

**2004 DOMESTIC
MORTALITY REVIEW REPORT**

**AN EXAMINATION OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
HOMICIDES IN DUVAL COUNTY
JANUARY 1, 2004 THROUGH
DECEMBER 31, 2004**

**AND AN ANALYSIS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES
DECEMBER 1996 THROUGH DECEMBER 2004**



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May 27, 2005

Dear Members of the Judiciary and Colleagues:

A copy of the 2004 Domestic Mortality Review Report accompanies this letter. This report examines domestic violence homicides in Duval County from January 1, through December 31, 2004, and includes an analysis of the domestic homicides occurring within the past seven years.

Our committee has discovered from this analysis that there has been a steady decrease in domestic homicides during the years studied. We believe this decrease can be attributed to INVEST and the Center for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. Both of these are examples of effective collaborations in Jacksonville. Additionally, we noted this year a high percentage of victims 65 years of age and older. As mentioned in our conclusion, the committee will monitor this in the coming months to see if it was an aberration limited to one year or reflective of an emerging pattern.

I hope you find this report and its conclusions useful in your own efforts to combat domestic violence. If you have any comments or questions, please contact me at 630-2502 or at libbys@coj.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Libby Senterfitt", written over a dotted line.

Libby Senterfitt, Chair
Domestic Violence Mortality Review Committee
Director, State Attorney's Office

LS/cd
Enclosure

SUBMITTED BY THE DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROJECT'S
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC HOMICIDE

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STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
COMMITTEE CHAIR

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The 2004 Domestic Mortality Review Report was sponsored by the Domestic Violence Intervention Project Committee (DVIP).

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COMMITTEE GOALS

The Domestic Mortality Review Subcommittee was initially formed by Jacksonville's Domestic Violence Intervention Project to study domestic homicides occurring in Jacksonville in 1997. The purpose of the first study was to examine these homicides to determine if our community could have helped to prevent them. The project has been continued every year resulting in an annual report. The committee has examined all domestic homicides that occurred in Jacksonville between December 1, 1996 and December 31, 2004. This committee does not examine child abuse homicides as there is a child death review team.

The following report outlines the facts of the nine incidents of domestic homicide in 2004 which resulted in ten domestic homicide victims. It then tracks patterns by evaluating specific information on a yearly basis. Finally, this report provides for an opportunity to examine trends by reviewing all domestic homicide incidents resulting in homicide victims between December 1, 1996, and December 31, 2004.

FACTORS REVIEWED

In order to look at a comprehensive, community services based prevention, the following information was reviewed and considered by our committee:

1. Police reports involving the victim and suspect.
2. Department of Children and Families referrals involving victim and/or suspect.
3. Shelter services, hotline contact, court advocacy or other domestic violence services utilized by victim or suspect.
4. Civil proceedings including Myers/Baker Acts, Dissolutions of Marriage, and Injunctions for Protection involving victim and/or suspect.
5. Criminal record 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. HARK (Helping At Risk Kids Program) attendance by children of victim and/or suspect.
9. Animal abuse or neglect complaints.
10. Other known services provided to victim and/or suspect.
11. Medical Examiner's report pertaining to the victim.

ORDER OF EXAMINATION

I. CRIME

- Relationship of parties
- Case summary
- Children of parties

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- Domestic violence
- Non-domestic violent crimes
- Substance abuse arrests

III. CIVIL

- Domestic Violence Injunctions
- Dissolutions of Marriage
- Department of Children and Families Referrals
- Baker/Myers Act commitments

IV. SERVICES

- Shelter services/hotline calls
- HARK attendance (Helping At Risk Kids Program)
- Batterers' intervention program (BIP) (Hubbard House/Salvation Army)
- Substance abuse program

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Date of Homicide/Suicide: 01/31/04

Victim: White Female, 83

Suspect: White Male, 84

I. **CRIME**

A. **RELATIONSHIP:** Husband and Wife

B. **CASE SUMMARY:** The suspect shot his wife in the face as she was sleeping. He then stood next to the bed and shot himself in the head. The suspect was dead upon arrival at Shands Hospital. The victim survived and was hospitalized in a rehabilitation hospital until 03-19-04 when she died.

C. **CHILDREN:** The suspect's 58 year old son and a daughter-in-law were present in the house. No minor children were present.

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. **SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS**

1. Victim - No record
2. Suspect - No record

III. **CIVIL**

- A. Victim - No record
- B. Suspect - No record

IV. **SERVICES**

- A. Victim - No record
- B. Suspect - No record

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Family members say that both the victim and the suspect were very unhappy and slept close to guns. The suspect's son stated his dad "...was never happy, had no friends and wished to be left alone and not bothered by anyone." The daughter-in-law stated that the victim had been stating for the past several days, "I wish God would just take me. I am only a burden here." She also told the suspect "You won't be able to live without me. Who will cook and clean for you?" Despite these red flags of depression, there had been no intervention.

Date of Homicide: 04/12/04

Victim: White Female, 34

Suspect: White Male, 34

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Estranged Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On 04/12/04 at approximately 7 a.m., the victim left her apartment to walk to work. The victim's 12 year old daughter heard her mother yelling for help. The daughter saw her father (suspect) chasing her mother (victim) and stabbing at her with a knife. The victim fell down and the suspect started stabbing her multiple times. The suspect was charged with second degree murder. The case is pending.
- C. CHILDREN: Female child age 12 and male child age 11 were present during the homicide.

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
1. Victim - No record
 2. Suspect -
 - a) 04/13/04 - Aggravated Stalking and Violation of Injunction on victim. Pled not guilty, case being handled concurrently with homicide prosecution.
 - b) 12/30/03 - V.O.P. for not completing monetary terms of probation. Discharged 05/11/04 after homicide.
 - c) 8/08/03 - Domestic Assault on victim. Six months probation, anger management, parenting classes, A.A. meetings and no victim, children or witnesses contact.
- B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES
1. Victim - No record
 2. Suspect - No record
- C. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS
1. Victim - No record
 2. Suspect - No record

III. CIVIL

- A. Victim - No record
- B. Suspect - 08/28/03 - No Contact Injunction. Duval County. Current victim.

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim - Received safety planning from Hubbard House Advocate while getting her Injunction for Protection against suspect on 8-15-03. Victim referred to Invest, but refused services.
- B. Suspect - No record

V. OTHER CONCERNS

There was no B.I.P. program ordered in Injunction Court. Additionally, anger management was ordered in the criminal assault case instead of B.I.P. A criminal violation of probation capias was ordered 01/10/04, but had not been served prior to the homicide.

Date of Homicide/Suicide: 04/22/04

Victim: White Female, 92

Suspect: White Male, 82

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Husband and wife
- B. CASE SUMMARY: The victim had health issues that were forcing her to be placed in a nursing home. The suspect left a note saying they did not want to be apart from each other. He ended both of their lives with a .44 magnum that was found in his right hand. It was ruled a murder/suicide.
- C. CHILDREN: None

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. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS
1. Victim - No record
 2. Suspect - No record

III. CIVIL

- A. Victim - No record
- B. Suspect - No record

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim - None known
- B. Suspect - None known

V. OTHER CONCERNS

The suspect had prostate cancer, skin cancer, back problems, liver problems, and a broken hip that did not heal correctly. The victim had congestive heart failure, arthritis, acid reflux and had been suffering from depression. While no one ever heard them talk about not wanting to live anymore, the victim's nurse heard her say, "I don't know how much more I

can take" the day prior to the homicide. The grandson was aware of several handguns and one rifle in the upstairs closet. The suspect was an avid target shooter. The people close to them knew that they had significant health problems, depression, had little chance of separating as they had been married over 50 years, and had easy access to guns.

2004-4

Date of Homicide: 05/17/04

Victim: White Female, 81

Suspect: White Male, 45

I. CRIME

A. RELATIONSHIP: Mother/Son

B. CASE SUMMARY: On 05/17/04, the unclothed victim was found dead in her bed by her adult son. The victim was recently removed from a nursing home by the suspect against the counsel of the medical team but consistent with the victim's wishes. The victim was trying to remove her nightgown. The suspect initially tried to help, but stated to police that he got tired and left her alone. The suspect is charged with second degree murder and the case is pending.

C. CHILDREN: No children were present.

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1. Victim - No record
2. Suspect - 04/23/99 - Battery on Person 65 years, Domestic Violence. Pled not guilty by reason of insanity. Placed on conditional release supervised by a mental health center. Victim was his mother.

B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

1. Victim - No record
2. Suspect -
 - a) 05/09/91 - Battery - 1st degree misdemeanor. Pled Guilty. 2 days jail time.
 - b) 03/28/89 - Battery on medical staff and resisting arrest without violence. Pled Guilty to battery. 41 days jail time. Resisting arrest without violence was Nolle Prossed.

C. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS

1. Victim - No record
2. Suspect -
 - a) 10/23/02 - Sale/manufacturing/distribution of marijuana. Probation.
 - b) 05/23/91 - Possession of marijuana and hashish. Felony. Pled guilty. 6 months jail time.
 - c) 04/08/78 - Possession of marijuana less than 5 grams. Pled guilty. Probation 6 months.

- d) 05/07/77 - Possession of marijuana less than 5 grams. Pled Guilty. 30 days jail time.

