
- o 1 female was respondent to a repeat violence injunction
- o 2 males were respondents to one injunction each (not by the suspect)
- o 2 males were respondents to two injunctions (not by the suspect). One also had two injunctions that were dismissed and one final injunction entered.
- o 1 male had an injunction against his mother's ex-boyfriend (the suspect)
- o 2 females had dissolutions of marriage (not from the suspect)
- o 2 females had dissolutions of marriage from the suspect (one of them pending at the time of homicide)

! Suspects

- o 1 female filed for injunction against male victim's son and girlfriend - both were denied
- o 3 females had injunctions against their victims
- o 1 female had an injunction against an ex-boyfriend who was not the victim
- o 8 males were respondents to an injunction
- o 5 males were respondents to multiple injunctions (not by the victims); one was denied; one was dismissed because petitioner failed to appear.
- o 1 male was respondent to multiple injunctions by multiple females.
 - This male also petitioned for an injunction multiple times, but was denied
- o 1 male was respondent to a repeat violence injunction
- o 1 male had a dissolution of marriage (not from the victim)
- o 2 males had dissolutions of marriage from the victims (one was pending at the time of the homicide).

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects with prior child abuse referrals are included below.

! Victims (7% of victims)

- o 8 females had referrals to the Department of Children and Families
- o 4 males had referrals to the Department of Children and Families

! Suspects (9% of suspects)

- o 4 females had referrals to the Department of Children and Families
- o 11 males had referrals to the Department of Children and Families

SHELTER SERVICES (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects that received prior services are included below.

- ! Victims (n=10, 6% received some services)
 - o 3 females stayed in shelter less than 48 hours several years before the homicides
 - o 1 female stayed in shelter for two months the year before the homicide
 - o 5 females were provided court advocacy services (including two of those who were sheltered as noted above)
 - o 2 females received safety planning
 - o 1 female received services through InVEST for police report involving different suspect

- ! Suspects (n=3, 2% received some services)
 - o 1 female went through domestic violence education class
 - o 2 females received outreach services

HARK (BY NUMBER OF CASES)

- ! Of the 40 cases (26%) where children were actually present and/or witnessed the homicide (n=89), HARK referrals were made in only three cases (8%).

INTERVENTION (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects who were ordered to complete BIP, ordered to anger management or counseling are included below.

- ! Victims (n=16, 9% of victims)
 - o 11 males ordered to batterers' intervention programs as a result of domestic violence arrests.
 - 2 completed
 - 1 ordered twice, completed twice
 - 2 ordered twice, each completed once
 - o 3 males ordered to anger management as part of earlier domestic violence cases
 - o 1 male ordered to counseling for previous domestic battery
 - o 1 female ordered and completed batterers= intervention program
 - o 1 female received marriage counseling

- ! Suspects (n=26, 17% of suspects)
 - o 14 males ordered to batterers' intervention programs
 - 1 ordered twice and did not complete either time
 - 1 ordered twice, but completed once
 - 1 also ordered to anger management years earlier
 - o 1 male ordered to marriage counseling as part of injunction
 - o 10 males ordered to anger management (1 on the morning of the homicide)
 - o 1 female ordered to anger management

Cases where anger management was ordered were in the earlier years of this report. Florida Statute 741.281, effective 7/1/2000, requires sentencing to include ordering a defendant to a certified BIP.

ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects who were previously arrested for substance abuse are included below.

- ! Victims (n=31, 18% of victims)
 - o 19 males with substance abuse arrests
 - o 12 females with substance abuse arrests

- ! Suspects (n=56, 36% of suspects)
 - o 49 males with substance abuse arrests
 - o 7 females with substance abuse arrests

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

Only victims and suspects with prior documented mental health issues are included below.

