

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE COUNCIL**

**DEATH REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**FINAL REPORT**

**JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**SPEAK UP - SAVE LIVES**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEATH REVIEW COMMITTEE ROSTER  
SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
January 1, 2008-December 31, 2008**

**ROLANDA PIERRE DIXON ESQ., CHAIR  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

**Wiggys Sivertsen  
San Jose State Univ-Counseling Service**

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San José Police Dept.-Homicide**

**Eve Castellanos  
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Palo Alto Police Dept.**

**Bart Sloan, Supv. DV Unit  
SCC Probation Dept.**

**Dr. Joseph O'Hara  
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**Margaret Petros  
Victim Witness Assistance**

**Rafael Padilla  
Family Court Services**

## FINAL REPORT

**JANUARY 1, 2008 – DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**DEATH REVIEW COMMITTEE**

By: Rolanda Pierre Dixon Esq.-Chair

The Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, hereinafter referred to as the **DVDRC**, was created in October of 1994. It was initiated by a request from the United States Department of Justice. The Department of Justice was very interested in seeing a viable Death Review Team in our community. The Domestic Violence Council agreed to create the committee.

It was determined that the committee would focus on a case by case examination of all deaths in this community related to domestic violence. This case by case examination would explain why and how the death/s occurred and thoroughly examine any contacts the individual or individuals had with any part of the system prior to the death/s. If this examination led to information that revealed gaps in the system, those gaps would be addressed and hopefully future lives would be saved.

It was decided that the **DVDRC** would consist of a cross section of all the organizations in Santa Clara County that dealt with domestic violence victims, perpetrators, and their children. Representatives from the District Attorney's office, Department of Correction, law enforcement, Coroner's Office, Pretrial Services, Adult Probation, Juvenile Probation, domestic violence victim advocacy agencies\*, therapists, Adult Protective Services, DFCS, Child Protective Services, San Jose's Family/Domestic Violence Advisory Board, Asian Pacific Communities Against Domestic Violence, Victim Witness, batterer's intervention programs, Family Court Services, Public Health and the family law bar were all invited and all agreed to participate.

We were very fortunate to get the cooperation of all the above listed organizations. We were also quite comfortable working together because all the involved organizations were already a part of the county's on-going Domestic Violence Council. Trust among the participants and good working relationships had already been established. We all agreed at the initial meeting that all discovered information would be used to accomplish the constructive work of advocating for system-wide change and protecting future victims. It was not established to point fingers.

Every member of the **DVDRC** signed a confidentiality agreement (attachment A). This agreement required that all information discussed in committee meetings remain confidential. The signed agreement is kept on file by the committee chair. The only agreed upon public disclosure of cases involves statistics and fact patterns but all names are redacted. The names of particular victims and perpetrators are redacted because we respect victims, survivors, and their families.

\* victim advocacy agencies include Maitri, AACI, The Support Network, Community Solutions and Next Door

Before the actual work of the **DVDRC** could begin we had a series of discussions on the definition of the term “domestic violence related death”. The committee’s consensus was as follows: a “domestic violence related death” is a death that occurs when the perpetrator and victim were involved in an intimate relationship, either at the time of death or prior to the death and the conduct of the perpetrator led to the death of the victim or victims. This includes all individuals in (or formally in) intimate partner relationships, whether or not they were married or living together at the time. We look at homicides, homicide/suicides, suicides, blue suicides\*\*, and fatal accident cases. If other family and or community members were also killed by the perpetrator those cases are also reviewed.

In 1995 the California Legislature enacted Penal Code section 11163.3, which allowed all California counties to establish interagency domestic violence death review teams. The legislature understood that these teams (Santa Clara County’s being one of the first) had been used successfully to ensure that incidents of domestic violence and abuse were recognized and developed recommendations for policies and protocols for community prevention and intervention initiatives. There are currently 24 domestic violence death review teams in California.

In 1996 the California legislature expanded Penal Code section 11163.3 (et. seq.) it deemed all information shared in death review committee meetings as confidential and not subject to disclosure or discovery by a third party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, recommendations of a domestic violence death review team may be disclosed at the discretion of a majority of the team members.