III. **CIVIL**

- A. Victim - No record
- B. Suspect - Reported to Adult Protective Services by victim's physician. Disposition unknown.

IV. **SERVICES**

- A. Victim - None
- B. Suspect -
 - a) 04/23/99 - Battery on Person 65 years old. Placed on conditional release supervised by a mental health center.
 - b) 04/30/81 - Arrested for vehicle theft. Felony. Found mentally incompetent. Committed to Florida State Hospital.

V. **OTHER CONCERNS**

During the canvass of the neighborhood, the police found several witnesses who had seen the victim being verbally and physically abused by the suspect. There were several other occasions when neighbors witnessed arguments between the victim and suspect. On one occasion, a neighbor reported that he saw the victim running out of her house drenched in water. The victim claimed that the suspect poured hot water on her. Even though some neighbors knew of these abuses, they did not report this to the appropriate authorities. Additionally, this suspect had been arrested in 1999 for battering the victim. On the day of the homicide, the suspect had called Rescue and indicated he could not take care of the victim any longer.

Date of Homicide: 09/27/04

Victim: Asian Female, 35

Suspect: Asian Male, 34

I. CRIME: Homicide

A. RELATIONSHIP: Estranged Husband/Wife

B. CASE SUMMARY: The victim and suspect were experiencing marital difficulties and they had been separated for several months. On 09-27-04, the victim went to her husband's (suspect's) apartment to visit, according to a family member. At that time the victim left her two children, 12 and 17, home alone on the assumption she wouldn't be gone long. However, the victim was never seen or heard from again and the children fended for themselves until 10-01-04 when a co-worker contacted police after the victim failed to show up for work. The suspect immediately became the focus of the investigation and when he was interviewed through an interpreter he confessed to killing his wife with a golf club, dismembering her body, and discarding it in a dumpster. The victim's torso was later recovered from a city landfill. The victim's children were turned over to relatives. The suspect is charged with first degree murder and the case is pending.

C. CHILDREN: Two children of victim and suspect were not present.

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. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS

1. Victim - No record
2. Suspect - No record

III. CIVIL

- A. Victim - No record
- B. Suspect - No record

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim - None known
- B. Suspect - None known

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Neither the victim nor the suspect spoke English. At the time of this report, the children had not been referred to H.A.R.K.

Date of Homicide: 10/05/04

Victim: White Male, 43

Suspect: White Female, 49

I. **CRIME:** Homicide

A. **RELATIONSHIP:** Boyfriend/Girlfriend

B. **CASE SUMMARY:** On 10/5/04, the suspect stabbed the victim twenty times in the home they shared. While police were meeting with the victim's adult daughter at the crime scene, the suspect called her, confessed to the stabbing and revealed her location. When the police apprehended the suspect a short time later, she had been drinking and indicated that she was tired of the victim beating her. The suspect also stated that she lost custody of her three children because she stayed with him over the years. The case is still pending.

C. **CHILDREN:** None present.

II. **CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS**

A. **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

1. Victim - a) 9/22/04 - (Male victim in Homicide) punched and kicked (Female suspect in Homicide) in a prior domestic violence incident. Male was arrested. Female was not cooperative with police. There was an outstanding arrest warrant for the male at the time of his death for domestic violence against the female. This incident occurred 13 days before the homicide.

b) 12/7/03 - (Male victim in Homicide) hit the (Female suspect in Homicide) in the head with a hammer. It appeared the female needed stitches but she refused medical treatment and was uncooperative with police. The male also suffered injuries due to the incident and both were highly intoxicated. Male was arrested, but charges later dropped.

c) 9/07/03 - (Male victim in Homicide) punched the (Female suspect in Homicide) into the wall and caused a contusion. Female told her mental health case worker, who called the police on 9/10. Female was given a complaint card, but did not pursue charges with the SAO.

2. Suspect - No record

B. **NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES**

1. Victim - 1993 - Battery. Pled no contest and received 31 days in jail.

2. Suspect - No record

C. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS

1. Victim -
 - a) 12/20/03 - Disorderly Intoxication - Pled - 2 days jail.
 - b) 4/21/02 - DUI - Pled to Reckless Driving, Adjudication Withheld. Attended DISC (Driver Improvement School).
 - c) 1/15/99 - Disorderly Intoxication - Pled Guilty - 1 day jail.
 - d) 6/1/96 - Disorderly Intoxication - Pled Guilty - 1 day jail.
 - e) 3/11/95 - DUI - Pled Guilty, 44 days jail. 4 months probation. DUI School.
2. Suspect - Possession of Cocaine in 1998 - pled guilty and served 60 days in County Jail.

III. CIVIL

- A. Victim - No record
- B. Suspect - No record

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim - None known
- B. Suspect - 9/10/03 police report indicates suspect had a mental health care worker.

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Despite the prior history of domestic violence by the victim, there was never any opportunity to offer intervention services. The suspect never sought any assistance. No record of any substance abuse treatment was ever ordered, despite numerous prior arrests.

Date of Homicide: 10/07/04

Victims: Black Female, 80
 Black Male, 81

Suspect: Black Male, 21

I. CRIME

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Grandparent and Live-in companion/Grandchild
- B. CASE SUMMARY: The suspect stabbed the victims multiple times while they slept then tried to hide the bodies under some clothes. The room appeared ransacked. He confessed to the crime. Case still pending.
- C. CHILDREN: None present

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

- A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
1. Victims - No record
 2. Suspect - No record
- B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES
1. Victims - No record
 2. Suspect - No record
- C. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS
1. Victims - No record
 2. Suspect - No record

III. CIVIL

- A. Victims - No record
- B. Suspect - a) 03/22/04 - The female victim got an Injunction for Protection against the suspect.
- b) 02/27/04 - Suspect Baker Acted

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victims - None known
- B. Suspect - None known

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Family violence and mental health issues: The suspect was Baker Acted in February 2004 and attacked his sister a week later. The sister got an Injunction for Protection against the suspect in March. The suspect had several burglary arrests as a juvenile and as an adult.

Date of Homicide: 10/17/04

Victim: White Female, 67

Suspect: White Male, 15

I. CRIME

A. RELATIONSHIP: Grandmother/Grandson

B. CASE SUMMARY: On October 17, 2004, while visiting the grandmother, the suspect killed the victim by striking her repeatedly with his guitar. He stole her car and fled to Louisiana with his 14-year-old girlfriend. The case is pending.

C. CHILDREN: No children were present other than the suspect.

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. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS

1. Victim - No record
2. Suspect - No record

III. CIVIL

- A. Victim - No record
- B. Suspect - No record

IV. SERVICES

- A. Victim - None known
- B. Suspect - None known

V. OTHER CONCERNS

Date of Homicide: 11/13/04

Victim: White Male, 26

Suspect: White Male, 49

I. CRIME

A. RELATIONSHIP: Father/Son

B. CASE SUMMARY: The victim went to suspect's house to return some property that he and the suspect were having a dispute over. The suspect shot the victim while they were arguing in the front yard. The day before the homicide, the suspect called police stating the victim had been drinking and came over to the house. They argued about a ring the suspect gave the victim to hold until the suspect's divorce was final. The victim spit in the suspect's face and slapped the suspect.

C. CHILDREN: The victim's seven year old son was a witness to the incident.

II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS

A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1. Victim - No record

2. Suspect - 11/02/03 - Domestic Battery on step-daughter. Nolle Prossed.

B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

1. Victim - 10/09/00 - Affray (Fighting). Pled Guilty. Adjudication withheld. 1 day jail time.

2. Suspect - No record

C. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARRESTS

1. Victim - No record

2. Suspect - a) 07/31/03 - Obtaining a Controlled Substance by Fraud. Pled Guilty. 2 days jail time.

b) 12/17/00 - Disorderly Intoxication. Pled Guilty. 1 day jail time.

c) 03/27/82 - DUI. Pled Guilty. 1 day jail time.

III. CIVIL

A. Victim - No record

B. Suspect - 1/13/00 - Suspect was Baker Acted after threatening suicide.

IV. SERVICES

A. Victim - No record

B. Suspect - No record

V. OTHER CONCERNS

The suspect had a known history of alcohol and substance abuse. He also had a history of mental health issues. Both parties had a history of violence. According to police reports, suspect was depressed over the death of a child and losing his job. According to police incident reports, the victim also had a substance abuse problem and in 2000 made threats to harm his ex-girlfriend and their son.

FLORIDA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM ANNUAL SUMMARY EVALUATION

TEAM: Duval County

YEAR: 2004

NAME OF CONTACT: Libby Senterfitt

PHONE: (904) 630-2502

1) What are the most significant findings from your review(s)? a) There were a large number of elderly victims this year. 56% of the victims were 65 years old or older. b) In cases where there were prior arrests for domestic violence none of the perpetrators were referred to a Batterers' Intervention Program. c) 44% of the suspects had mental health issues; and d) None of the victim's children were referred to the HARK Program.

2) What changes in policy or procedure (if any) was made as a result of your review? This Committee continues to support absolute statutory compliance by sending perpetrators of domestic violence to certified BIP.

2a) Where did they occur? N/A

2b) How were they implemented (e.g., formal written policy, memo of understanding, or by formal agreement)? N/A

3) What change(s) in law, policy or procedure (if any) does your team recommend for consideration at the state level? Mandatory judicial training on issues of domestic violence.

