

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW  
2013 REPORT**

**An Examination of  
Domestic Violence Homicides  
in Duval County, Florida  
January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013**

**and**

**An Analysis of Domestic Violence Homicides  
December 1996 through December 2013**

**September 2014**

**Submitted By**

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

**2013 Review Team Chair**

**Theresa Simak, Assistant State Attorney  
Fourth Judicial Circuit, State of Florida**

**2013 Review Team Members**

Donna Beasley, Homicide Detective, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Sharon Michelle Felix, Court Specialist, Family Court Services Domestic Violence

LaTresa Henderson, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate/  
Support Specialist, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, US Navy

Sgt. Daniel Janson, Homicide Sergeant, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Ashley Mathews, Court Specialist, Family Court Services Domestic Violence

Mindy Mesh, InVEST/Family Violence Detective, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Sonte' Pollock, InVEST Victim Advocate, Hubbard House, Inc.

Dr. Christine Rasche, Professor Emeritus, Department of Criminology & Criminal  
Justice, University of North Florida

Ellen Siler, Chief Executive Officer, Hubbard House, Inc.

**The 2013 Duval Country Domestic Fatality Review Report was sponsored by the Domestic Violence Intervention Project Committee (DVIP).**

**2014 DVIP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON:**

Ellen Siler, Hubbard House, Inc.

**2014 DVIP PARTICIPANTS:**

Chuck Bishop, Family Court Services

Loretta Brienza, New Beginnings: Domestic Violence Options

Barbara Carter, Salvation Army Batterers' Intervention Program

Kelly Dearing, State Attorney's Office

Olivia Duffy, US Navy, Family Advocacy Program, Naval Station Mayport

Sharon Michelle Felix, DVIP Secretary, Family Court Services–Domestic Violence–Civil

Vanessa Francis, First Step Program, Hubbard House, Inc.

Dianca Frazier, Family Advocacy Program, Naval Station Mayport

Nicoa Garrett, Family Court Services

Eve Janocko, Court Administration

Jennifer Jerome – Jacksonville Area Legal Aid

Stella Johnson, Family Nurturing Center

Laura Lentini, Family Court Services

Mindy Mesh, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Stacy O'Brien, Hubbard House, Inc.

Kathy Pannell, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Gail Patin, Hubbard House, Inc.

Colleen Reardon, Salvation Army Probation and Parole

Steve Rudlaff, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Erica Schneider, US Navy, Family Advocacy Program, NAS Jacksonville

The Honorable David Wiggins, Administrative Judge, Family Law Division

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
1. INTRODUCTION_____	5
2. METHODOLOGY_____	7
3. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS_____	11
4. GRAPHS – CURRENT AND CUMULATIVE YEARS_____	15
5. ZIP CODE MAP FOR 2006-2013_____	27
6. PATTERNS – 2013 ONLY_____	28
7. PATTERNS FOR 1997-2013_____	33
8. 2013 CASES_____	41
9. REFERENCES USED_____	58
10. GLOSSARY OF TERMS_____	59

## **INTRODUCTION**

This 2013 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, 2013. This report marks the seventeenth 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 2013.

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 which might be prevented in the 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 2011 year was the first time a victim who had stayed in shelter for more than 48 hours was killed by her abuser. In 2012 two victims who stayed in shelter more than 48 hours were killed but not by the abusers from whom they sought shelter. On the whole, victims tracked by the DVFRT over the years were previously unreported to authorities and had not received 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 eleven 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](http://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 2013 Chair Theresa Simak at 904-630-2502 or via email at [tsimak@coj.net](mailto: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 2013 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 but there were no cases of that nature in 2013.

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, 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 2013. For this reason, this report identifies cases by a number (e.g., 2013-01, 2013-02, 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 2013. In addition to these individual case profiles, this report also includes summary patterns for 2013 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 1997-2013 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. It should be noted that the statistics provided herein may not always add up to 100% due to rounding.

## **FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS** **(2013)**

This document reports on a review of all domestic violence homicide cases from Duval County, Florida, specifically for the year 2013. The team reviewed seven (7) cases which occurred in 2013, which resulted in a total of seven (7) homicides. Where known, the status of the judicial case against the suspect is reported. In one of the cases the suspect also committed suicide and one case resulted in the suspect's actions being ruled as justified.

In addition, the entire period of 1997-2013 during which the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) has been in operation was reviewed for this report. A variety of patterns emerged from this data, both for the analysis of 2013 cases alone (see this report pages 28-32) and for the analysis of the full seventeen year time span (see this report pages 33-40).

Within the category of domestic homicide, the DVFRT distinguishes between intimate and non-intimate homicides (see Methodology, section 3). In 2013, eighty-six percent of the local domestic homicide cases (n=6) involved intimate partners. Over the previous sixteen years, the majority (75%) of domestic violence homicides in Jacksonville also 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.

Despite the recent declines in some homicides, it remains true that cases of domestic violence between intimate partners need to be taken very seriously and viewed as potentially lethal. Effective intervention can not only save the lives of battered victims, but may also sometimes save the lives of their abusive partners.

In 2013 almost a third (29%) of all victims and 43% of all suspects were Black. This was consistent with, though somewhat lower than, the overall patterns from the previous sixteen years, in which 51% of victims and 45% of suspects were black. However, these figures are disproportionately higher than the racial composition of Duval County in which about 30% of the population is Black or African American.

Based on the patterns in this report, the DVFRT made a number of findings and sets forth herein some recommendations based on those findings:

### **Finding #1**

There continues to be real gender disparity in who commits domestic violence homicides in Duval County, with males killing females in 73% of the intimate cases and males killing other family members in 81% of the non-intimate cases over the past 17 years. In 2013, six of the seven cases reviewed here involved male suspects (86%). The one case with a female suspect was found to be justified. In 86% 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 is predominantly committed by males, which is consistent with national statistics.

#### **Recommendation:**

**Domestic violence remains highly gendered, meaning that male offenders disproportionately victimize females in a wide variety of ways, including lethally. Though domestic violence by anyone is always wrong, the Team believes we should not lose sight of the fact that this is primarily violence against women and that the female domestic violence victim may be in greater lethal danger.**

### **Finding # 2**

In four of the six intimate homicides in 2013 (66%), the couple had separated at the time of the homicide. In the previous 16 years, 32% of the intimate homicide couples were no longer living together at the time of the homicide. A considerable body of research has shown that risks of lethal violence increase during periods of separation, or threats of separation, between intimate partners. This means that attempts to leave a relationship may *increase*, rather than decrease, the potential for domestic homicide.

#### **Recommendation:**

**The Team recommends that all service providers, including law enforcement, take official note of the relationship status of participants in cases of domestic violence in order to determine if they are separated or in the process of separating, or in which threats of separation were made. These may increase the risk of homicide. The public also needs to be better informed about the risks involved in periods of separation, or when threats of separation are made, so that appropriate safety precautions can be taken.**

### **Finding #3**

Most of the victims and suspects in 2013 had not had any prior contact with the criminal justice system. Protective orders are underutilized with only 7% each of victims and suspects having injunctions in place. In 2013 one victim was a petitioner and one suspect was a respondent to a current civil injunction for protection or other civil matters relevant to the potential for violence. This is completely consistent with past findings between 1997-2012, for which victims and suspects were also equally represented (7%) as respondents. However, it is interesting to note that, over that sixteen 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 suspects.

In addition, in 2013, only one suspect had a prior arrest for domestic violence, and that was in another jurisdiction. Overall, during the 1997-2013 time period, 44 suspects (25%) had prior arrests for domestic violence. However, less than half of these suspects (n=19, 43%) were ordered to attend batterers' intervention programs (BIPs). Clearly, batterers' intervention programs remain underutilized.

It is very important to notice that during the 1997-2013 period, only two of those who were ordered into a BIP actually completed it. 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, noncompliance should result in incarceration. In Duval County, the success rate for individuals who **do** complete local BIPs is high: 88% were not rearrested during follow-up three-year tracking periods, according to arrest records checks done by the State Attorney's Office.