**\*\*Blue suicides are those situations where an individual threatens to kill police officers and/or others and comes toward the police with a deadly weapon- intending that they respond by shooting him or her.**

The **DVDRC** produces a final report at the end of each calendar year. This year's report will cover three (**3**) identified domestic violence related deaths from 2008, all were homicides. In 2006 there were six (**6**) domestic violence related deaths and in 2007 there were four (**4**) (see attachment two for yearly death statistics). The Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office filed criminal complaints on 28 non-gang homicide cases in 2008.

The Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office issued thousands of criminal domestic violence complaints in 2008 (2626 misdemeanors and 526 felonies). Our domestic violence criminal courts issued protective orders on every criminal case. All of the police agencies in Santa Clara County (including those on university and college campuses) adhere to the Domestic Violence law enforcement protocol, which recognizes domestic violence as a crime and contains a "shall arrest policy." A "shall arrest policy" means where probable cause exists to believe the perpetrator committed an act of domestic violence an arrest shall be effectuated by the responding law enforcement officer. The protocol is reviewed and updated yearly.

Victim's shelters, domestic violence organizations, batterer treatment groups, and other professionals also deal with domestic violence on a daily basis in this county. They explain the relevant law and provide needed assistance for victims, their children, and perpetrators. They also offer counseling in an effort to help these families build lives without violence. These agencies see more victims than law enforcement does because not all victims call the police when they are being abused.

It is our belief that Santa Clara County's policies and procedures around domestic violence helped decrease the number of domestic violence related deaths in the county this year. Although there were three (3) such deaths in 2008, we did not lose a single victim to domestic violence homicide in the five thousand one hundred and forty seven (5147) cases (issued and non-issued) that were referred to the District Attorney's office for prosecution. We believe this clearly shows that the policies of this county and the educational efforts around domestic violence have helped decrease the number of fatal incidents.

We did not lose any children this year in a domestic violence related incident. We did lose one child in 2007. The committee continues to stress to the public that when deadly domestic violence occurs, no one is safe, even the most vulnerable ones in our homes; our children. We also noted that 8 children were left this year without one or both parents because of these deadly acts. These children's lives will be forever changed.

Domestic violence related death did not take the life of a single elder member of our community again this year. This is the fourth time this has happened since the inception of the committee in 1994. We believe this is due to our continued collaborative work with Adult Protective Services. In 2004 we brought together agencies that work with elders and began discussing problematic domestic violence cases where the victims/perpetrators were still alive. We were able to come up with workable solutions that held elder batterers accountable and protected elder victims. It seems to be working because for four years in a row we have not had a senior listed among the dead.

There is more good news in this year's report. We did not have a single female perpetrator this year and we did not lose any members of our Asian community. This continues a trend

set last year of no domestic violence related deaths in the Asian community. For a number of years this community represented over one half of the domestic violence related deaths in Santa Clara County. The numbers started coming down in 2004 and continued to drop. We were also pleased that there were no victims in these numbers who had a valid restraining order from our courts. Our hard work seems to be paying off. We also did not lose any members of our immigrant community\*\*\*.

The **DVDRC's** investigation into these cases clearly shows that nearly everyone around these victims was aware of serious problems in the relationship but did not intervene prior to the deaths. Domestic violence does not get better on its own. Professional and lay community members must commit to ending it.

When anyone suspects that domestic violence is being perpetrated against a victim, they must act. **Calling 911** or seeking professional assistance could save a life. Domestic violence happens everywhere in our community. No one is safe. When a life is lost many people beyond the victim's immediate family are adversely affected by the tragedy. We must continue our vigilance in order to protect the lives of children, adults, and seniors in our community.

**“Speak up – Save lives”** – was the message chosen by the **DVDRC** in 2002. We decided in 2003 to retain the message and in 2003 it was also adopted by the City of San José Family/Domestic Violence Advisory Board and was used in public campaigns. The committee has decided to permanently retain this message. It is still very important and it succinctly states what we must all do in our fight to end domestic violence.

It is **everyone's** responsibility to pay attention to what's happening in their community and speak out (e.g. call 911, call domestic violence hotlines) in order to stop the violence and protect victims. We can not say it any clearer.

## **SPEAK UP – SAVE LIVES**

\*\*\*The **DVDRC** defines immigrant as a person who has been in the United States for 10 years or less-it does not look at legal status.