4) Additional comments or concerns? _____

PATTERNS/2004 ONLY

GENDER

- 4 males killed female partners
- 1 female killed male partner
- 1 male killed adult son
- 1 male killed elderly mother
- 2 males killed a grandparent; in one of these cases, the male also killed his grandfather's live-in companion

RACE

- Victims
 - 7 White
 - 2 Black
 - 1 Asian
- Suspects
 - 7 White
 - 1 Black
 - 1 Asian

RELATIONSHIP

Intimate homicides

- 2 married and co-habiting; in one of these, 2 relatives were also killed
- 1 not married and co-habiting
- 1 married but separated
- 1 not married but formerly co-habiting

Non-Intimate homicides

- 1 father killed son
- 1 son killed mother
- 2 grandsons killed a grandparent

METHOD

- 3 gunshot wounds
- 3 stabbed
- 2 blunt trauma (one with golf club, one with guitar)
- 1 asphyxiation

CHILDREN

- In 2 cases there were children present

CRIMINAL HISTORY - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Victims
 - 1 male with three domestic violence arrests
- Suspects
 - 1 male with one domestic violence battery on a person 65 years
 - 1 male with one domestic battery conviction and one violation of probation
 - 1 male with one domestic violence police report against another family member
 - 1 male with one domestic battery arrest

**INJUNCTIONS
AND OTHER
CIVIL
MATTERS**

- 1 Injunction petition filed against a male victim, but Injunction dismissed
- 1 suspect with two Baker Act commitments
- 1 Injunction in place against male suspect
- 1 suspect reported to Adult Protective Services

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

- No record

SHELTER SERVICES

- Victims
 - Safety planning done with 1 female

HARK

- No record of HARK

INTERVENTION

- No record of Intervention

**ALCOHOL/DRUG
ABUSE**

- Victims
 - 1 male with substance abuse (alcohol related) arrests
- Suspects
 - 1 male with four drug possession arrests
 - 1 male with one DUI arrest, one disorderly conduct arrest, and one Obtaining a controlled substance by Fraud arrest
 - 1 female with one drug conviction

**MENTAL HEALTH
ISSUES**

- Suspects
 - 3 males and one female with mental health issues

PATTERNS DATE (1997 - 2004)

(97 Months, Includes December 1996)

**86 Cases (68 of these Intimate Cases)
97 Murders (74 of these Intimate Murders)
20 Suicides**

GENDER

Intimate homicides

- 48 males killed their female partners resulting in 56 murders
 - 1 also killed the wife's boyfriend
 - 1 also killed his grown daughter and son-in-law
 - 1 also killed his ex-girlfriend's minor daughter and current boyfriend
 - 1 also killed his ex-girlfriend
 - 1 also killed his father-in-law and brother-in-law
- 18 women killed their male partners
 - in one case the current boyfriend is also a suspect
- 2 men killed same sex partners
- 1 man killed former girlfriend's current boyfriend

Non-Intimate homicides

- 13 men killed other family members resulting in 16 murders
- 2 women killed other family members resulting in 2 murders
- 2 men killed ex-partner's current boyfriend resulting in 2 murders (intimate partners were injured but not killed)
- 1 man killed his infant son (intimate partner was injured but not killed)

Homicide Suicides

- 17 men committed suicide
- 3 women committed suicide

RACE

- Victims
 - 60 White
 - 33 Black
 - 3 Asian
 - 1 Hispanic
- Suspects
 - 53 White
 - 31 Black
 - 2 Asian

RELATIONSHIP

- 68 cases with 76 victims involved intimate relationships
- 28 married and co-habiting
 - 7 married and separated
 - 21 not married and co-habiting
 - 11 not married and not co-habiting
 - 1 divorced but co-habiting

18 cases with 21 victims involved non-intimate relationships

- 9 males killed parents/step-parents/grandparents
 - 2 cases where son killed both parents
 - 2 cases where son killed mother
 - 1 case where son killed father
 - 1 case where step-son killed step-father
 - 3 cases where grandson killed grandparent, one also killed companion
- 4 males killed children/step-children
 - 1 case where step-father killed step-son
 - 1 case where step-father killed step-daughter
 - 1 case where father killed infant son
 - 1 case where father killed adult son
- 1 male killed his brother
- 2 males killed boyfriend of ex-partner*
- 1 female killed her son
- 1 female killed her brother

* Though the relationship does not fit the definition in statute for domestic violence, the committee counted these cases in our study since they happened during an attack on an intimate partner. In both cases, the intimate partner was injured but not killed.

METHOD

- 52 gunshot wounds
- 22 knife wounds
 - 1 was also suffocated
 - 1 was also beaten
- 8 strangulations
- 8 blunt trauma
- 1 thrown off bridge
- 1 died of a heart attack during the crime
- 1 rectal trauma
- 1 bombing
- 1 hit by car
- 1 asphyxiation

CHILDREN

- 31 cases involved individuals with children. In 20 of these cases, the children were present during the homicide. All were intimate cases.
 - In one case victim's 16 year old daughter was killed
 - In one case victim's 16 year old sister was killed
 - In one case suspect killed infant son

CRIMINAL HISTORY - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Victims
 - 18 males had prior arrest(s) for domestic violence
 - 1 male named as domestic violence suspect by different victim
 - 5 females had prior arrest(s) for domestic violence
- Suspects
 - 23 males had prior arrest(s) for domestic violence
 - 1 male had prior arrest for domestic violence against different victim
 - 4 females had prior arrest(s) for domestic violence

INJUNCTIONS

- Victims
 - 7 females had Injunctions in place
 - 2 reported violations
 - 2 females had a prior Injunction
 - 4 females had Temporary Injunctions dismissed for failure to appear
 - 1 female had Injunction against husband's girlfriend
- Suspects
 - 3 male respondents of an Injunction
 - 1 male was a respondent of an Injunction as part of divorce

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

- Victims
 - 3 females had child neglect reports against them
 - 1 female had a child abuse report against her
 - 1 child victim's mother had a child neglect report against her
- Suspects
 - 4 males had child neglect reports against them
 - 5 males had child abuse reports against them

SHELTER SERVICES

- Victims
 - 3 females stayed briefly in shelter years before homicide
 - 4 females were provided court advocacy services (2 of these were sheltered above)
 - 2 females received safety planning
- Suspects
 - 1 female went through domestic violence education class
 - 2 females received outreach services

HARK

- 2 HARK referrals even though children were living in the home in 28 of the cases and actually present and/or witnessed the homicide in 19 of the cases

INTERVENTION

- Victims
 - 3 males were ordered into BIP as a result of DV arrests
 - 1 male ordered to generic counseling for previous domestic battery
 - 4 males ordered as part of earlier domestic violence cases to anger management
- Suspects
 - 10 male suspects ordered into Batterers' Intervention Program (BIP)
 - 1 suspect ordered to marriage counseling as part of Injunction
 - 1 male suspect ordered into Anger Control for previous domestic battery

ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE

Police reports indicate alcohol or drug use at time of homicide by 9 victims and 10 suspects

- 31 cases noted suspects had a substance abuse history

**MENTAL HEALTH
ISSUES**

- 19 cases noted mental health issues with suspects (1 of these males with three suicide attempts)

CONCLUSIONS

(1997 - 2004)

There has been a decrease in the number of intimate domestic homicides since the inception of the INVEST program at the end of 1999. In the three years prior to INVEST, there was a steady increase from eight in 1997 to thirteen in 1999. The committee feels that INVEST is important to the Jacksonville community and recommends that the collaboration of agencies through INVEST continues.

This year there is a significant increase in the number of non-intimate homicides and an unusually high percentage of elderly victims. The committee will continue to track the number of elderly victims to determine whether this is a pattern or an anomaly.

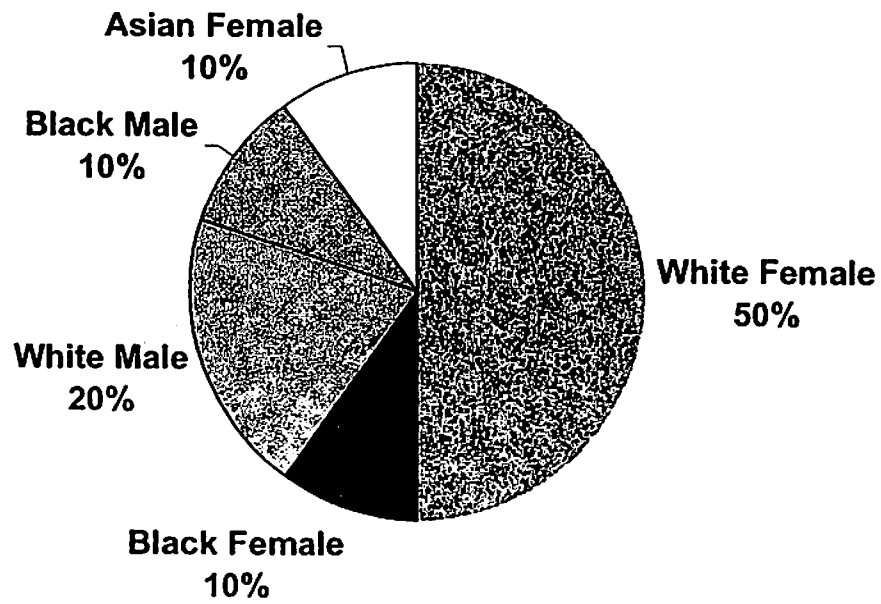
As noted in last year's report: "The committee continues to note several mental health issues in our reviews. Many suspects talked with family, friends, and co-workers about suicide before the murders. Depression and suicidal ideations are clearly red flags and lethality indicators in cases of domestic violence. More community awareness about mental health issues and appropriate intervention is needed. Additionally, we note the need for more information sharing between criminal courts and civil proceedings concerning Baker Acts and other civil commitment actions."