**Recommendation:**

**Preventing domestic violence homicides is challenging if there have been no prior arrests, protective orders or other factors to alert authorities to the potential for lethal violence. When there is a history of violence--whether prior arrests, civil injunctions for protection, or anything else--that history should be taken very seriously by service providers, police, and judges. The prosecution and sentencing of offenders who have had prior arrests or protective orders in place for domestic violence should take into account that history and respond aggressively.**

**The criminal justice system should make full use of BIPs, even when an injunction for protection is issued, because a history of violence or threat of violence is required to obtain an injunction. Furthermore, when batterers' intervention is ordered for defendants by the courts, penalties for noncompliance should be severe. It is also recommended that the courts continue to order offenders only to those BIP programs that have been certified and that have a proven track record of low recidivism.**

**Finding #4**

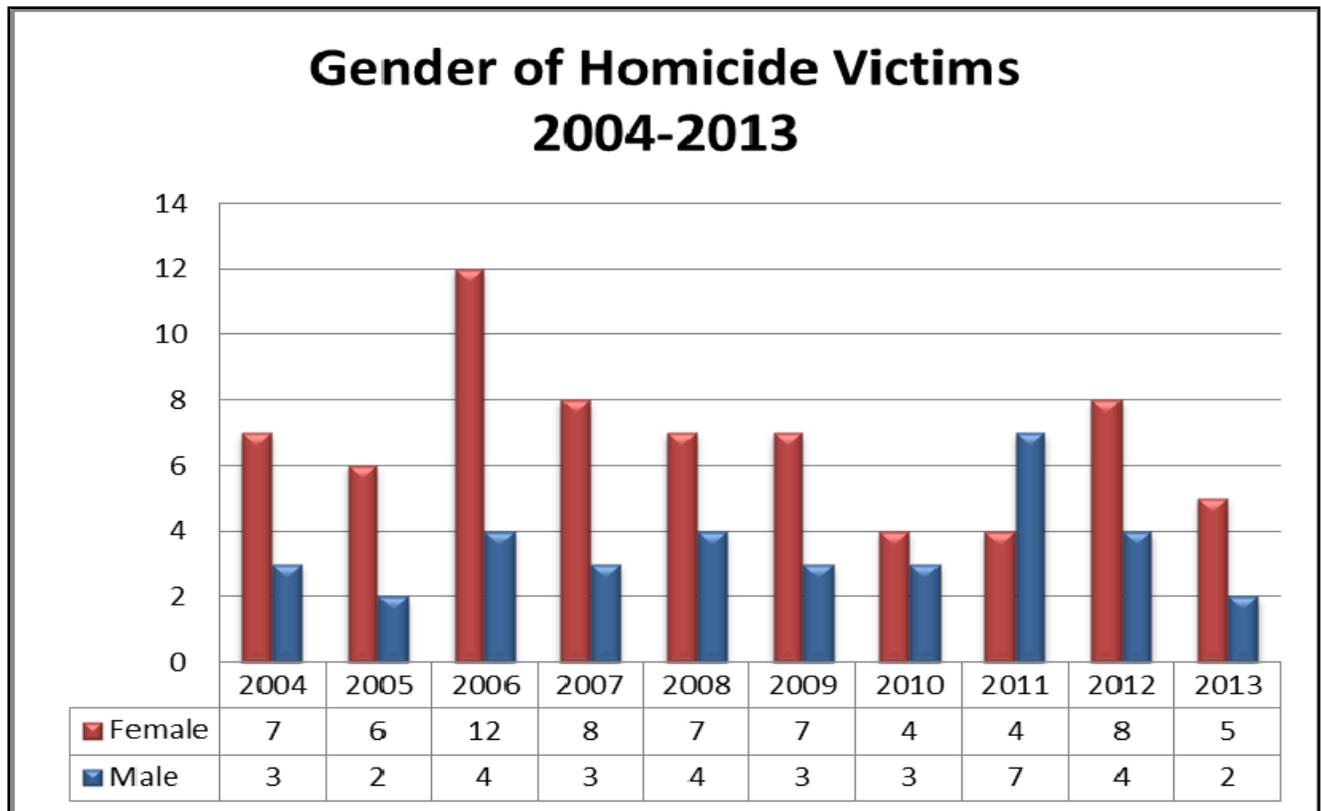
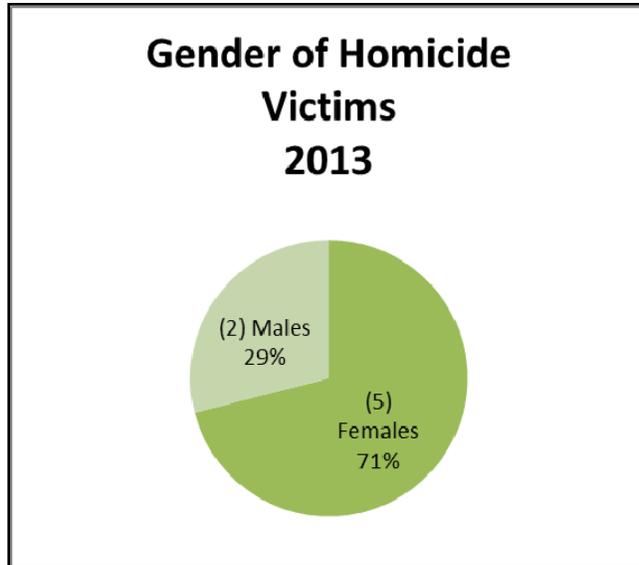
In 2013, 43% (n=3) of the suspects had a history of substance abuse arrests and 43% (n=3) had documented mental health issues. Both of these percentages are higher than in previous years. In the prior 16 years, 28% of the suspects (n=58) had prior histories of substance abuse arrests. In that same period, 14% (n=24) had mental health issues. While substance abuse is not a *cause* of domestic violence, it is highly correlated with such abuse nationally (see *Macy & Goodbourne, 2012*).

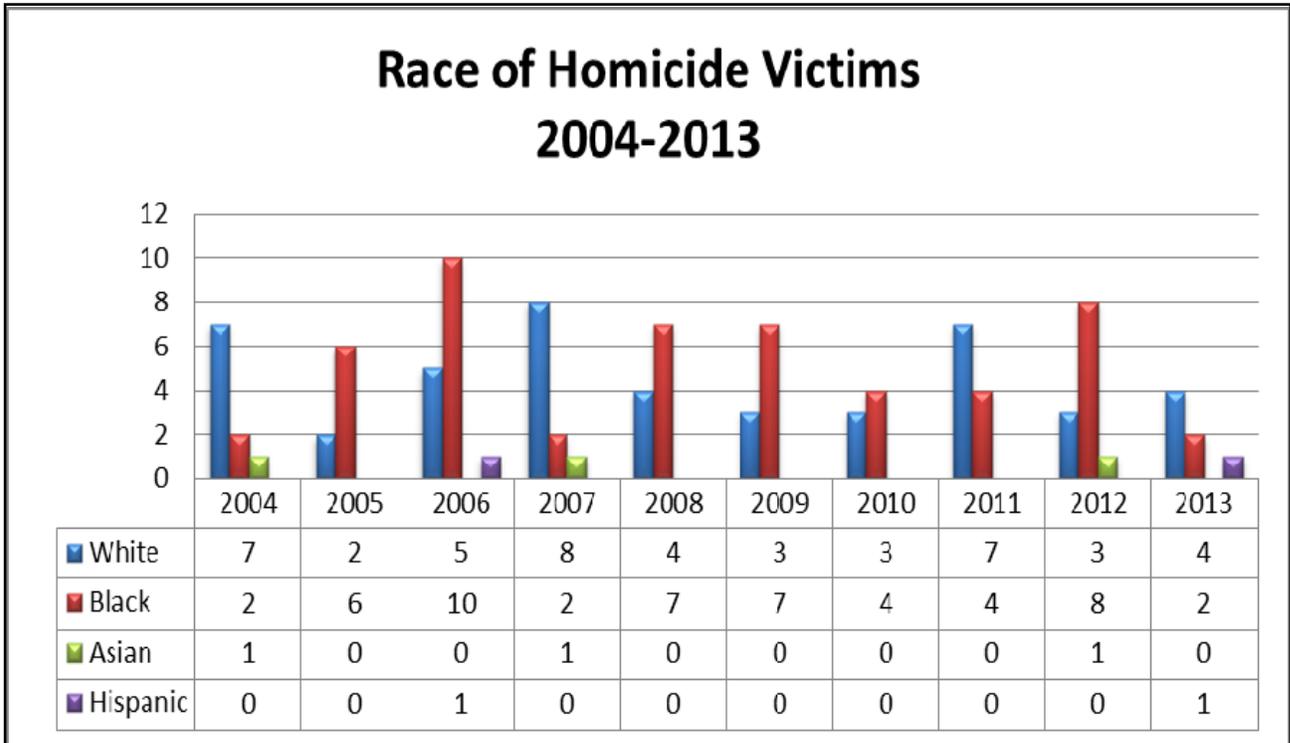
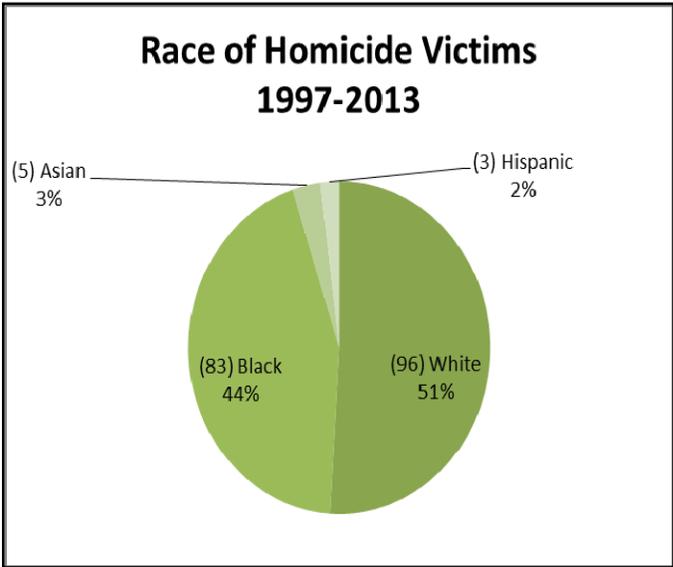
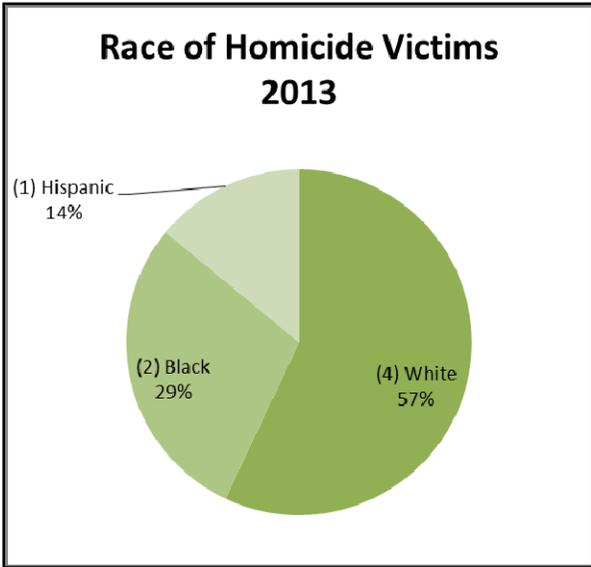
**Recommendation:**