- ! Victim (n=2, <1% of victims)
 - o 2 females with mental health issues

- ! Suspects (n=16, 10% of suspects)
 - o 13 males with mental health issues
 - o 3 females with mental health issues

ZIP CODES (BY NUMBER OF CASES 2006-2011)

Zip codes where the homicide occurred. (n=63)

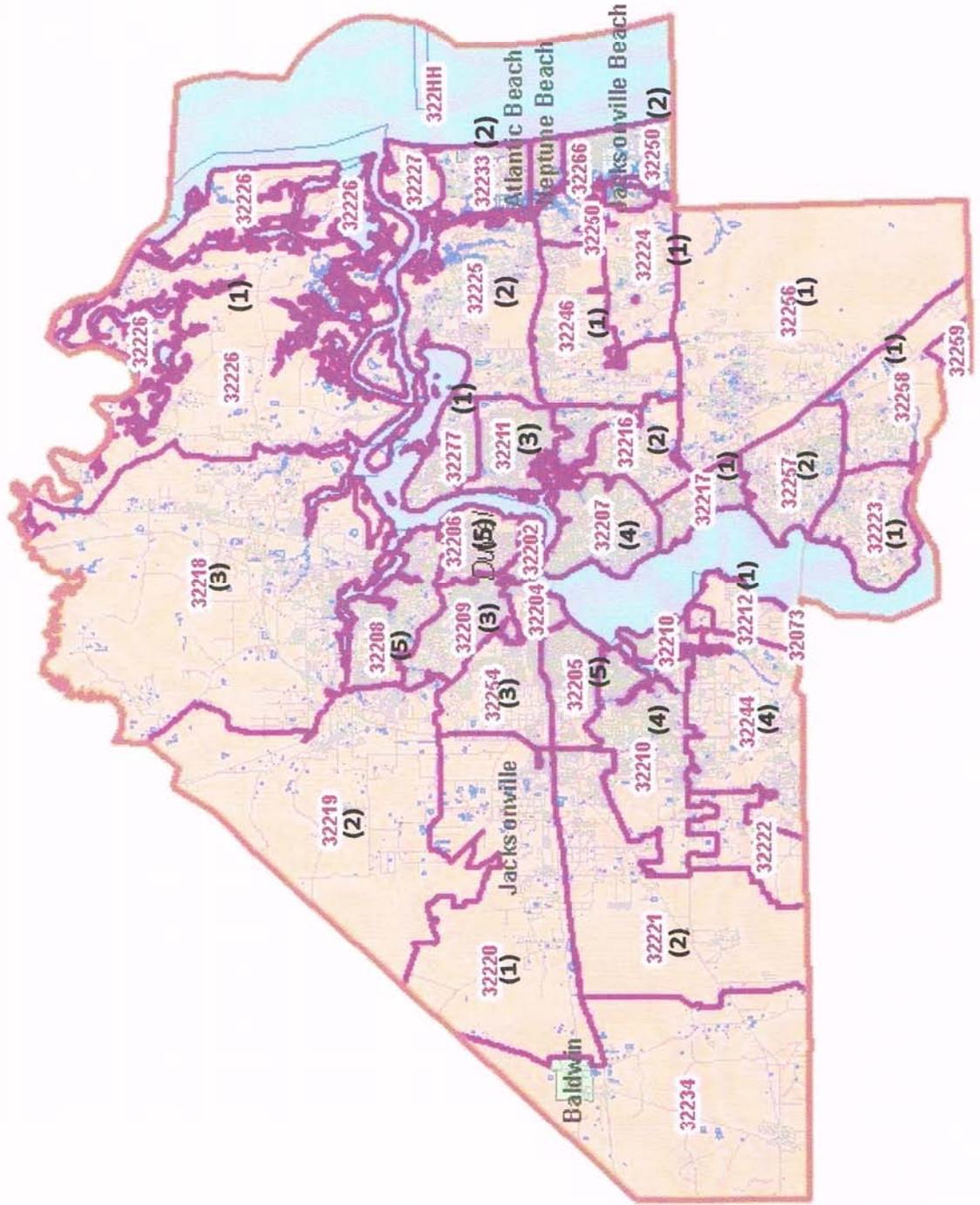
- ! 32205 - 5 (8% of cases)
- ! 32206 - 5 (8% of cases)
- ! 32207 - 4 (6% of cases)
- ! 32208 - 5 (8% of cases)
- ! 32209 - 3 (5% of cases)
- ! 32210 - 4 (6% of cases)
- ! 32211 - 3 (5% of cases)
- ! 32212 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32216 - 2 (3% of cases)
- ! 32217 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32218 - 3 (5% of cases)
- ! 32219 - 2 (3% of cases)
- ! 32220 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32221 - 2 (3% of cases)
- ! 32223 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32224 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32225 - 2 (3% of cases)
- ! 32226 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32233 - 2 (3% of cases)
- ! 32244 - 4 (6% of cases)
- ! 32246 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32250 - 2 (3% of cases)
- ! 32254 - 3 (5% of cases)
- ! 32256 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32257 - 2 (3% of cases)
- ! 32258 - 1 (2% of cases)
- ! 32277 - 1 (2% of cases)