**The reviewed cases breakdown as follows:**

**I. TYPES OF DEATH**

1. 3 deaths from 2008 (3 homicides)

**II. POLICE AGENCIES INVOLVED**

1. 2 deaths from San José Police Department (2 homicides)
2. 1 death from Mountain View Police Department (1 homicide)

**III. AGE/RACE/SEX/SUBSTANCE ABUSE/CHILDREN PRESENT**

1. **Ages**

For all victims and perpetrators – 31 to 58 years of age

A. Homicide adult females - 31 and 33 years of age

B. Homicide adult male - 58 years of age

C. Perpetrators adult males - 33, 40 and 44 years old

2. **Race/Ethnicity**

Hispanic: 2 (2 homicides)

African American 1 (1 homicide)

Asian: 0

Caucasian: 0

Bi-Cultural: 0

3. **Sex**

Female: 2 (2 homicides)

Male: 1 (1 homicide)

4. **Substance Abuse At Time of Incident**  
1 (methamphetamine/alcohol)
5. **Number of Children –Homicide Victims**  
0
6. **Children Present At Time of Incident**  
7 (2 homicides)
7. **Number of children left w/o one or both parents (due to death or resulting incarceration)**  
8 (2 homicides) ages 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 15
8. **Perpetrator’s Gender**  
3 male (3 homicides)
9. **Manner of Death**  
2 knife (2 homicides)  
1 gun (1 homicide)
10. **Separated/Divorced or discussing either at time of death**  
2 (2 homicides)
11. **Prior domestic violence contact (police reports)**  
2 (homicides- both out of county)
12. **Restraining orders/Do not annoy, harass or strike orders**  
0 (at time of the deaths)
13. **Location of Deaths**  
3 at home (3 homicides)
14. **Same Gender/Transgender Couples**  
1 (1 homicide)
15. **Occupations of those who died**  
In home care worker, housewife
16. **Occupations of those who committed homicide**  
unemployed, construction and hi-tech
17. **Type of relationship at time of death**  
former spouse (1 homicide)  
dating relationship (1 homicide)  
former dating relationship (1 homicide)



18. **Length of relationship**  
9mos to 8 years (3 homicides)
19. **Educational level of perpetrators**  
3 - High School (3 homicides)
20. **Educational level of victims**  
2 - High School
21. **Met and began dating as teens**  
0
22. **Immigrant victims (less than 10 years in the United States)\*\*\***  
0

\*\*\*The DVDRC defines Immigrant as a person who has been in the United States for 10 years or less-it does not look at legal status.

#### IV. CASE SUMMARIES

**CASE 196: Homicide-**The victim and perpetrator's ex-girlfriend were in a dating relationship. The perpetrator was extremely jealous and couldn't handle the breakup. He kills the victim. The ex-girlfriend survived. The victim was 58 years old and the perpetrator was 44.

**CASE 197: Homicide-** The victim and perpetrator were in a dating relationship. She was not happy in the relationship. The perpetrator kills her and attacks her friend, who survives. The victim has three children who manage to survive. The victim was 31 years old and the perpetrator was 40 years old.

**CASE 198: Homicide-**The victim and perpetrator are divorced. It is a very contentious breakup. He shoots and kills her. The victim was 33 years old and the perpetrator was also 33 years old.

## **V. TASKS ACCOMPLISHED**

The Santa Clara County Death Review Committee (DVDRC) is a standing committee of the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council. The committee has been in existence since 1994. It is one of the oldest domestic violence death review committees in the nation. We have been asked on numerous occasions to present at various conferences and workshops all over the country. In the last year committee members made over twenty such presentations. We have a standing agenda item which requests oral reports from those team members who have presented on death review in the preceding month.

Committee members also made themselves available this year for a large number of presentations in the county on the issue of death review. These presentations were made to professional and lay groups. The committee is committed to informing the general public about domestic violence and its deadly consequences.

The committee also worked closely with the The San José City Family/Domestic Violence Advisory Board, The Court Systems Committee, Police Victim Relations Committee, and The Executive Committee of the Domestic Violence Council. This year we also presented a mock death review panel at the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council's annual conference. It was well done and well received by the participants. It was the committee's first time with this format and it went very well.

This year we also worked very closely with the Department of Family and Children's Services. We looked at all the cases over the years where children were killed or nearly killed and felt that we could impart the knowledge we gleaned from these cases to DFCS. It was our hope that this dialogue would lead to significant policy changes. The committee met with the leadership of DFCS and had an open dialogue on very important policy issues. We were pleased by the outcome of the meeting as it led to several policy changes by the leadership of DFCS. We are convinced these changes will provide additional safety for children living in domestic violence homes in our community. This collaborative work would not have been possible without the respect and trust that our committee has generated in the community.