**Violent individuals who abuse substances have two issues requiring treatment: the substance abuse and the domestic violence. Both need to be addressed and screening for one should be done whenever the other is detected. Similarly, when mental health issues are identified, screening for domestic violence should be done. Professionals working with individuals**

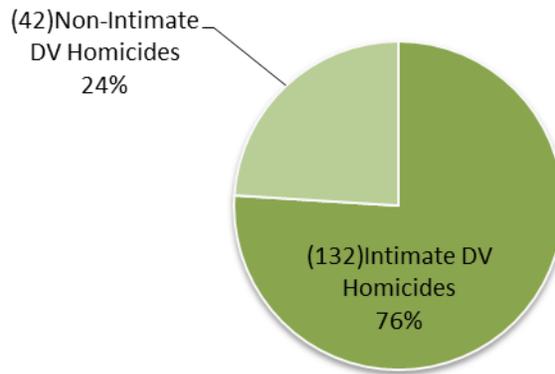
**with substance abuse or mental health issues need to be aware of the correlation between these and domestic violence, and make the appropriate referrals.**

# CURRENT AND CUMMULATIVE YEAR GRAPHS AND 10-YEAR TRENDS

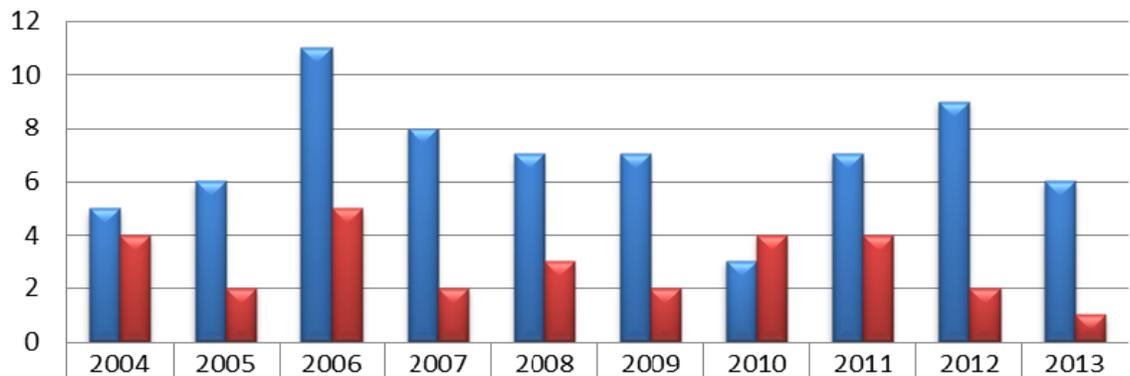




## Domestic Violence Homicides by Intimate or Non-Intimate 1997-2013

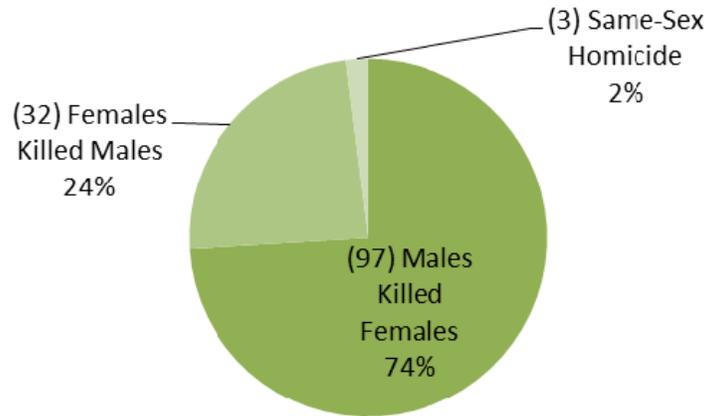


## Domestic Violence Homicides by Intimate or Non-Intimate 2004-2013

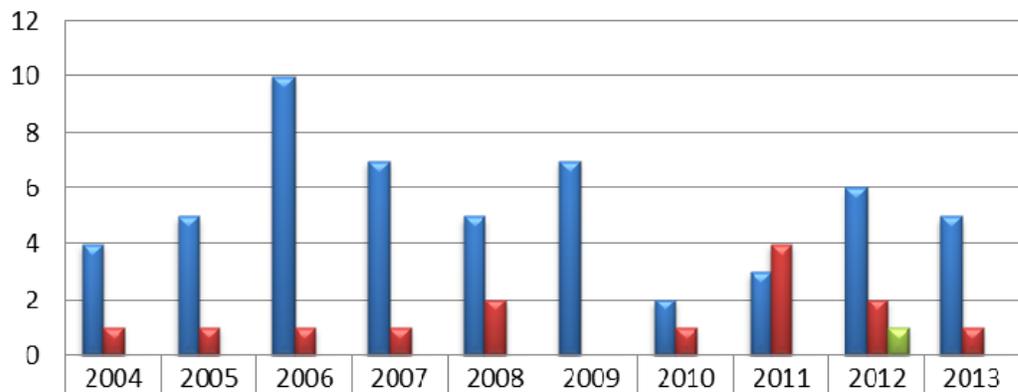


	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Intimate	5	6	11	8	7	7	3	7	9	6
Non-Intimate	4	2	5	2	3	2	4	4	2	1