LAW ENFORCEMENT ZONES (BY NUMBER OF CASES 2006-2011)

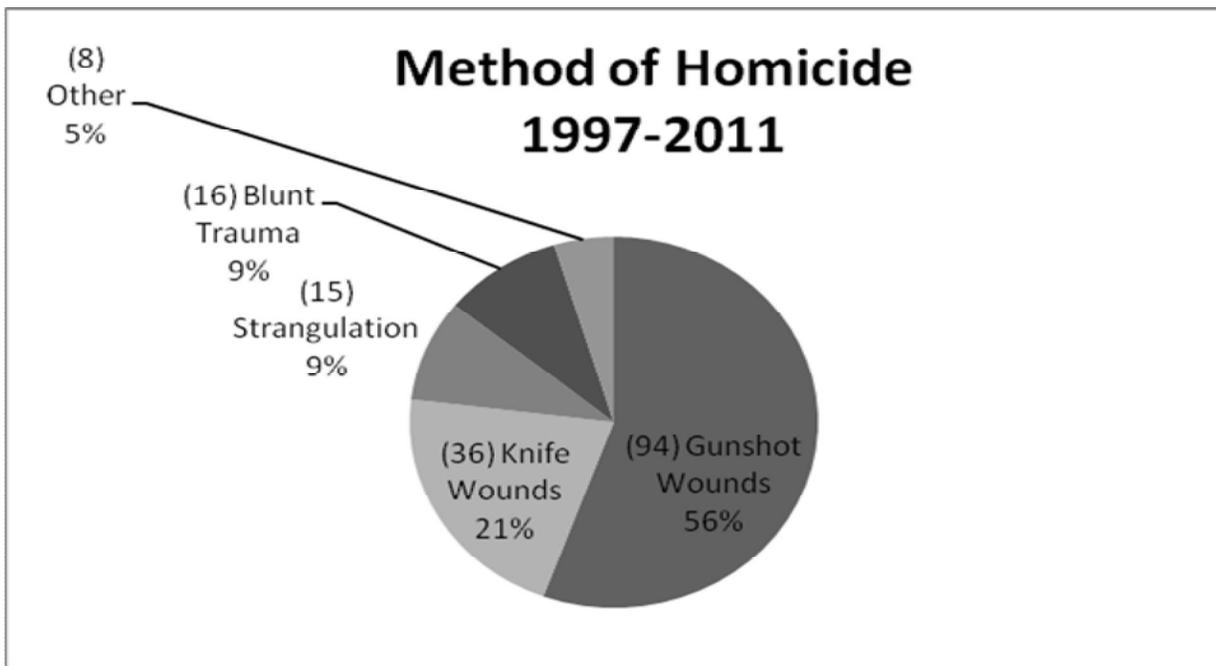
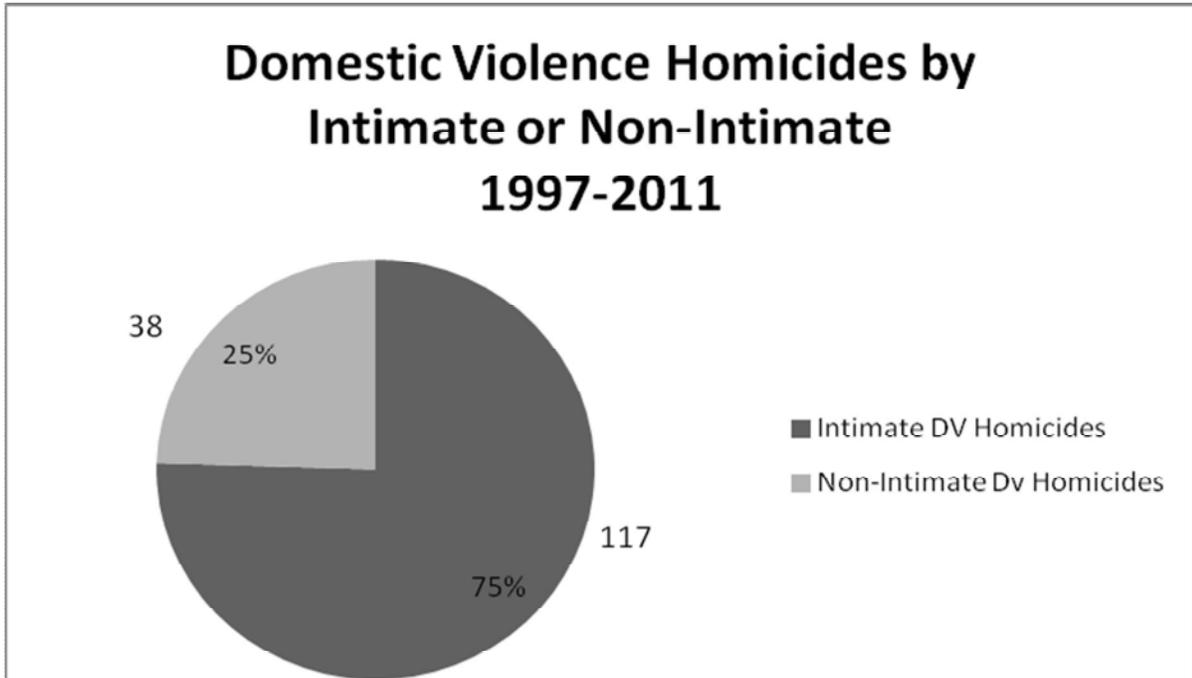
Law Enforcement Zones where the homicide occurred (n=63).