We also worked closely with Los Gatos Police Department and the Probation Department on updating their lethality assessments based on our cutting edge information. Our suggestions have been incorporated into the LGPD's lethality assessment tool and Probation has taken our recommendations and will let us know the outcome in the following year.

In 2008 we did not lose one member of our elder community. We did a lot of work again this year on the education of seniors around the issue of domestic violence. The committee members from Adult Protective Services, Pretrial Services, San Jose Police Department and the District Attorney's office also worked closely together on senior domestic violence issues after they were initially reported to the police. Domestic violence in the senior community is taken very seriously and as a result we are convinced that this helped save lives this year. We began this work in 2005 and have increased our collaborative work each year.

We have additional good news to impart this year. We did not lose one single person to homicide who had a restraining order or who had an on-going domestic violence case with local law enforcement. We are convinced that Santa Clara County law enforcement officers

are doing a great job in terms of its response to domestic violence situations and the resulting prosecution of these cases. We are convinced that this has led to lives being saved in our community. The Domestic Violence Protocol for Santa Clara has a pro arrest policy and it was adhered to by all agencies. Our officers also receive additional training in domestic violence issues and the committee feels this helped make the victims in our community safer.

We also didn't lose any members of our Asian, Caucasian or immigrant communities and none of our victims began dating their partner as a teenager. We also did not have any female perpetrators and even though children were present at two of the homicides they all survived. We did not lose any children this year.

We will continue to track and study domestic violence related death cases and we are convinced that this work saves members of our community from early and tragic death.

## VI. CONCLUSION

In concluding this year's report it is again glaringly obvious that family members, co-workers, and neighbors are well aware of serious problems in these relationships before the deaths occur and yet did not know what to do to help. It is the hope of this committee that everyone will start to take notice of what is going on in these relationships and report abuse and inform victims about options. The community must educate itself on domestic violence in all its forms and realize it can turn deadly. Concerned community members must also know where to call for help and what they can do to assist victims (see page 18).

Domestic violence homicides at their core are about one individual's desire to have absolute power and control over their significant other. When they begin to feel that power eroding, they will do whatever they have to in order to regain it; including killing the very person/persons they seek to control. Children, other family members, neighbors, co-workers, and innocent bystanders are all put at risk if they are near when the violence erupts. We must continue to work to educate the public on these issues and help people to understand that reporting domestic violence **is helping not hurting** and **intervention** is necessary.

We must also note that this year we had the lowest number of domestic violence related deaths since we started compiling the numbers in 1994. We feel this is due to several reasons:

- (1) Reporting of non-lethal domestic violence incidents by the community;
- (2) Confiscation of guns at domestic violence incidents by well-trained law enforcement officers;
- (3) Arrest and thorough follow-up by well-trained law enforcement officers;
- (4) Prosecution by the District Attorney's office;
- (5) Advocacy support for victims and their children by agencies and programs;
- (6) Appropriate sentences for perpetrators by Judges and court orders which the Probation Department makes sure are followed;
- (7) Counseling for victims, children, and perpetrators;
- (8) Community campaigns on domestic violence by the City of San Jose;
- (9) In custody and community intervention programs;
- (10) Availability of restraining orders and emergency protective orders;
- (11) Increased community awareness;
- (12) Collaborations of the county, victim advocacy agencies and community based organizations working together on domestic violence issues;
- (13) Collaborations between county agencies, for example Adult Protective Services, Pretrial Services, Family Court Services, Probation, DFCS and the District Attorney's Office.
- (14) Corporations having workplace violence policies which include early detection, intervention and protection of victims.
- (15) Attorneys appointed for children when domestic violence is discovered.

We also know that all the members of the agencies represented on the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee take what we learn in every case and apply it to their everyday work. We also spread the word to our co-workers, so everyone begins to understand the issue.

We did not lose one child this year to domestic violence related death. However, we can't stress enough how domestic violence is a danger to every member of the family including the most vulnerable, the children. We must take the initiative and speak out for them. We have a duty to protect them and **speaking out about** domestic violence is the first way to begin. We now have 7 children under the age of 16 who lost one or both parents this year and as a result their lives will be forever changed and 8 children under the age of 10 who observed the death as it occurred and now have to live with the trauma.