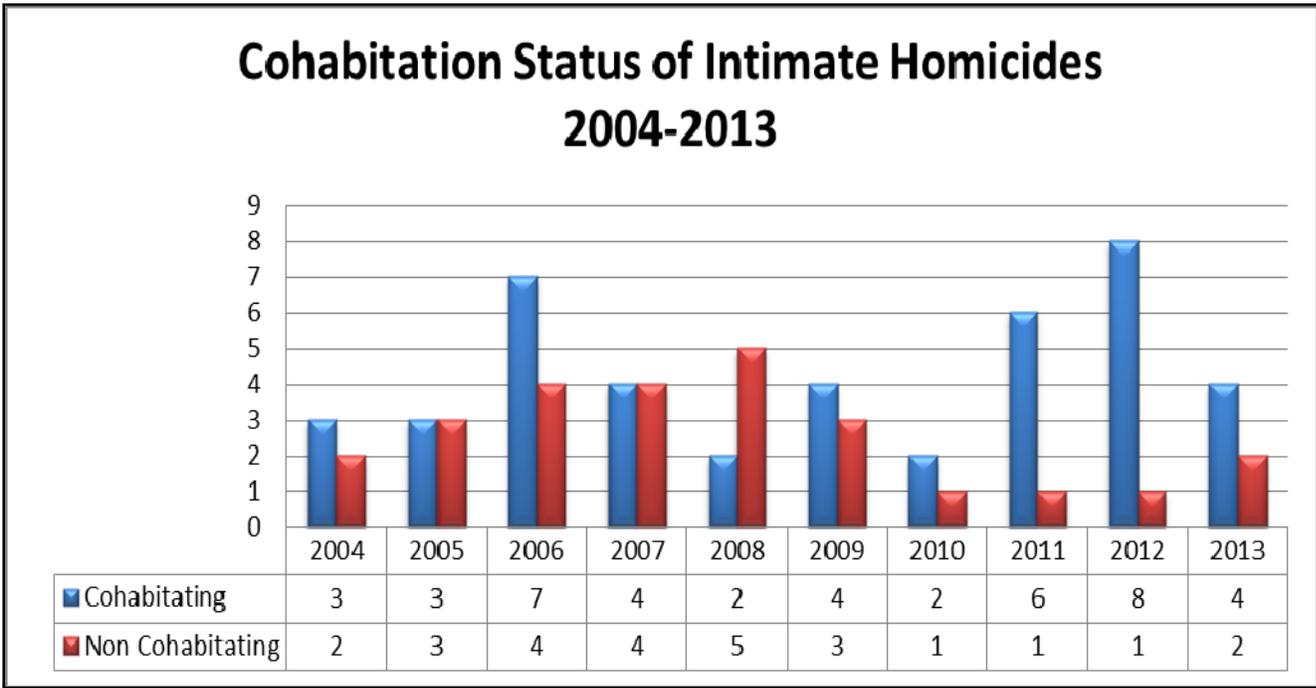
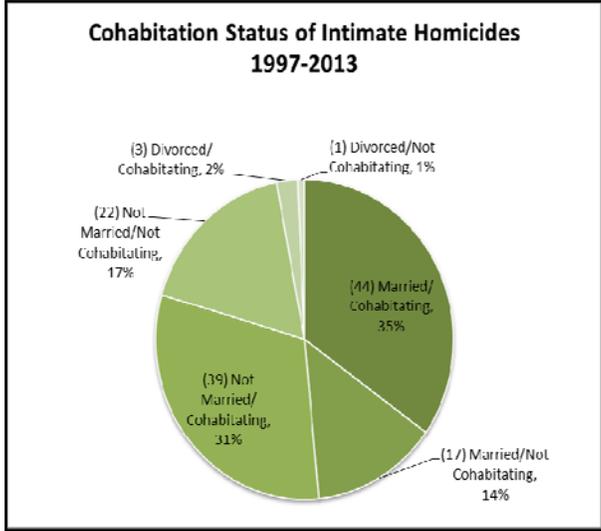
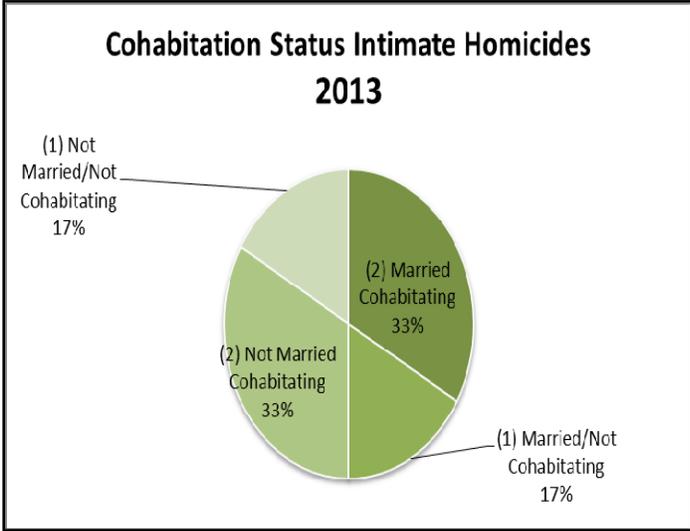
## Perpetrators of Intimate Homicides 1997-2013

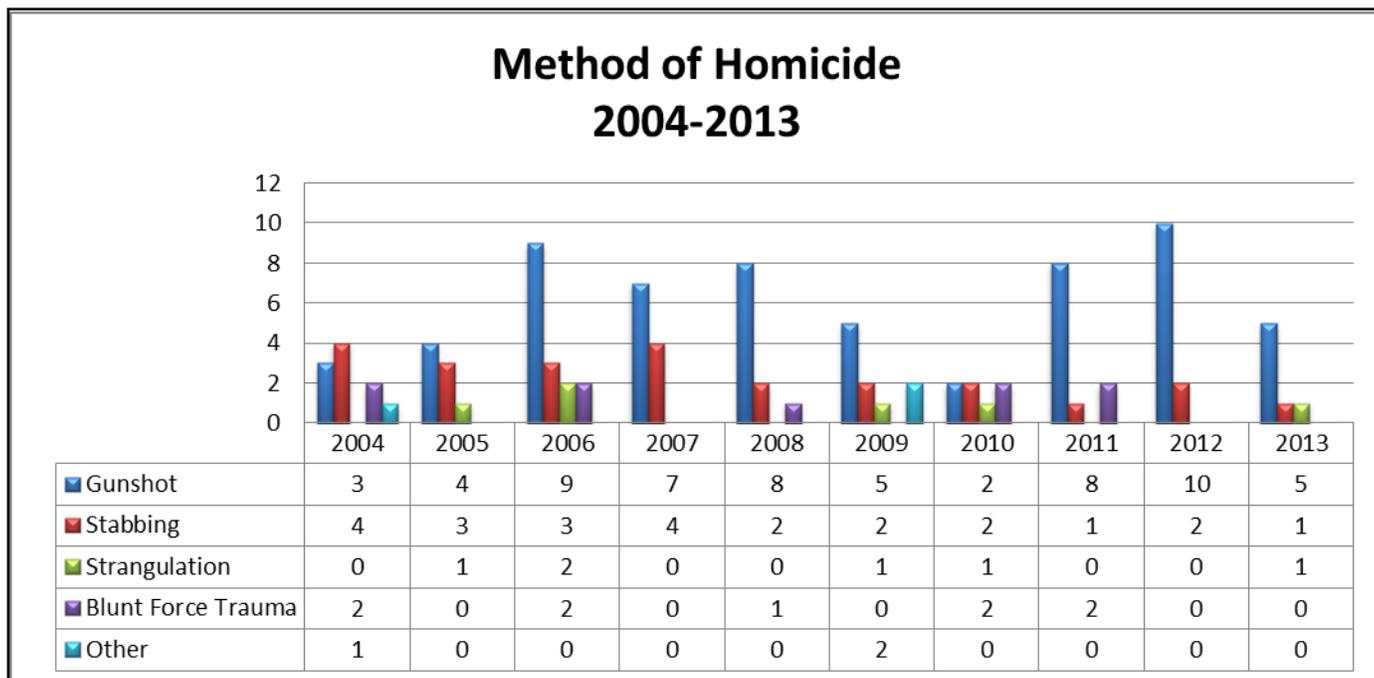
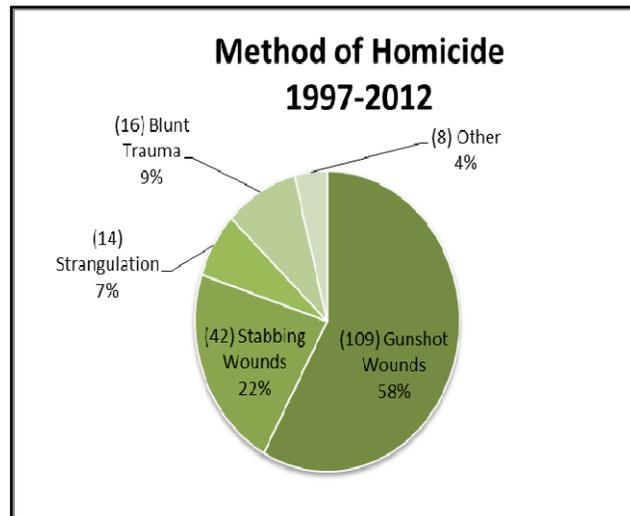
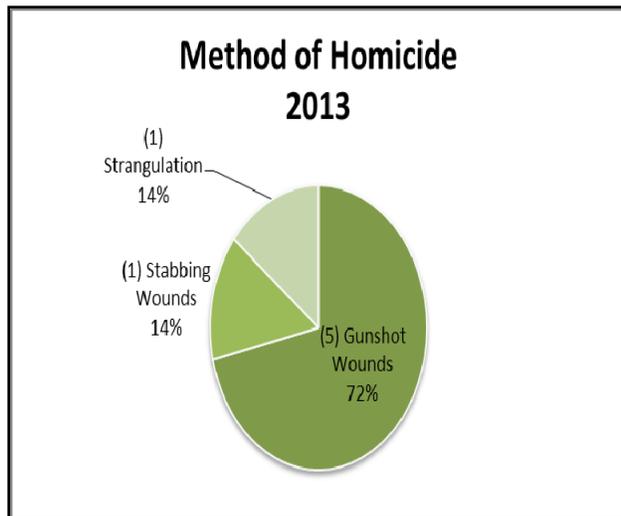