- ! Zone 1 - 7 (11% of cases)
- ! Zone 2 - 6 (10% of cases)
- ! Zone 3 - 14 (22% of cases)
- ! Zone 4 - 19 (30% of cases)
- ! Zone 5 - 13 (21% of cases)
- ! Zone 6 - 2 (3% of cases)
- ! Jacksonville Beach - 1 (2 % of cases)
- ! Atlantic Beach - 1 (2 % of cases)

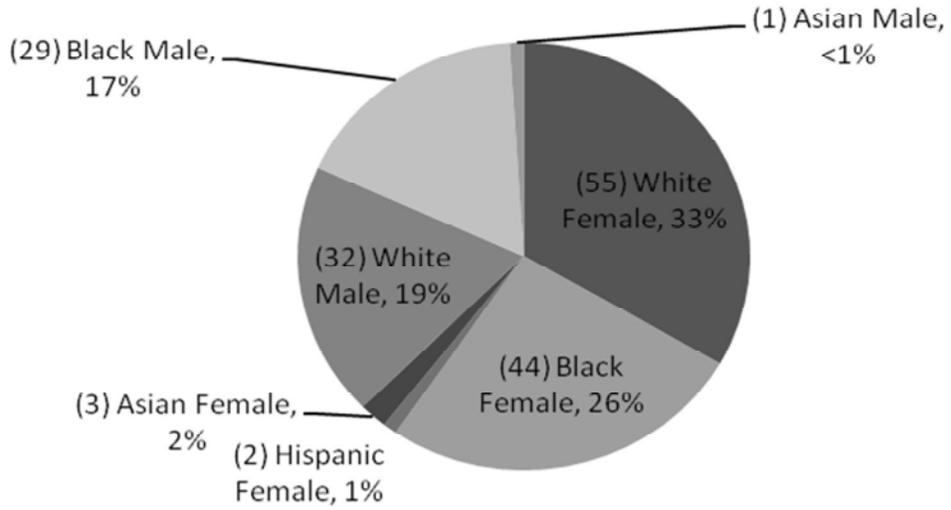