We also added a new page to the final report this year. Along with the "red flags" recommendations and characteristics of batterer's who kill we have added a page on common factors we noted among victims and perpetrators who's relationships end in death. It is our hope that those who read this information will take these messages to heart and help victims by reporting domestic violence and/or getting victims to professional assistance. We cannot stress enough that law enforcement, the judiciary, pretrial services, probation, victim advocacy agencies, batterer treatment programs and victims also need the help of the community in ending domestic violence. We must all make a concerted effort to become knowledgeable in the area and **SPEAK UP** when we know something is wrong.

This committee also began the very hard work of looking at "victimology." It will be a thorough study and analysis of victims and their characteristics. It is hoped that studying the victim's background and current life circumstances could provide answers to the offender's characteristics. It is also hoped that such a study would lead to an enhanced ability to better determine the risk of a particular person becoming the victim of deadly domestic violence. This is very hard and arduous work but the committee is committed to continuing the work.

We end this report with this final message, community responsibility is not to be taken lightly, and it can and will end the scourge of domestic violence death in our community.

## **SPEAK UP – SAVE LIVES**

**Respectfully Submitted: The Domestic Violence Death Review Committee 2008**

## **VII. 2008 SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS (RED FLAGS)**

- 1. Everyone close to the victim and perpetrator knew that something was very wrong in the relationship but did not intervene.**
  - They must ask victims if they are fearful of the perpetrator and why?
  - They should always ask if there are deadly weapons in the home.
  - They must seek to safely intervene (assist the victim in calling a woman's shelter or seeking domestic violence information, call law enforcement, and encourage victims to call law enforcement to remove firearms) in these relationships.
  - They must educate themselves on domestic violence and share that information with everyone they come in contact with, especially family members.
  
- 2. Deadly domestic violence has several characteristics, which were evident in many of the three cases we reviewed this year.**
  - Prior threats of homicide and/or suicide – 2 cases
  - Victim talked about divorce or separation and the perpetrator could not handle it – 2 cases
  - Kidnapping or prior false imprisonment – 3 cases
  - Prior violence-reported and unreported- 2
  
- 3. Deaths occurred in different jurisdictions in this county and have involved different racial and socioeconomic groups. In fact those individuals from the middle/upper middle class were again represented in our numbers this year. We must be cognizant of the fact that domestic violence is not just a poor person's problem, it is everyone's problem. Domestic violence death also does not care how rich or poor you are, everyone is at risk.**
  
- 4. Children are the most vulnerable in our society. We must act on their behalf. If they express real fear of a parent, we must act. If we see that their living conditions can be dangerous to them, we must act. When children appear vulnerable and in danger of abuse or neglect everyone should report to the Child Abuse Hotline at DFCS.**
  
- 5. Untreated and inadequately treated mental health issues underlie many of the cases we reviewed this year. Federal, state, and local governments must put mental health dollars back into budgets. Our families are suffering from a lack of adequate mental health treatment.**
  
- 6. We need to work on figuring out how our local law enforcement agencies can be alerted when current victims of domestic violence come into our jurisdiction and need additional protection from a batterer.**

## **VIII. Characteristics of Batterers who Kill**

**(This list contains facts we deduced from the deaths we studied. They may not apply in every situation.)**

- 1. Loners - do not have any friends of their own. If they have a friend it is often someone from their childhood, who hasn't stayed close to them.**
- 2. They will "co-op" the victim's friends in an attempt to learn more about the victim.**
- 3. They are overly possessive, controlling and jealous. They will try to get all the victim's friends, family members and co-workers away from the victim.**
- 4. They control all the finances, even if they don't work.**
- 5. They are often underemployed or recently unemployed.**
- 6. They often have attachment issues, having lost a parent at an early age.**
- 7. Close to the time of death they will begin to unravel - inability to sleep, talking about dying, threatening suicide or homicide, extremely upset about life.**
- 8. They will engage in stalking conduct if the victim tries to leave them.**
- 9. Batterers do not mellow with age. Getting older can ever be more dangerous, especially if the victim is in good health and the batterer is not.**
- 10. Become distraught at the discussion of separation.**
- 11. Have prior unsuccessful intimate relationships.**
- 12. What they want is primary, nothing else matters, not even children. Everyone around the victim is at risk.**