## Perpetrators of Intimate Homicides 2004-2013

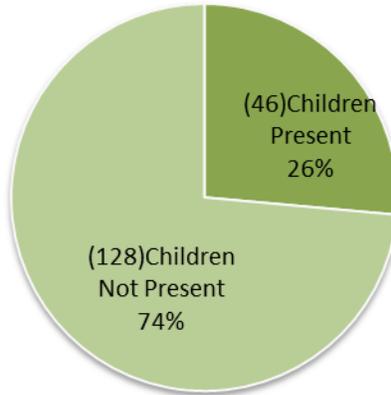


	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
■ Males Killed Females	4	5	10	7	5	7	2	3	6	5
■ Females Killed Males	1	1	1	1	2	0	1	4	2	1
■ Same Sex Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

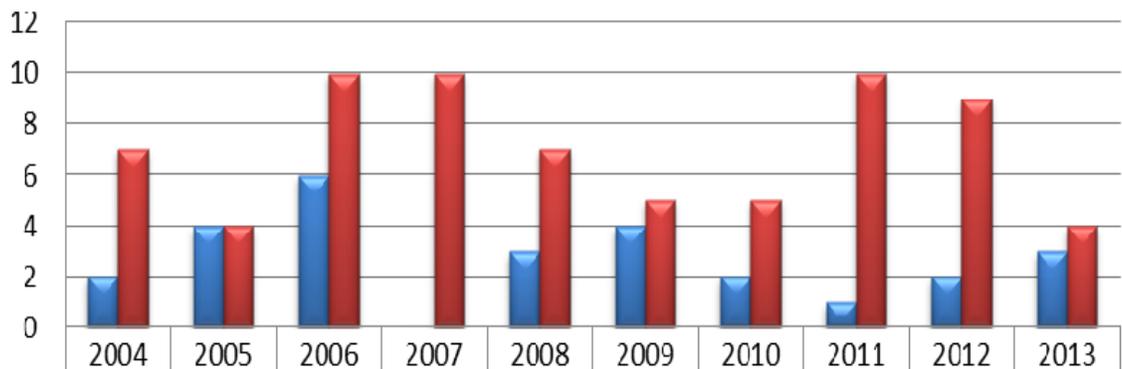




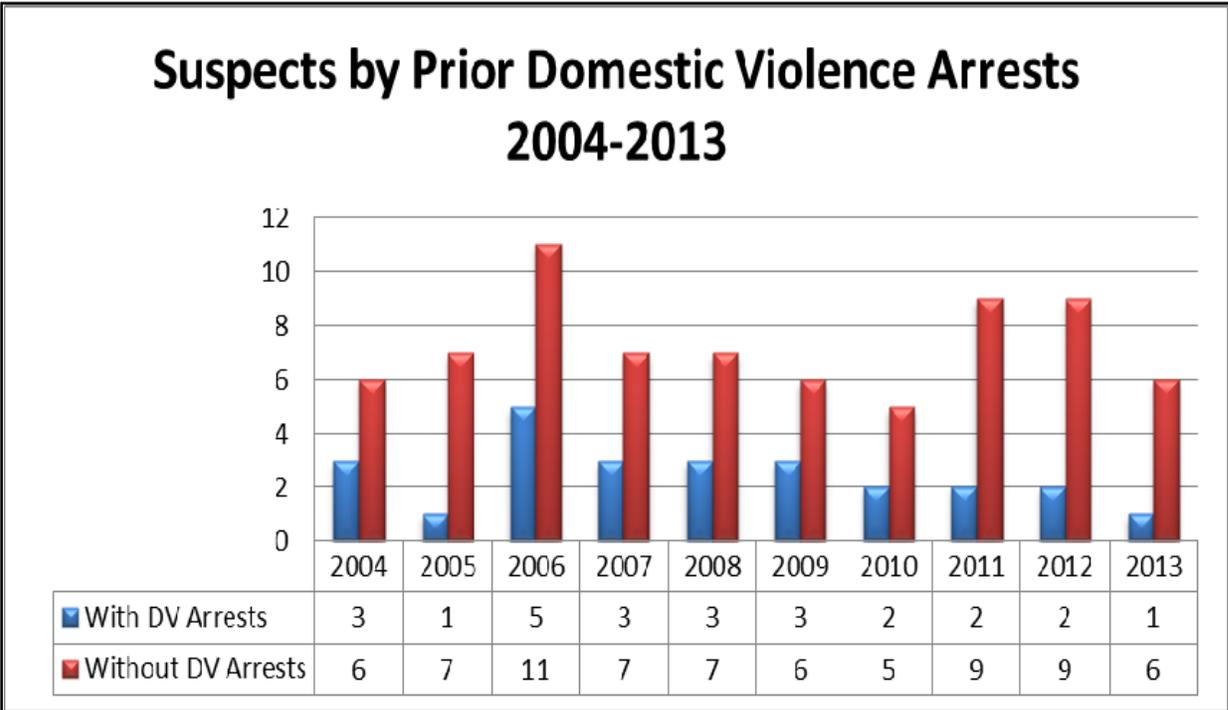
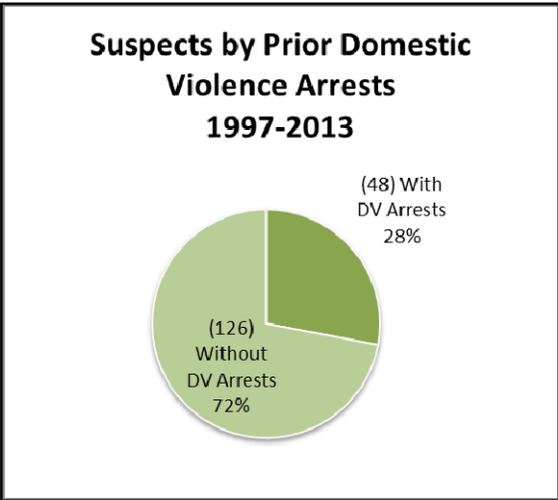
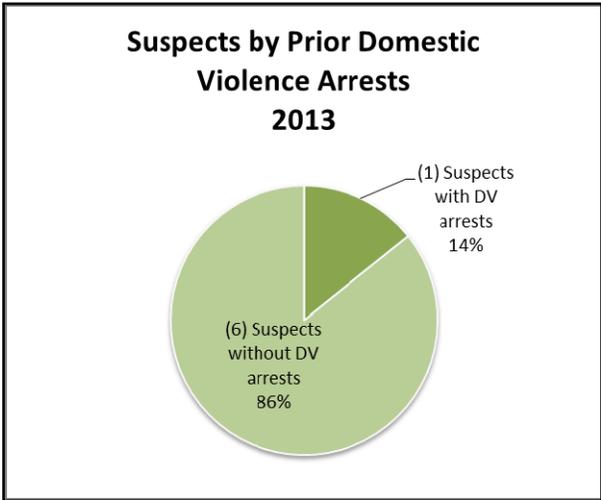
### Homicide by Whether Children are Present 1997-2013