ZIP CODES OF CASES FROM 2006-2011



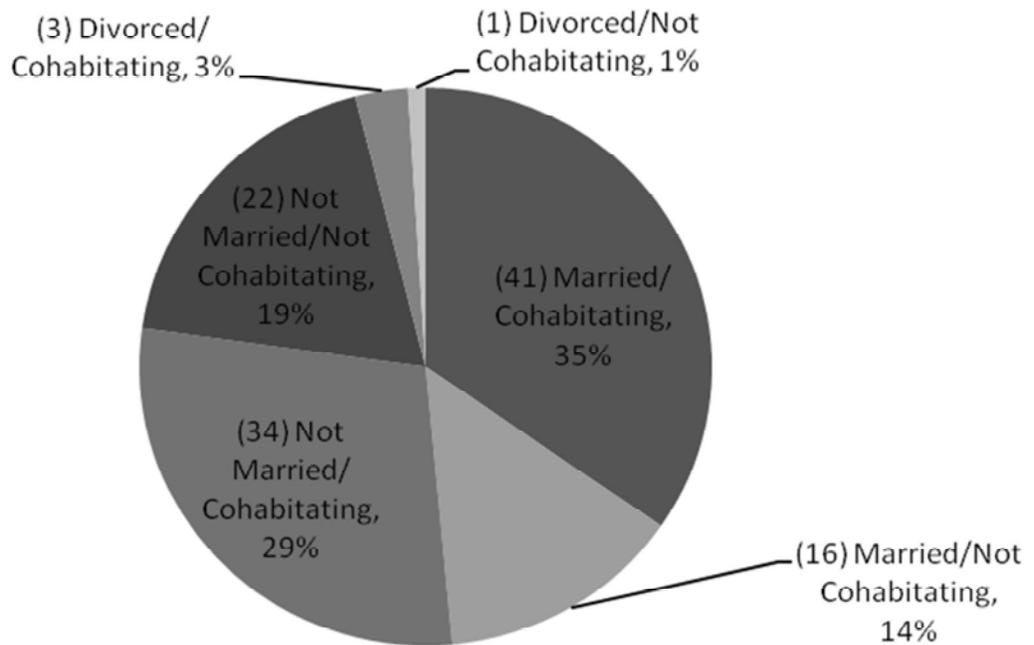
GRAPHS 1997 THROUGH 2011



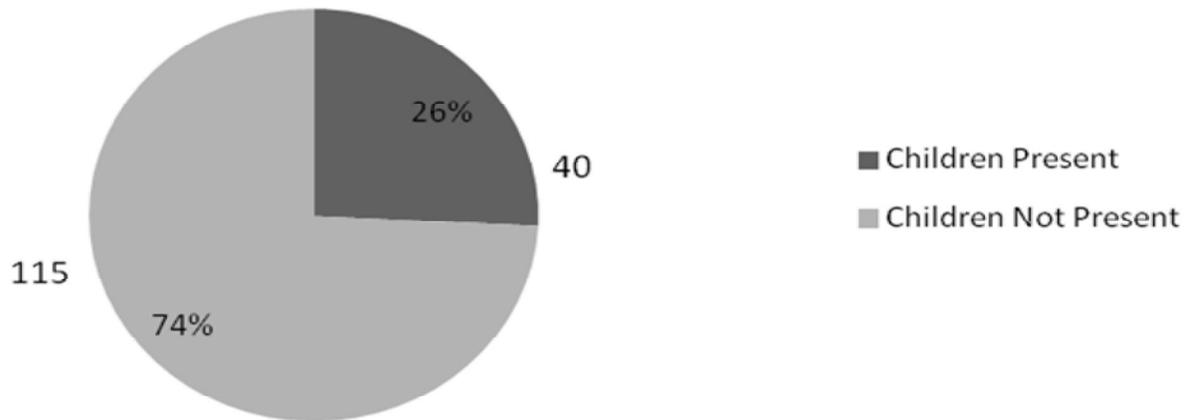
Race and Gender of Domestic Homicide Victims 1997-2011



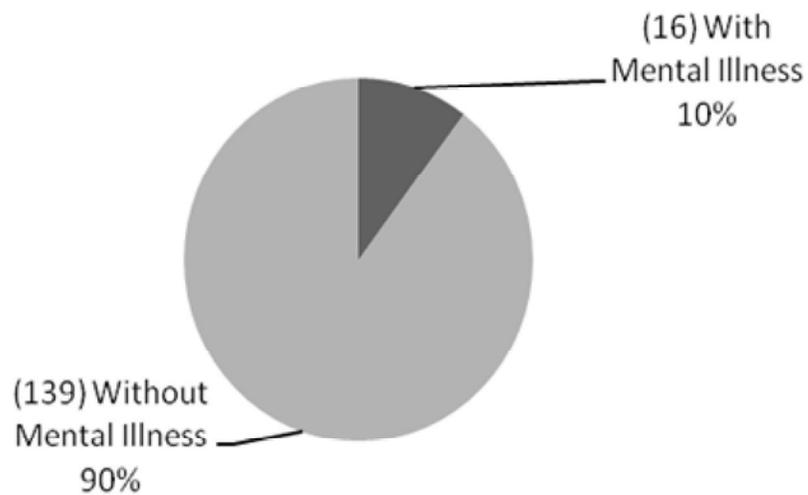
Relationship Status of Intimate Homicides 1997-2011