The committee continues to be concerned that not enough batterers are ordered into statutorily mandated state certified batterers' intervention programs (BIP). BIP has clearly proven to be the most effective method we have as a community for changing perpetrators' behavior. 88% of participants who complete BIP are not re-arrested for another domestic crime for three years. (This is as long as this statistic has been tracked). Additionally, perpetrators need to be held accountable when they do not complete BIP. It would be beneficial for those working in the criminal justice system to receive more training about these programs.

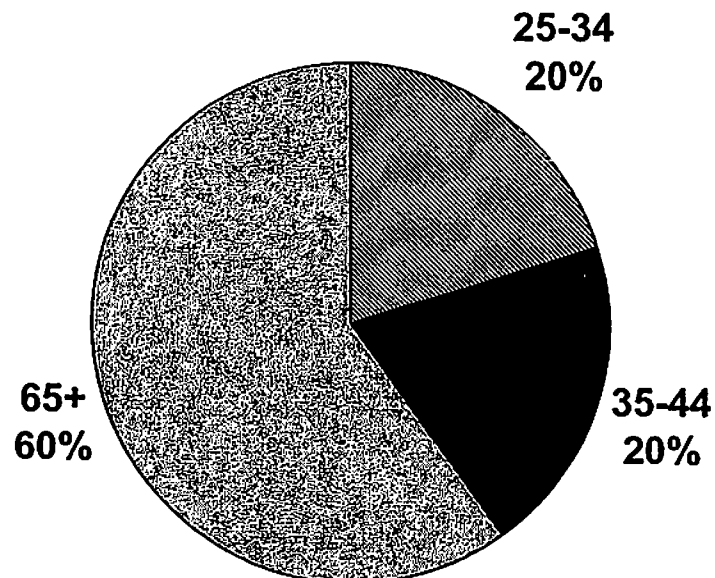
Graphs

1997 THROUGH 2004

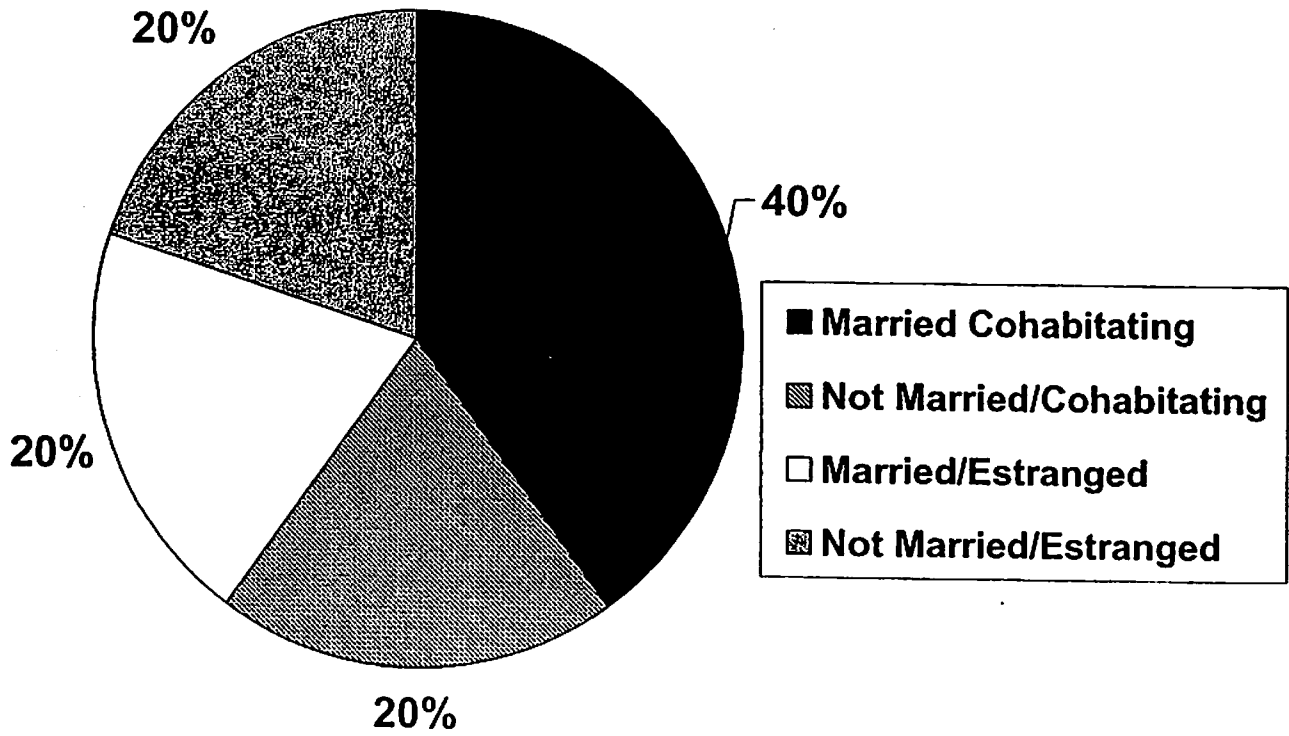
Race and Gender of Domestic Homicide Victims 2004