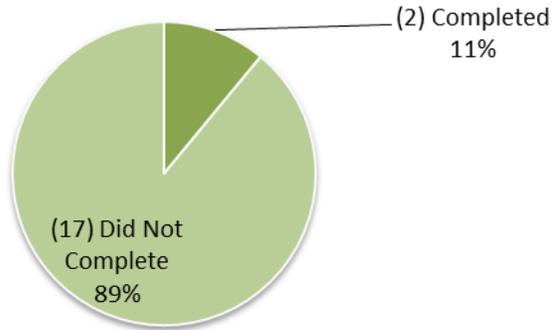
### Homicides by Whether Children are Present 2004-2013



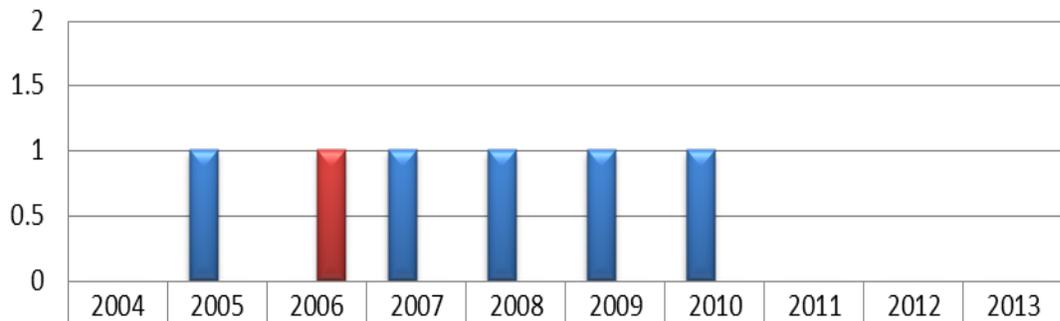
Present	2	4	6	0	3	4	2	1	2	3
Not Present	7	4	10	10	7	5	5	10	9	4



### Intimate Homicide Suspects Ordered to Batterers' Intervention Program 1997-2013

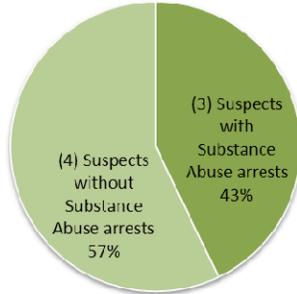


### Intimate Homicide Suspects Ordered to Batterers' Intervention Program 2004-2013

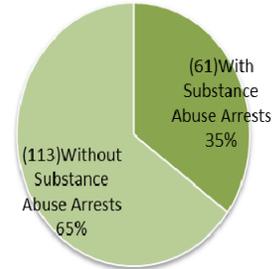


	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Did Not Complete BIP	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
Completed BIP	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

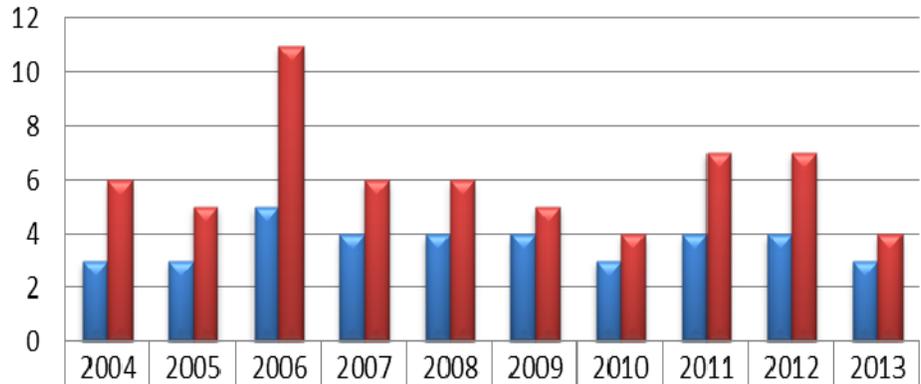
**Suspects by Prior Alcohol/Drug Abuse Arrests  
2013**



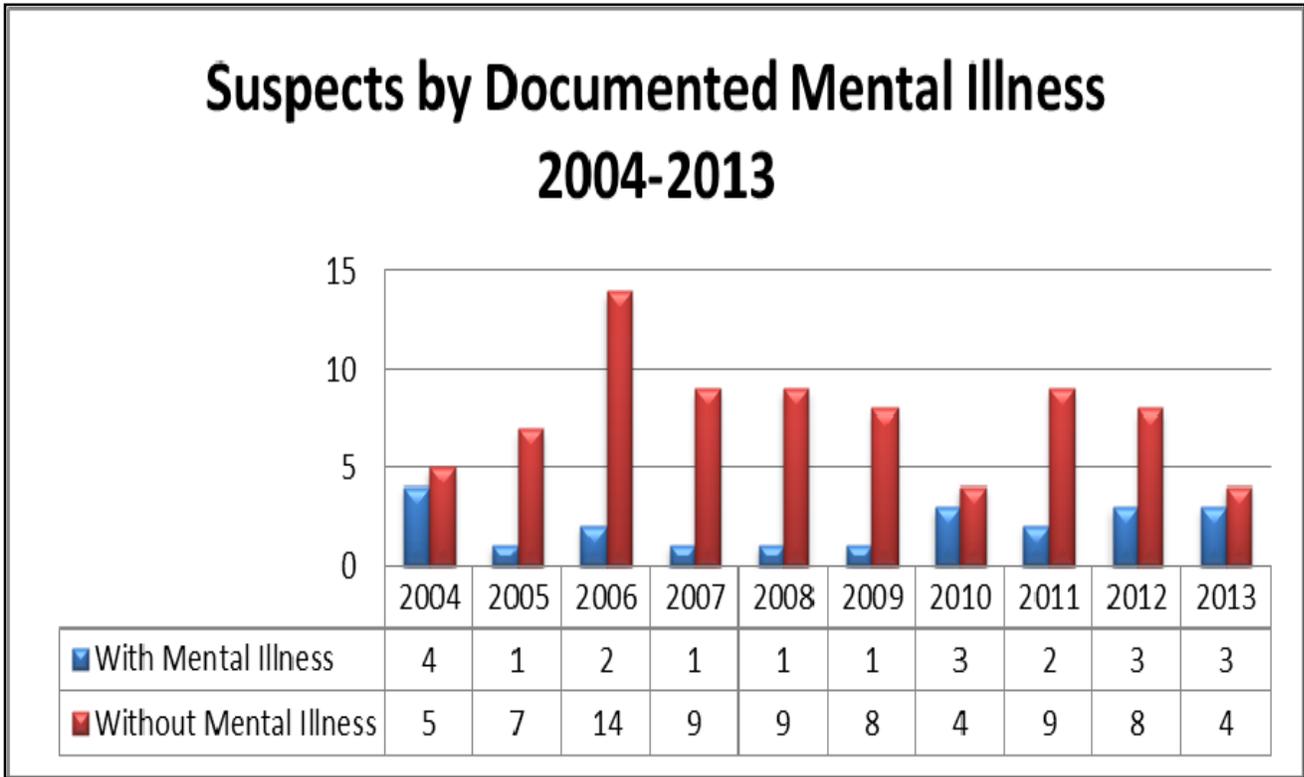
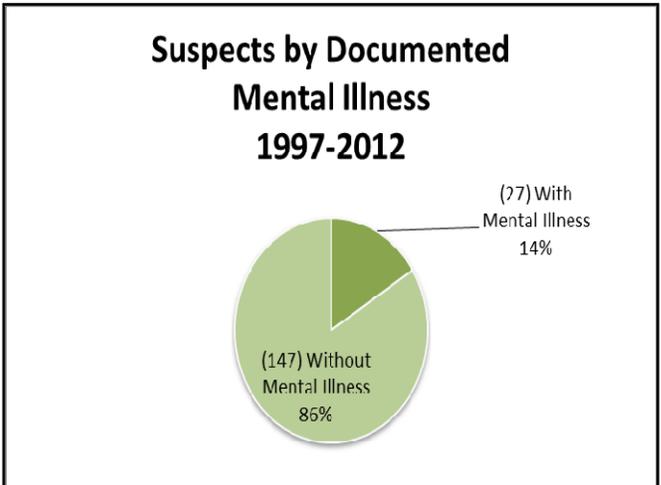
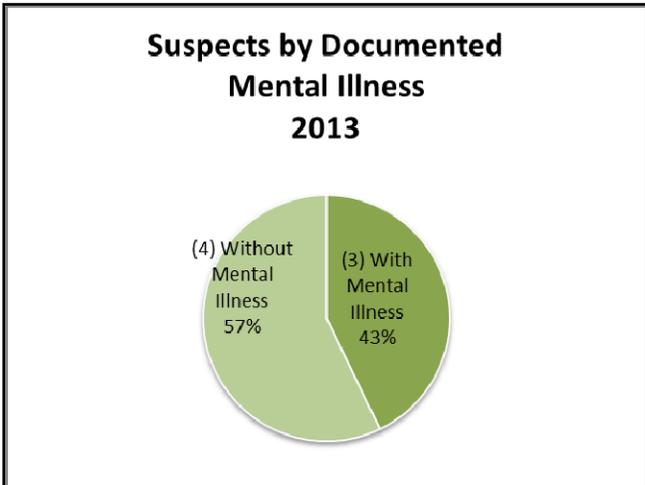
**Suspects by Prior Alcohol/Drug Abuse Arrests  
1997-2012**