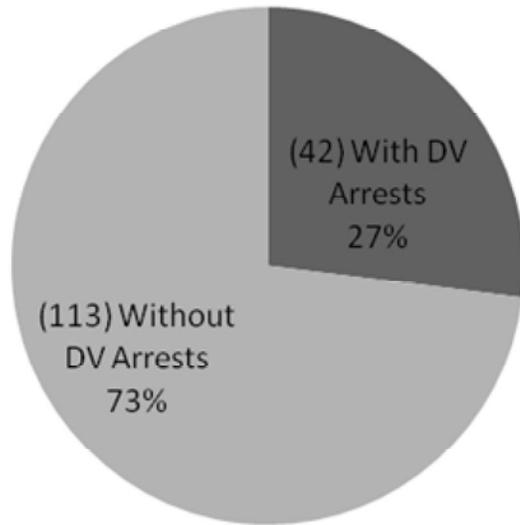
Homicide by Presence of Children 1997-2011



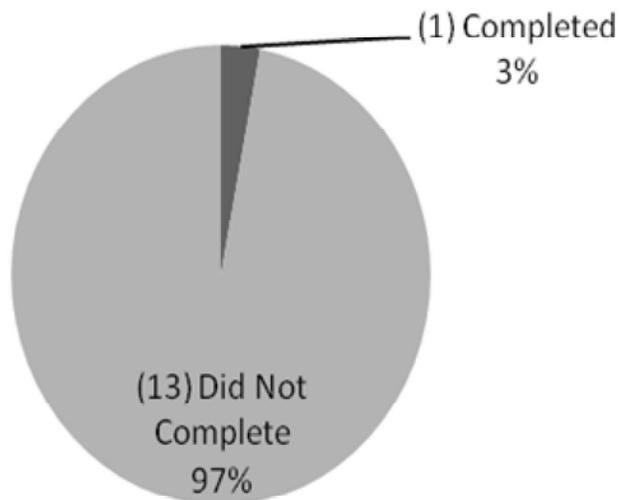
Suspects by Documented Mental Illness 1997-2011



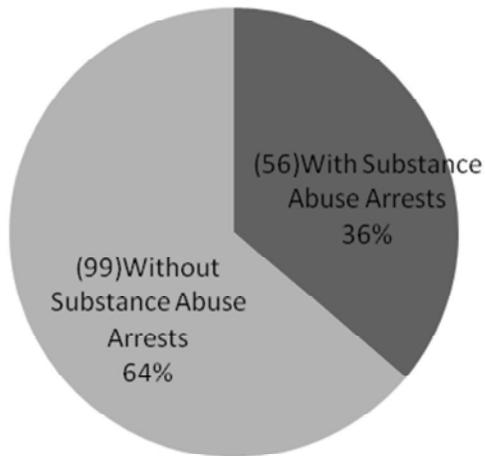
Suspects by Prior Domestic Violence Arrests 1997-2011