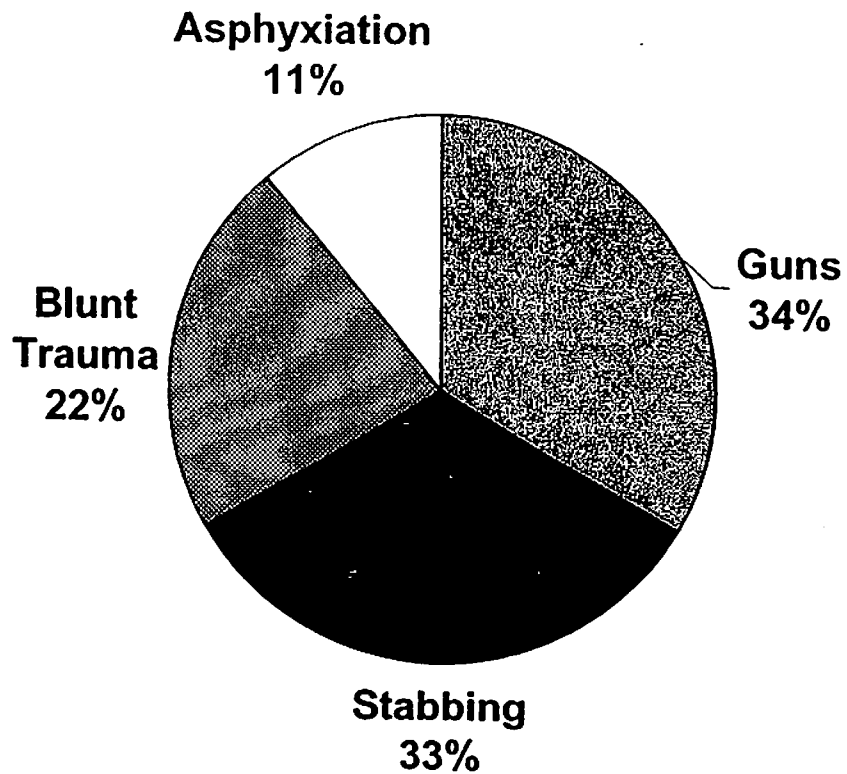
Age of Domestic Homicide Victims 2004



Relationship Status of Intimate Homicides 2004

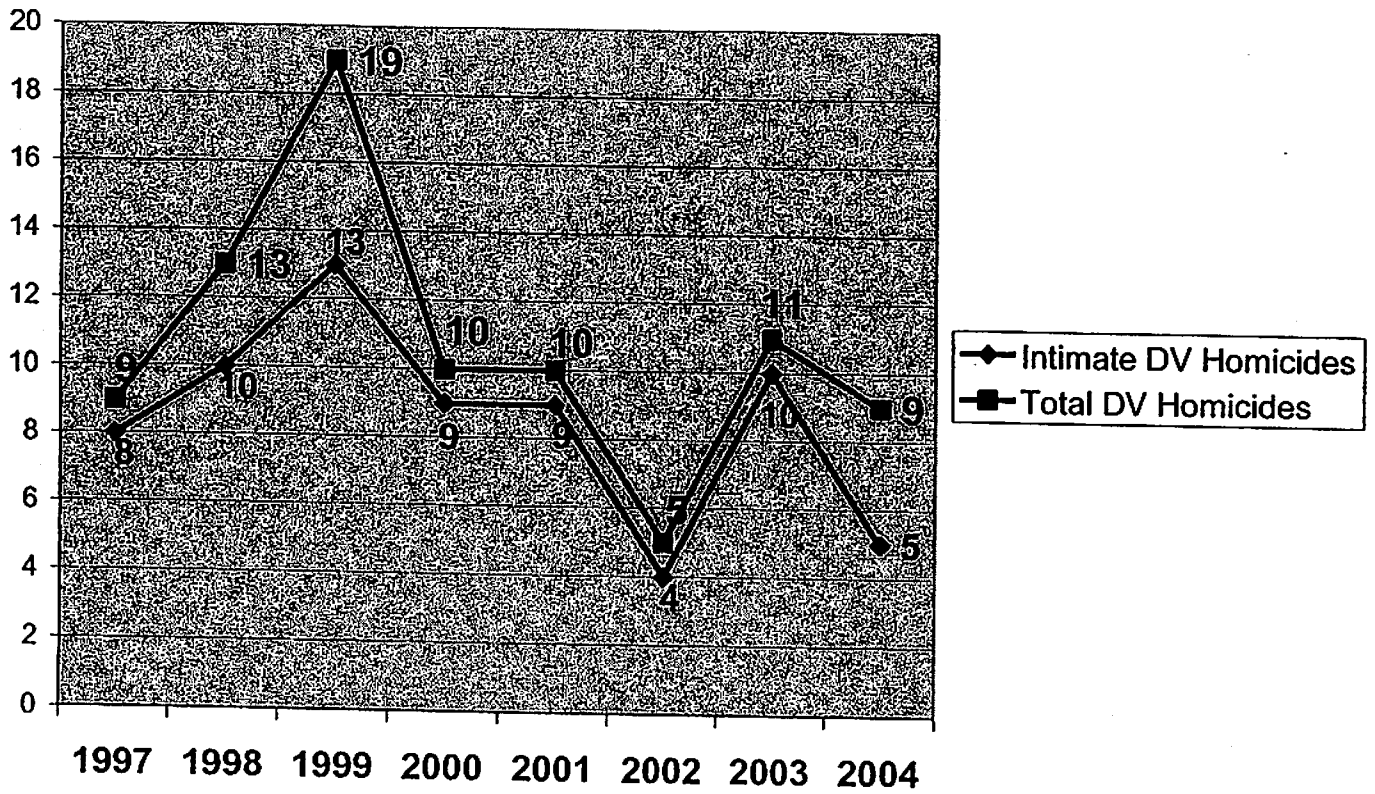


Method of Homicide 2004

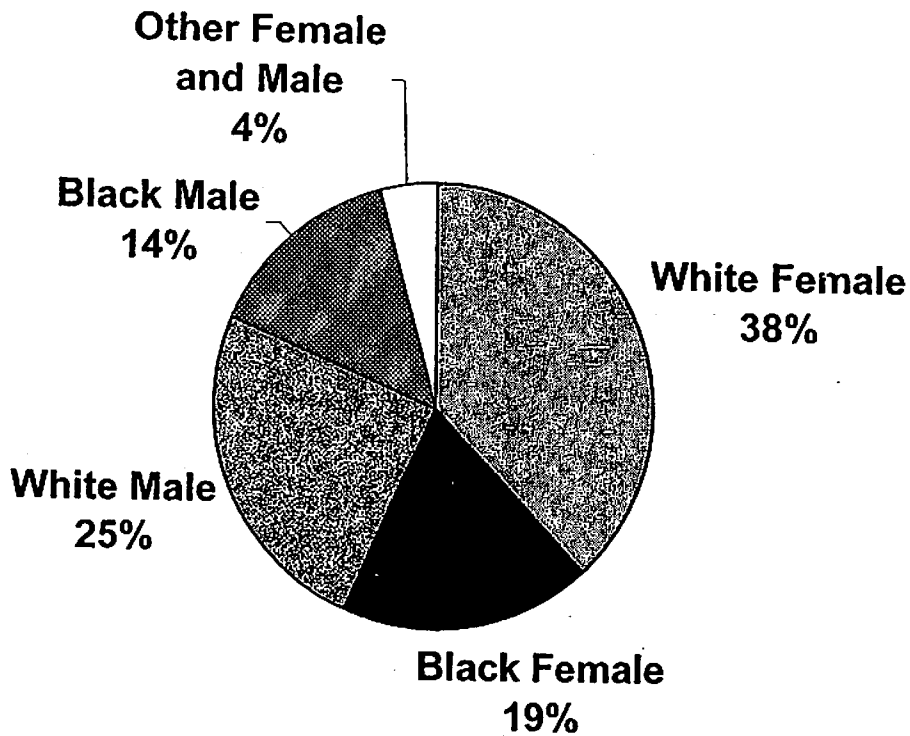


Graphs
1997 THROUGH 2004

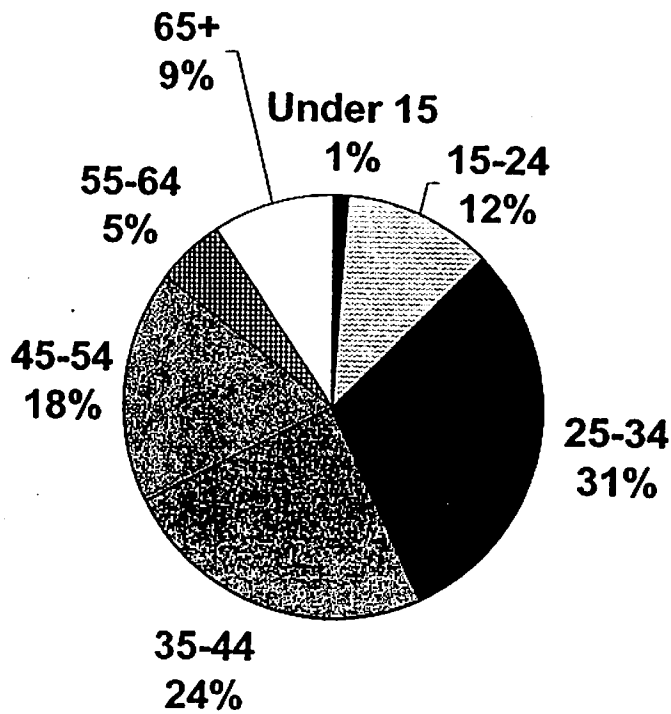
Domestic Homicides 1997 to 2004



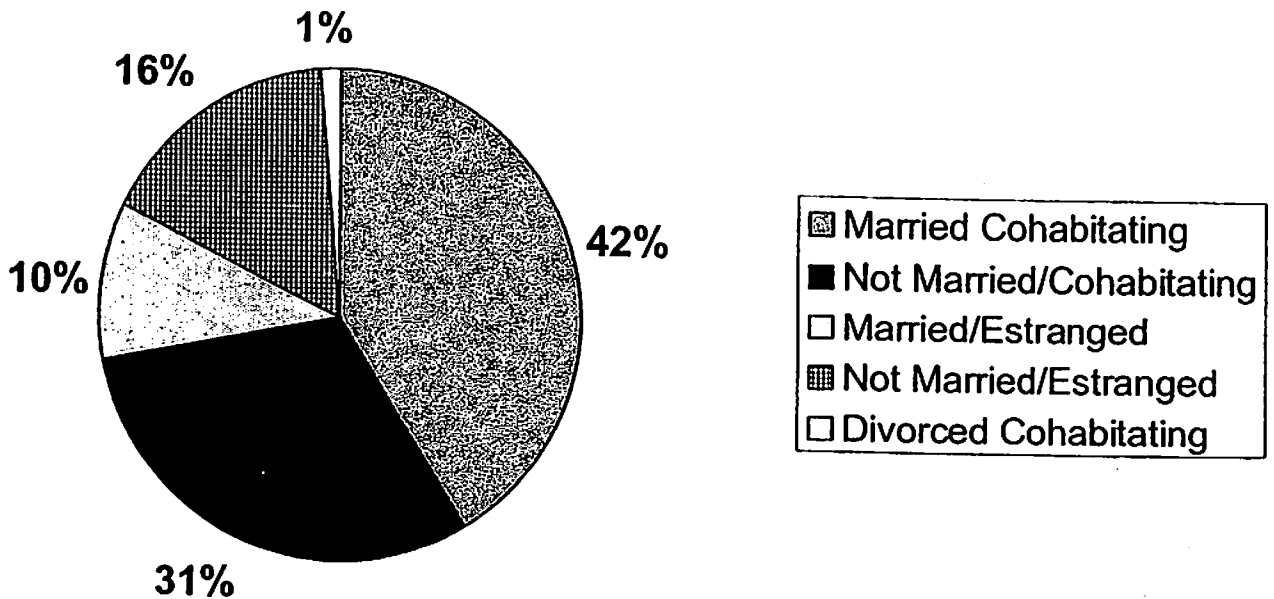
Race and Gender of Domestic Homicide Victims 1997 to 2004