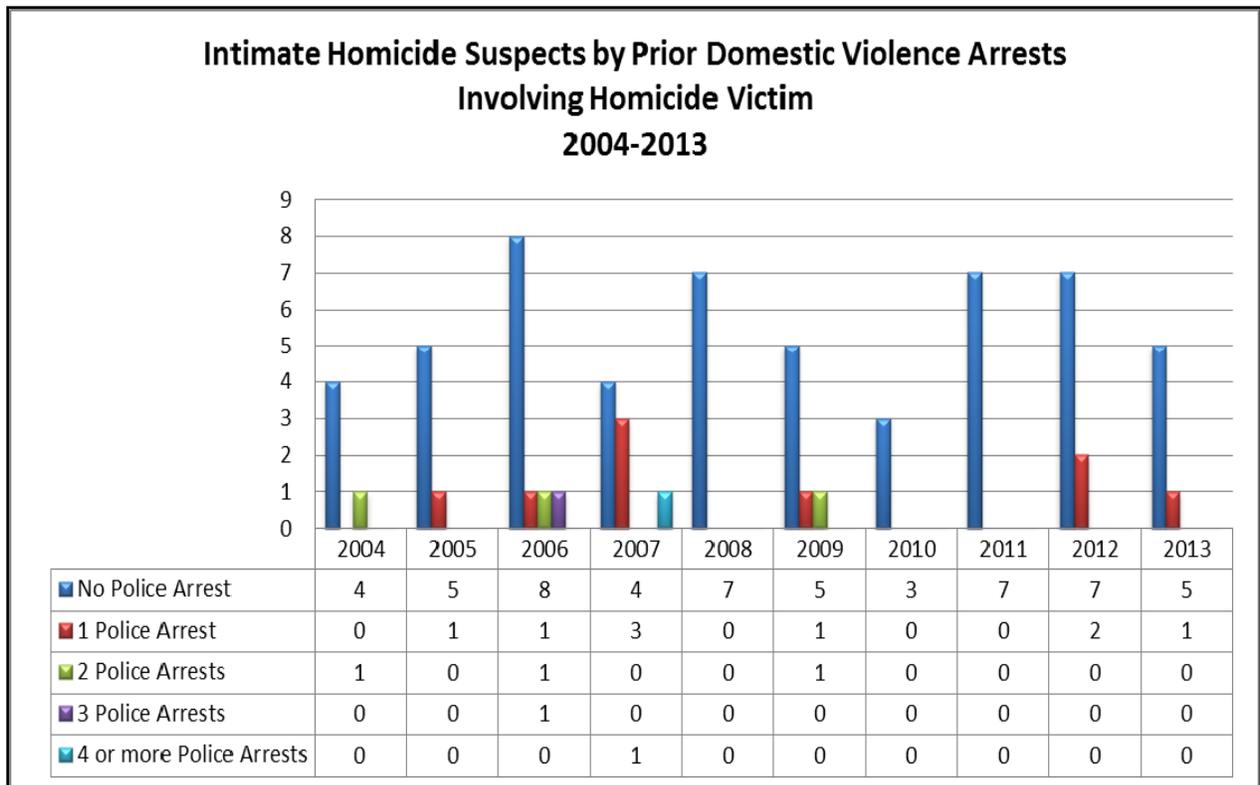
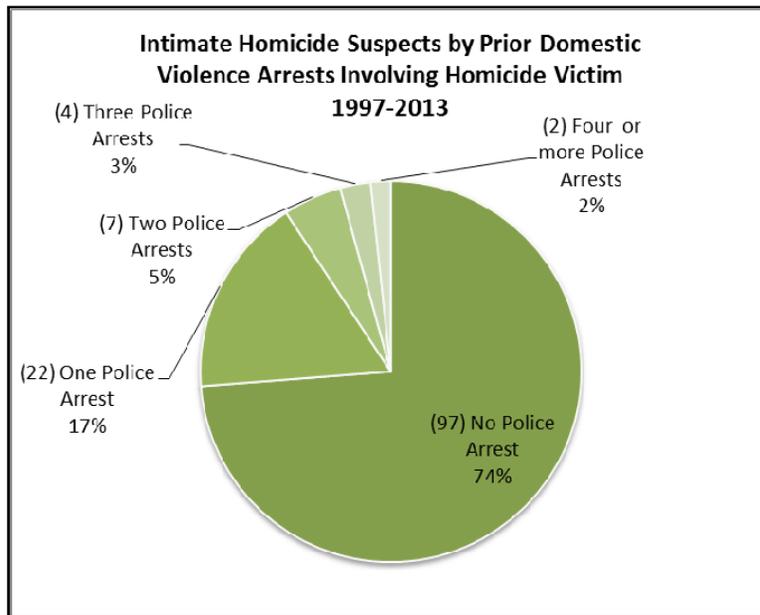


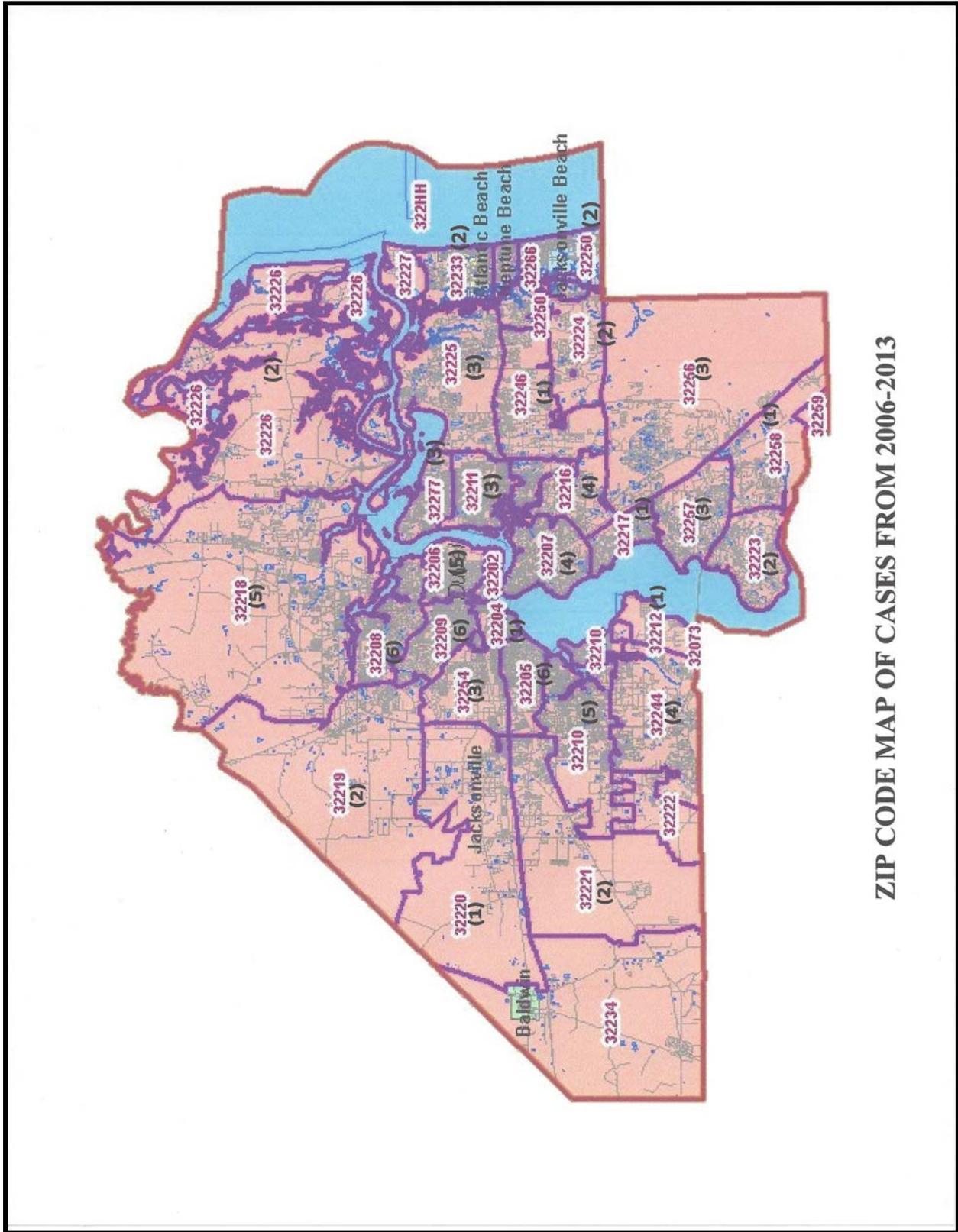
**Suspects by Prior Alcohol/Drug Abuse Arrests  
2004-2013**