## **IX. DANGER SIGNS- RELATIONSHIPS AND FORMER RELATIONSHIPS**

- 1. The perpetrator wants to know everything about you from the moment you meet. i.e. phone numbers, access codes, and computer passwords.**
- 2. The perpetrator does not want you to have a life outside of your relationship- will try to do everything possible to end your prior associations and friendships.**
- 3. The perpetrators intensity scares you but...you don't listen to that inner voice and try to excuse the conduct. Listen to that voice.**
- 4. All threats must be taken seriously whether or not you feel the perpetrator has the means to follow through on them, or later makes the excuse that they were just kidding.**
- 5. The perpetrator keeps you on an emotional roller coaster.**
- 6. If you have a break up the perpetrator will not accept it and continue to try to get you back into the relationship. Get a restraining order.**
- 7. Uses force to control you but tries to pretend they were "just playing".**
- 8. Will apologize profusely for "bad" conduct but will then repeat it on another occasion.**
- 9. Shows explosive anger not in relation to the incident.**
- 10. Never takes personal responsibility for the rifts in the relationship, always blames the victim.**

## **X. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**We the members of the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Death Review Committee hereby recommend to the Domestic Violence Council and the community at large the following:**

- 1. The Domestic Violence Council encourages the community at large to stand up and report domestic violence when it is observed.**
- 2. The Domestic Violence Council continues its efforts to educate the public on domestic violence issues, including the release of this report to the public.**
- 3. The Domestic Violence Council increases its efforts to educate our ethnic minorities and immigrant communities on domestic violence.**
- 4. The Domestic Violence Council continues to ensure that all domestic violence-related educational information teach that domestic violence occurs in the elder, disabled, immigrant, gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender communities.**
- 5. The Domestic Violence Council continues to encourage local school districts to develop a curriculum that addresses the issues of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. It should also help children feel safe in reporting domestic violence by educating teachers and counselors and setting aside a confidential place for children to make the report. Schools should also track very carefully the attendance rate of children.**
- 6. The Domestic Violence Council continues to encourage victims of domestic violence to get restraining orders.**
- 7. The Domestic Violence Council continues to promote the education of all workplaces on domestic violence, so those potential victims can be protected.**
- 8. The Domestic Violence Council promotes legislation, which requires all mental health professionals to have domestic violence education.**
- 9. The Domestic Violence Council promotes the spending of mental health dollars on those committing domestic violence that are also suicidal, and requiring mental health professionals to get training on the identification of domestic violence and how to treat it.**
- 10. The Domestic Violence Council continues to encourage the utilization of available monies for mental health and legal services for children exposed to domestic violence.**
- 11. The Domestic Violence Council continues to encourage parents to get parenting classes, which discuss the impact of domestic violence on children.**

- 12. The Domestic Violence Council continues to inform the public that law enforcement at a domestic violence incident (Penal Code section 12028.5) can remove all guns and keep them for up to 5 days if charges are not filed. The person seeking to get those firearms back must demonstrate compliance with Penal Code section 12021.3 (he/she is deemed eligible to possess a firearm). If charges are filed and the perpetrator is convicted he/she cannot possess a firearm for up to 10 years (Penal Code section 12021). Also if the victim obtains a restraining order (whether or not the perpetrator is filed on or convicted), the restrained person cannot possess a firearm.**
- 13. The Domestic Violence Council continues to promote counseling for children living in domestic violence homes.**

**The DVDRC recognizes that we have the lowest number of domestic violence related deaths ever since reporting began in 1994. In 2007 we lost 4 individuals to domestic violence related death and this year 3. We have seen the numbers continue to come down in the last 3 years. We are convinced this is a clear indication that we must continue to do everything listed above.**

**SPEAK UP – SAVE LIVES**



**Attachment 1: Copy of the DVDRC's Confidentiality Agreement**

**CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**DEATH REVIEW COMMITTEE**

I, as a member of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee **agree to keep confidential all** information discussed at the death review meetings. I also **agree to return all** outside case information received in the meeting involving decedents to the Chairperson of the Death Review Committee upon my resignation from the Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dated

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**Attachment 2: Death Review Log (last 8 years)**

2000 - 18 domestic violence related deaths

2001 - 17 domestic violence related deaths

2002 - 18 domestic violence related deaths

2003 - 21 domestic violence related deaths

2004 - 6 domestic violence related deaths

2005- 10 domestic violence related deaths

2006- 6 domestic violence related deaths

2007- 4 domestic violence related deaths

2008- 3 domestic violence related deaths