Age Range of Victims 1997 to 2004

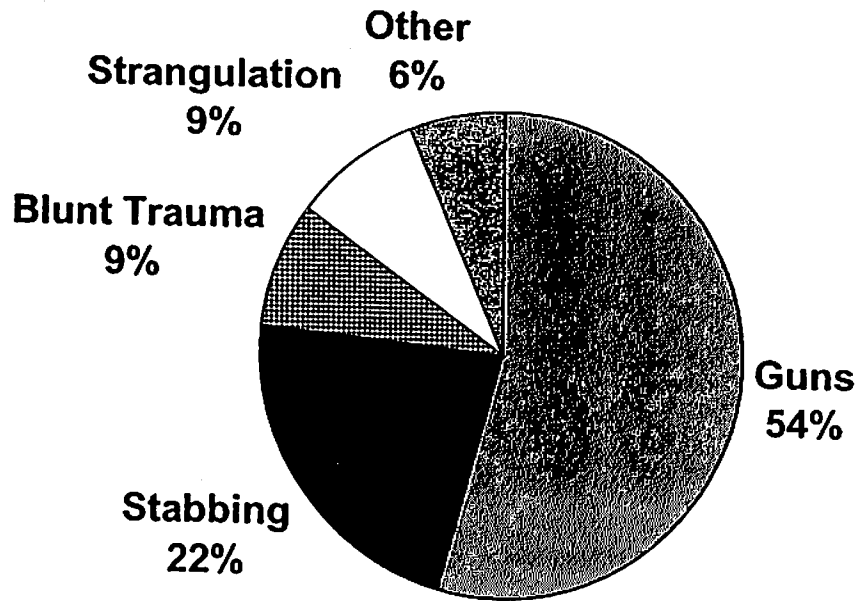


Relationship Status of Intimate Homicides 1997 to 2004

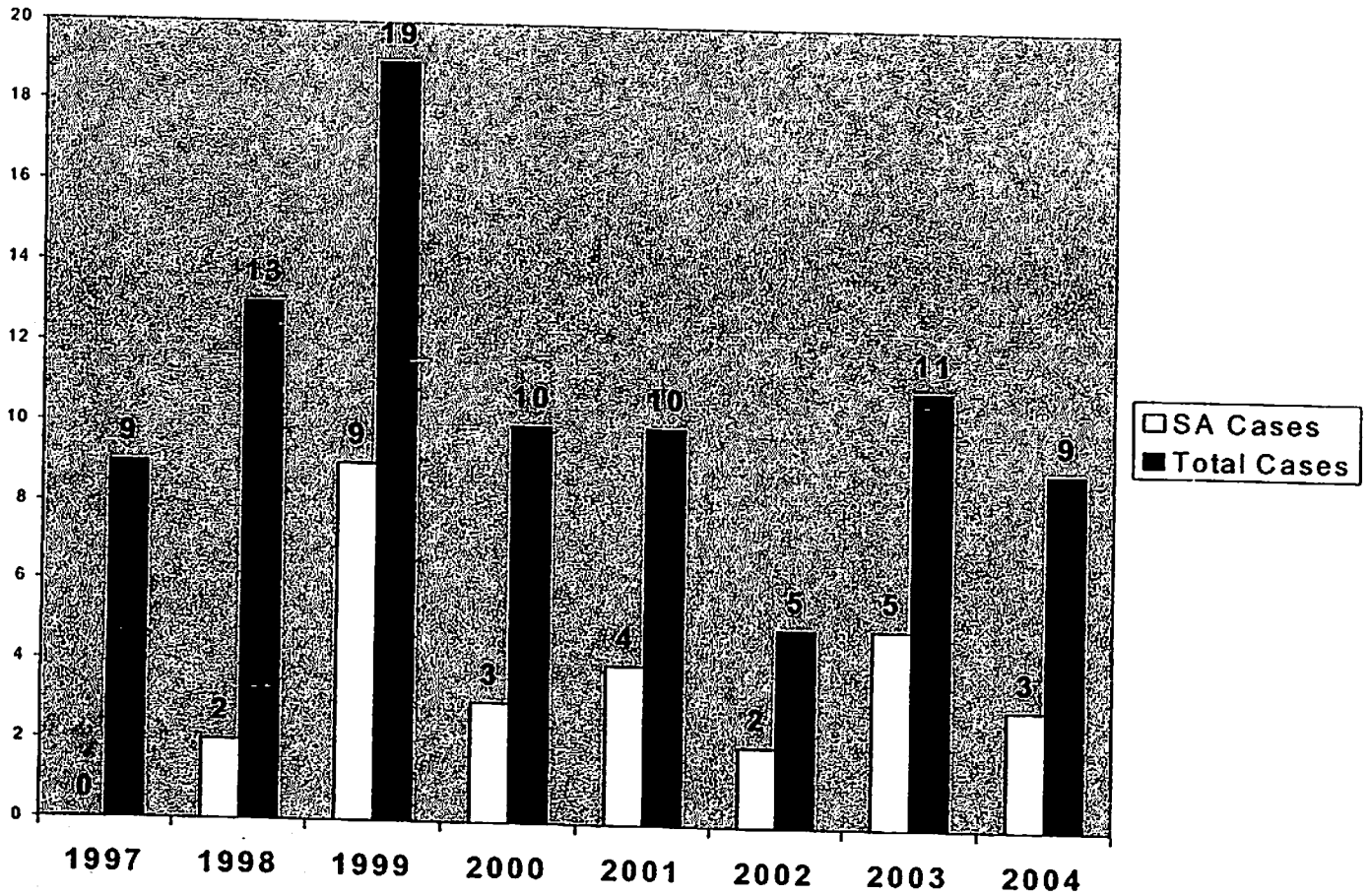


- Married Cohabiting
- Not Married/Cohabiting
- Married/Estranged
- Not Married/Estranged
- Divorced Cohabiting

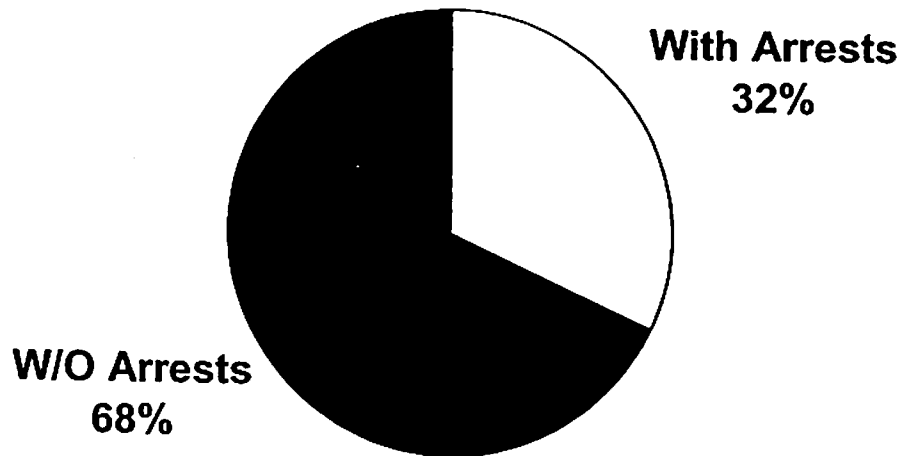
Method of Homicide 1997 to 2004



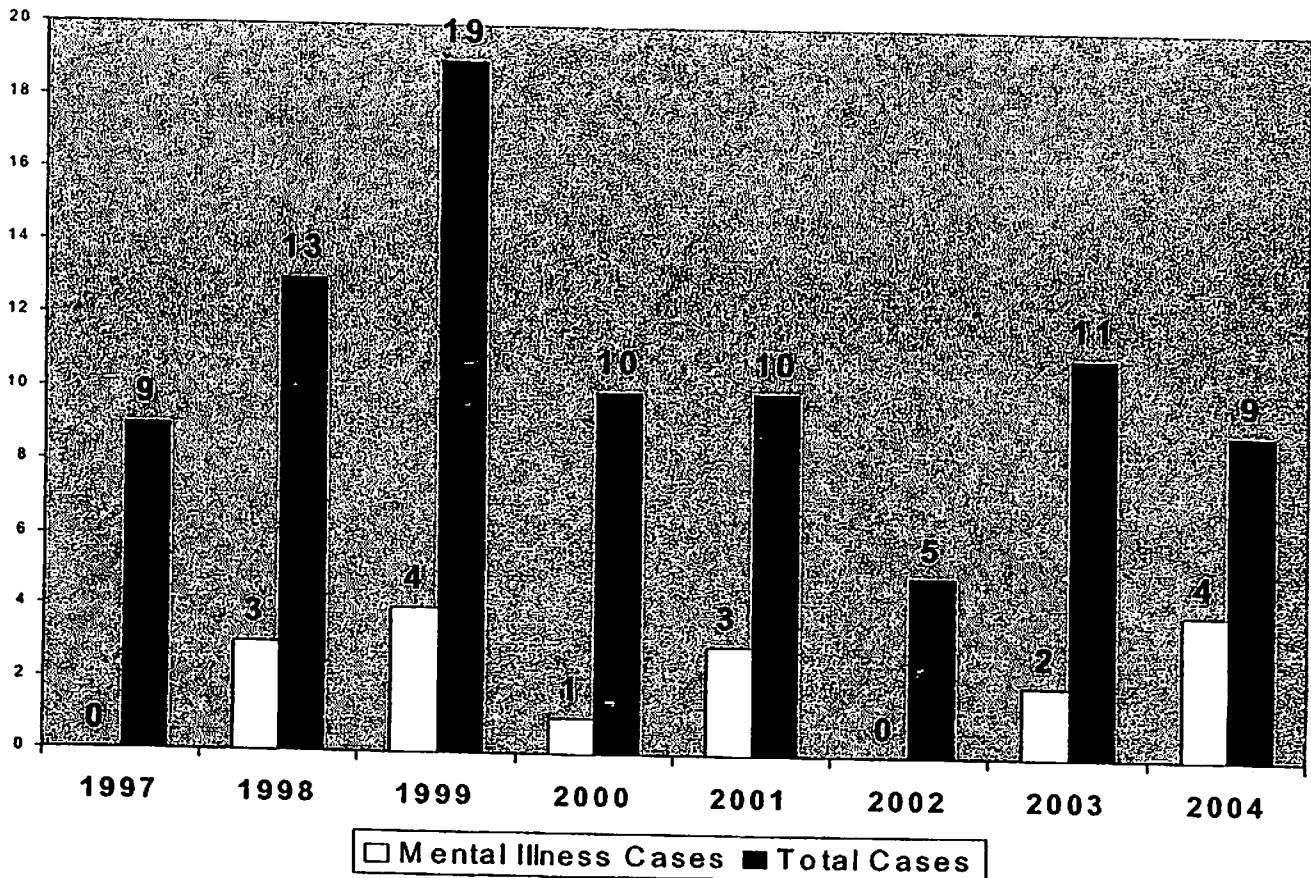
Suspects with Past Substance Abuse Arrests 1997 to 2004