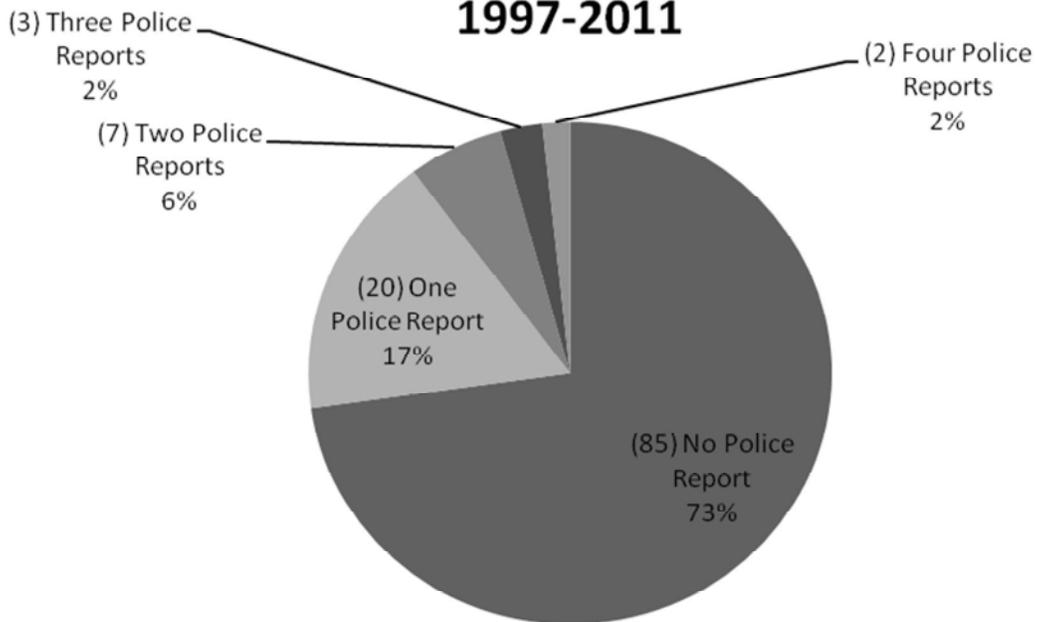
Intimate Homicide Suspects Ordered to and Completing Batterers' Intervention Program 1997-2011



Suspects by Prior Alcohol/Drug Abuse Arrests 1997-2011



Intimate Homicide Suspects by Prior Police Reports 1997-2011



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GLOSSARY

Adjudicated Delinquent – A person under the age of 18 who the court finds guilty of committing an illegal act, but has not been sentenced as an adult for a felony. The court can commit the youth or place the youth on community supervision.

Baker Act – A means of providing individuals with emergency services and temporary detention for mental health evaluation and treatment when required, either on a voluntary or an involuntary basis.

BIP – Batterers' intervention program refers to a state certified 26 week curriculum for men who have committed acts of violence against an intimate partner. The weekly group helps those ordered to accept responsibility for the violence and to learn skills that will help them replace existing power and control behaviors inflicted on their victims with appropriate, nonviolent behaviors that promote equality in their relationships. As used in this report, it may also refer to a comparable, but separate, local 26 week program for women who have committed acts of violence against an intimate partner.

DCF – Department of Children and Families is a state organization which works hard to protect the vulnerable, promote strong and economically self-sufficient families, and advance personal and family recovery and resiliency. The Department provides a number of different services including: food stamps, temporary cash assistance, access to substance abuse and mental health treatment.

DHFRT – Domestic Homicide Fatality Review Team is a team comprised of local law enforcement, social service organization and officers of the court who examines and analyzes domestic violence homicides to gain a better understanding of the causes and recommend possible solutions to help decrease the number and effects of domestic violence homicides in Duval County.

Family Nurturing Center – An organization which works to create a warm, compassionate environment where children can safely meet their parents for supervised visitations and exchange and to help adults learn to be better parents with comprehensive support and educational programs offered throughout the area.

FDLE – Florida Department of Law Enforcement is a state department which works to promote public safety and strengthen domestic security by providing services in partnership with local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies to prevent, investigate, and solve crimes while protecting Florida's citizens and visitors.

HARK – Helping At Risk Kids is a therapeutic intervention and prevention program designed to empower children from abusive homes, consisting of a 12-week course. Heavy emphasis is placed on breaking the cycle of violence by teaching anger management, non-violent conflict resolution, and respect for others. The program is sponsored by Hubbard House.

Hubbard House – A local organization which strives to provide safety for victims and their children, empower victims, and enact social change through education and advocacy.

InVEST – Intimate Violence Enhanced Services Team – A local initiative geared toward reducing intimate partner homicides through integrating victim services from a variety of criminal justice and social services agencies.

JALA – Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. is a non-profit law firm that specializes in providing civil legal assistance to low income persons.

JSO – Jacksonville Sheriff's Office strives to preserve the peace of Jacksonville Community and to prevent crime and disorder while constantly guarding personal liberties as prescribed by law.

Marchman Act – A means of providing an individual in need of substance abuse services with emergency services and temporary detention for substance abuse evaluation and treatment when required, either on a voluntary or involuntary basis.

SAO – State Attorney's Office is responsible for the prosecution of all crimes committed in Duval, Clay and Nassau Counties in Northeast Florida.