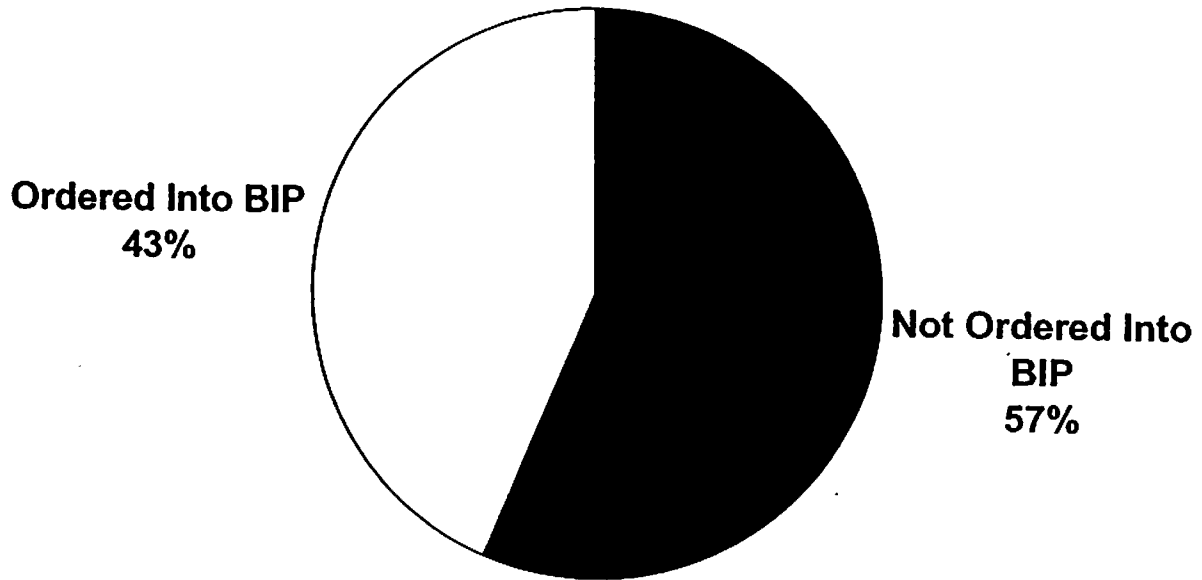
Suspects With Prior Domestic Violence Arrest History 1997 to 2004



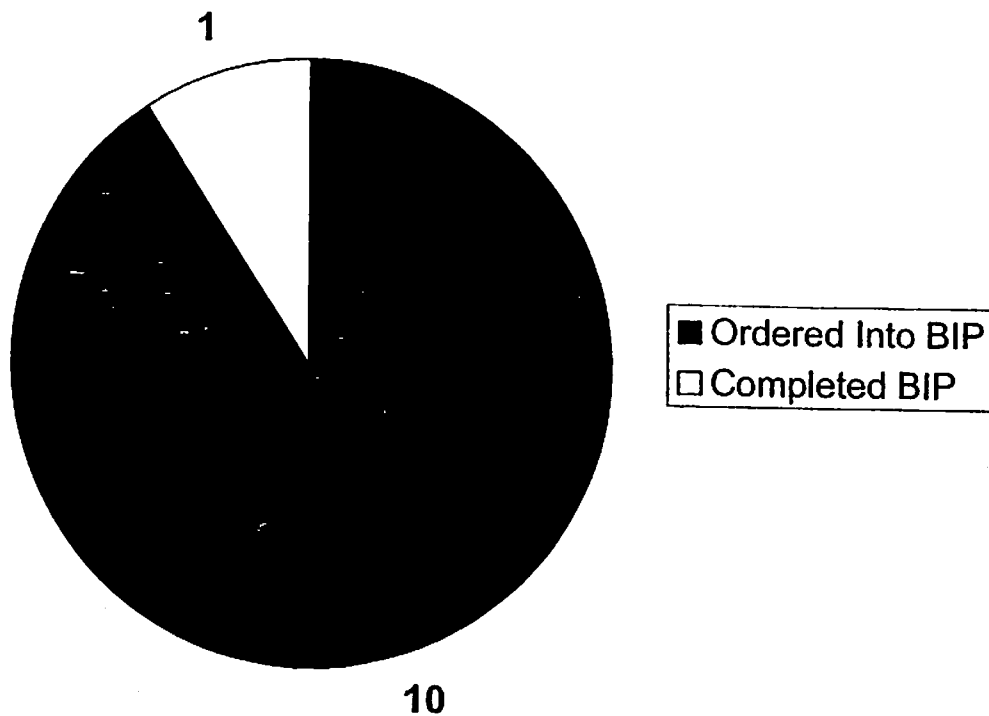
Suspects With Mental Illness History 1997 to 2004



Suspects With History of Domestic Violence Arrests Ordered Into Batterers' Intervention Program 1997 to 2004



Suspects With History of Domestic Violence Arrests Completing Batterers Intervention Program 1997 to 2004



APPENDIX A
1997 PATTERNS

APPENDIX A

1997 PATTERNS

GENDER

Six of the homicides were committed by women who killed their male partners. Two were committed by men who killed their female partners. One was committed by an adult male who killed his parents.

RACE

Six of the victims were black; four were white; seven of the suspects were black; two were white.

RELATIONSHIP

Three of the parties were married and cohabitating at the time of the homicide; three were non-married partners who were not currently cohabitating; two were non-married partners cohabitating, one was an adult man and his parents, thus non-intimate partners.

METHOD

Five of the homicides were the result of gunshot wounds. Three of the homicides were the result of stab wounds, one victim died as the result of strangulation and one victim died of a heart attack during the crime.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

Four male victims had prior arrests for domestic violence. One male suspect had a prior arrest for domestic violence. Additionally, four male victims were named as suspects in other domestic violence police reports.

No females had arrest records for domestic violence, but one female suspect was named as the suspect in a domestic violence report.

CHILDREN

Children were eyewitnesses to two of the murders. In one other murder, a one year old child was present in the home.

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

One family had an HRS referral for child neglect before the murder.

SHELTER SERVICES

None of the victims used local shelter services.

HARK

No children attended the HARK Program.

INJUNCTIONS

In the nine domestic homicides, one female suspect filed a prior injunction against the victim.

INTERVENTION

Three male victims were ordered in the Batterers' Intervention Program and one appears to have completed the program. No male suspects were ordered in a batterers' intervention program and thus none completed one.

APPENDIX B
1998 PATTERNS

APPENDIX B

1998 PATTERNS

GENDER

Seven of the homicides were committed by men who killed their female partners. During one of these homicides, the man also killed his wife's boyfriend. Two of the homicides were committed by women who killed their male partners. One man killed his same sex partner. One man killed his father. One man killed his stepdaughter during a fight with his wife. One woman killed her brother. Four of the men subsequently killed themselves as did one of the women.

RACE

Six of the victims were black, six were white, and two of the victims were Asian. Eight of the suspects were white, four of the suspects were black, and one of the suspects was Asian.

RELATIONSHIP

Three of the parties were married and cohabitating. Three of the parties were married and separated. Two of the parties were not married and cohabitating. One of the parties was not married and currently not cohabitating. Three of the parties were in a non-intimate relationship.

METHOD

Ten of the homicides were the result of gunshot wounds. Three were the result of knife wounds. One was the result of strangulation.

CHILDREN

Five of the cases had children present during the homicide, one additional case involved an infant who may or may not have been present.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

Two male victims had prior arrests for domestic violence; four male suspects had prior arrests for domestic violence. Additionally, one male victim and one male suspect were named as suspects in other domestic violence police reports.

Three female victims had prior arrests for domestic violence; two female suspects had prior arrests for domestic violence.

INJUNCTIONS

In the 13 domestic homicides, three of the female victims had injunctions in place during the murder. Two of them had reported violations in these existing injunctions. One of the aforementioned victims had a separate injunction two and one-half years prior to her death which resulted in the suspect being violated with the court dismissing the case because the victim failed to appear.

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

Two families had referrals to the Department of Children and Families.

SHELTER SERVICES

One female victim received shelter and court advocacy. Two additional female victims sought court advocacy services. One female suspect went through the Safe Choices class twice.

HARK

In one case the children were referred to HARK.

INTERVENTION

One male suspect was ordered to attend a batterers' intervention program two years prior to the murder; he was violated for failure to enroll. Another male suspect was ordered to attend a batterers' intervention program in the month preceding the murder. Other intervention was ordered as follows: one suspect was ordered into marriage counseling as part of an injunction. One male victim had been ordered into generic counseling for a previous Domestic Battery. Three male victims were previously ordered as part of an earlier domestic violence case to attend Anger Control.

APPENDIX C
1999 PATTERNS

APPENDIX C

1999 PATTERNS

GENDER

Nine of the homicides were committed by men who killed their female partners. Three of the homicides were committed by women who killed their male partners. One man killed his same sex partner. One man killed his brother, one man killed his son, one man killed his mother, and one man killed his grandmother. One man killed his estranged wife's boyfriend. One elderly woman killed her disabled son and then herself. Two of the men subsequently killed themselves, and one man shot himself in the face, but lived. Two men attempted suicide after their incarceration.

RACE

Five of the victims were black, thirteen were white, and one was hispanic. Five of the suspects were black, and four were white.

RELATIONSHIP

Four of the parties were married and cohabitating. Two of the parties were married and separated. Six of the parties were not married and cohabitating. One of the parties was not married and currently not cohabitating. In one case, the boyfriend of the suspect's estranged wife was murdered and the wife was injured. Five of the parties were in a non-intimate relationship.

METHOD

Seven of the homicides were the result of gunshot wounds. Seven were the result of knife wounds. Two were the result of strangulation, two were the result of blunt trauma to the head, and one was thrown off a bridge and drowned.

CHILDREN

Five of the cases had children present during the homicide.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

Seven male victims had prior arrests for domestic violence, four male suspects had prior arrests for domestic violence. One female victim had an arrest for domestic violence. One male suspect had an arrest for child abuse.

INJUNCTIONS

Three female victims had temporary injunctions that were dismissed for their failure to appear. One male suspect was the respondent of an injunction, and one male suspect was the respondent of an injunction as part of a prior divorce.

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

One male suspect had a child abuse referral.

SHELTER SERVICES

One female victim stayed briefly in shelter years before her death, yet did not attend counseling sessions.

HARK

There were no HARK referrals, though children were present in five of the homicides.

INTERVENTION

Two male suspects were terminated for failure to attend Batterers' Intervention. One male completed Batterers' Intervention, but later killed his mother. One male suspect was ordered to attend Batterers' Intervention, but murdered his victim before enrolling. Three male suspects completed anger management.

ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE

Two victims had history of illegal drug arrests, and four had history of alcohol-related arrests. Seven suspects had a history of alcohol-related arrests, and two had a history of illegal drug arrests. Reports indicated alcohol or drug use at the time of the homicide by three victims and two suspects.

APPENDIX D
2000 PATTERNS

APPENDIX D

2000 PATTERNS

GENDER

Seven of the homicides were committed by men who killed their female partners, resulting in eight deaths (as one man murdered his wife and ex-girlfriend). Two of the homicides were committed by women who killed their male partners. One man killed his parents. Six of the male suspects subsequently killed themselves as did one of the female suspects.

RACE

Seven of the victims were white and five were black. Seven of the suspects were white, and three were black.

RELATIONSHIP

Five of the cases involved parties who were married and co-habiting. One of these cases also involved a victim (ex-girlfriend) who was not married or co-habiting with the suspect. Four of the cases involved parties who were not married and were co-habiting. One case involved a non-intimate relationship where a mother and father and adult son were living in one household.

METHOD

Eight of the homicides were the result of gunshot wounds. All six suicides were the result of gunshot wounds. Three of the homicides were the result of strangulation and one homicide was the result of rectal trauma.

CHILDREN

None of the cases reported the presence of children during the homicide.

CRIMINAL HISTORY - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

One male suspect had a prior arrest for domestic violence.

INJUNCTIONS

One female victim had a permanent injunction against her husband's ex-girlfriend.

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

No victims nor suspects were named in any child abuse reports.

SHELTER SERVICES

No victims nor suspects sought any shelter services.

HARK

There were no HARK referrals and no children were present during the homicides.

INTERVENTION

Only one suspect had a prior domestic violence arrest. No intervention was ordered as the case was dropped.

ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE

There were no victims with a history of illegal drug arrests; one victim had a history of alcohol-related arrests. One suspect had a history of alcohol-related arrests; two suspects had a history of illegal drug arrests. Reports indicated alcohol or drug use at the time of the homicide by two victims and two suspects.

APPENDIX E
2001 PATTERNS

APPENDIX E

2001 PATTERNS

GENDER

Seventy percent (70%) of the homicides were committed by men who killed their female partners, resulting in nine homicides as one man also murdered his daughter and son-in-law. Two (20%) of the cases were committed by women who killed their male partners (in one of the cases, a male boyfriend is also a suspect). One man (10%) killed his former girlfriend's current boyfriend. Two suspects committed suicide.

RACE

Nine of the victims were white and three were black. Five of the suspects were white, and six were black.

RELATIONSHIP

Five (50%) of the cases involved parties who were married and co-habiting (one of these cases also involved the homicide of the daughter and son-in-law). In one case, the couple were married and separated (10%) and in one case the couple were divorced (10%). Three (30%) of the cases involved parties who were not married and were co-habiting. One case involved a former boyfriend striking his former girlfriend and killing her current boyfriend. All the cases this year involved intimate relationships, though in one case the person killed was not the one who had been in an intimate relationship.

METHOD

Three of the cases resulting in five homicides (50%) were the result of gunshot wounds, as were the two suicides. Two cases (20%) were knife wounds; one of these also involved blunt trauma and burns. In addition, one case involved blunt trauma; one was a bombing; and one case involved hitting the victim with a car.

CHILDREN

Three of the cases (30%) reported the presence of children during the homicide.

CRIMINAL HISTORY - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Three male suspects and one female suspect had a prior arrest for domestic violence.

INJUNCTIONS

One female victim had an injunction.

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

One victim and two suspects were named in child abuse reports.

SHELTER SERVICES

One victim stayed in shelter services and received court advocacy services.

HARK

There was one HARK referral. Six children were present during the homicides. As to three children, it is unknown if they were present.

INTERVENTION

One suspect was ordered to complete a batterer's intervention program but failed to do so.

ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE

There were two victims with a history of illegal drug arrests. Three victims had a history of alcohol-related arrests. One suspect had a history of alcohol-related arrests; two suspects had a history of illegal drug arrests and one suspect had both alcohol and drug-related arrests.

APPENDIX F
2002 PATTERNS

APPENDIX F

2002 PATTERNS

GENDER

- 4 males killed female partners; in one case the victim's 16 year old daughter was killed as well
- 1 male killed his stepfather

RACE

- Victims
 - 5 White
 - 1 Black
- Suspects
 - 3 White
 - 1 Black

RELATIONSHIP

- 1 not married and co-habiting
- 2 not married and separated
- 1 divorced but co-habiting
- 1 non-intimate - son killed stepfather

METHOD

- 6 gunshot wounds
- 1 stabbed and beaten

CHILDREN

- In one case there were four children present; one of the children was killed (16 year old female)

CRIMINAL HISTORY - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Victims
 - 1 female with two domestic violence and one other violence arrest
 - 1 female with a murder arrest
- Suspect
 - 1 male with three domestic violence arrests

INJUNCTIONS AND OTHER CIVIL

- No Injunctions
- 1 couple divorced but living together

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

- 1 report against victim and suspect for neglect
- 1 report against suspect

SHELTER SERVICES

- No record of services

HARK

- No record of HARK

INTERVENTION

- Suspects
 - 1 male ordered to Batterer's Intervention but had not enrolled

ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE

- Victims
 - 1 female with two DUI's
- Suspects
 - 1 male with two DUI's
 - 1 male with seven substance abuse arrests and no treatment

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

- No record of mental health issues

APPENDIX G
2003 PATTERNS

**INJUNCTIONS
AND OTHER
CIVIL
MATTERS**

- 1 Injunction petition filed against a male victim, but Injunction dismissed
- 1 suspect with two Baker Act commitments; 1 suspect with one Baker Act commitment
- 2 Injunctions in place against male suspects

CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS

- 1 report against suspect and victim's mother for neglect and domestic violence
- 1 report against suspect

SHELTER SERVICES

- Victims
 - Safety planning done with 1 female
- Suspects
 - 2 females received services through the local shelter

HARK

- No record of HARK

INTERVENTION

- Suspects
 - 1 male ordered to Batterers' Intervention but terminated for excess absences
 - 1 male ordered to Batterers' Intervention but was allowed to enroll 3 times while only attending one class, order was changed to require only Anger Management
 - 1 suspect enrolled twice in Batterers' Intervention and once in Anger Control
 - 1 male ordered to Batterers' Intervention but failed to enroll

**ALCOHOL/DRUG
ABUSE**

- Victims
 - 1 female with three DUI's and two drug arrests
- Suspects
 - 2 males with two drug possession arrests each
 - 1 male with one DUI arrest
 - 1 male with one juvenile alcohol possession arrest
 - 1 male with one drug conviction
 - 1 male with two DUI arrests

**MENTAL HEALTH
ISSUES**

- Suspects
 - 4 males with mental health issues (1 of these males with three suicide attempts)