	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
■ With Substance Abuse Arrests	3	3	5	4	4	4	3	4	4	3
■ Without Substance Abuse Arrests	6	5	11	6	6	5	4	7	7	4







**ZIP CODE MAP OF CASES FROM 2006-2013**

# PATTERNS/2013 ONLY

## GENDER (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

- Male suspects: (n=6 cases, 86% of cases)
  - 5 males killed female partners; one of these males also committed suicide
  - 1 male killed his brother
- Female suspects: (n=1 case, 14%)
  - 1 female killed her male partners

Male victims (n=2, 29%)

Female victims (n=5, 71%)

Among all suspects, six males represented a majority (86%) compared to the one female (14%). Among all victims, five females represented a majority (71%) compared to the two males (29%).

## RACE (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)

- Victims (n=7)
  - 4 White (57% of cases, 57% of victims)
  - 2 Black (29% of cases, 29% of victims)
  - 1 Hispanic (14% of cases, 14% of victims)
- Suspects (n=7)
  - 3 White (43% of cases, 43% of suspects)
  - 3 Black (43% of cases, 43% of suspects)
  - 1 Hispanic (14% of cases, 14% of suspects)

Domestic homicides generally tend to be intra-racial (occurring between persons of the same race/ethnicity). This was true in all but one of the Duval County cases in 2013.

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

Intimate Relationships – 6 cases (86% of 7 cases) with 6 victims involved intimate relationships.

- In 4 cases (67% of intimate cases), the parties were cohabiting at the time of the homicide.
  - 2 married and cohabiting (33% of intimate cases)
  - 2 not married and cohabiting (33% of intimate cases)
- In 1 case (17% of intimate cases), the parties were married but separated at the time of the homicide.
- In 1 case (17% of intimate cases) the parties were not married and not cohabiting at the time of the homicide.

Non-Intimate Relationships – 1 cases with 1 victim involved a non-intimate relationship.

- 1 male killed his brother (100% of non-intimate cases)

Intimate homicides usually outnumber non-intimate homicides, and this was true for 2013.

### **METHOD (BY NUMBER OF VICTIMS)**

Of the 7 total victims:

- 5 gunshot wounds (71%)
- 1 stabbing wound (14%)
- 1 strangulation (14%)

Though homicides in the United States generally tend to involve mostly firearms (67% according to the FBI [www.fbi.com](http://www.fbi.com)), domestic homicides are more likely to also involve a variety of other fatal methods. There were substantially more gunshot wounds in 2013 than in the overall patterns (57%).

### **CHILDREN (BY NUMBER OF CASES)**

In three of the seven cases (43%), minor children were present at the scene and/or witnessed the homicide. This is more than in past years (25%).

### **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=1 case)

- Victims (no cases)
- Suspects (n=1, 14% of total cases, 14% 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), only one of cases in 2013 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 result in an arrest.

## **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 (29% of total cases, 29% of victims)
  - 1 male was the respondent to a current domestic violence injunction involving suspect.
  - 1 female had a previous injunction against suspect
- Suspects (14% of total cases, 14% of suspects)
  - 1 female was the petitioner to a current domestic violence injunction involving victim.

One victim had been a respondent to a current injunction for protection at the time of the 2013 homicidal incident. That homicide was ruled justified.

## **CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)**

There were no child abuse referrals in 2013 cases.

## **SHELTER SERVICES (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)**

- 1 female victim received outreach services.

Shelter services remain underutilized.

## **Helping At Risk Kids (HARK) SERVICES (BY NUMBER OF CASES)**

- No children involved in these cases received HARK services either before or after the homicide cases reviewed this year.

There were three cases where the children were present at the time of the homicide. We found no record that these children 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.

- Victims (no cases)
- 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=4 cases).

- Victims (14% of total cases, 14% of victims)
  - 1 male with 1 substance abuse arrest
- Suspects (43% of total cases, 43% of suspects)
  - 3 males 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=3 cases).

- Victims (no cases)
- Suspects (43% of total cases, 43% of suspects)
  - 3 males had documented mental health issues

Prior mental health problems are a known factor in some domestic violence cases. Three cases this year involved a suspect 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=7)

- 32205 - 1 (14% of cases)
- 32208 - 1 (14% of cases)
- 32209 - 1 (14% of cases)
- 32216 - 1 (14% of cases)
- 32224 - 1 (14% of cases)
- 32225 - 1 (14% of cases)
- 32257 - 1 (14% of cases)

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT ZONES**

Law Enforcement Zones where the homicide occurred (n=6).

- Zone 1 - 1 (14% of cases)
- Zone 2 - 2 (29% of cases)
- Zone 3 - 2 (29% of cases)
- Zone 4 - 1 (14% of cases)
- Zone 5 - 1 (14% of cases)
- Zone 6 - 0 (0% of cases)

This distribution of cases indicates that domestic homicides can—and have—occurred anywhere in the city.

# **PATTERNS (1997 – 2013)**

(205 Months, Including December 1996)

## **TOTALS**

174 Cases, 132 of these Intimate Cases (76%)

226 Deaths

- 189 Homicides, 143 of these Intimate Homicides (76%)
- 37 Suicides (21%)

## **GENDER (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)**

Intimate homicides (132 cases with 143 homicides, 76% of cases)

- 97 males killed their female partners resulting in 112 homicides (73% of intimate cases)
  - 2 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 father-in-law and brother-in-law
  - 1 also killed his ex-girlfriend
  - 1 also killed his ex-girlfriend's father
  - 1 also killed his wife's adult son
- 32 females killed their male partners resulting in 32 homicides (24% of intimate cases)
  - In one case the current boyfriend was also a suspect
- 2 males killed same sex partners (1.5% of intimate cases)
- 1 female killed same sex partner (1.5% of intimate cases)

Non-Intimate homicides (42 cases with 46 homicides, 24% of cases)

- 34 males killed other family members resulting in 38 homicides (81% of non-intimate cases)
- 5 females killed other family members resulting in 5 homicides (12% of non-intimate cases)
- 3 males killed a non-family member during an attack on an intimate partner (7% of non-intimate cases)

Above cases involving Homicide-suicides (37 cases, 21% of cases)

- 32 males committed suicide (86% of suicides)
- 5 females committed suicide (14% of suicides)

In all multiple homicide cases, the suspect was male.

## **RACE (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)**

- Victims (total 189)
  - 97 White (51% of victims)
  - 83 Black (44% of victims)
  - 5 Asian (3% of victims)
  - 3 Hispanic (2% of victims)
  - 2 Unknown – Race not noted in one 1997 case (Less than 1% of victims)
  
- Suspects (total 174)
  - 87 White (50% of suspects)
  - 81 Black (47% of suspects)
  - 3 Asian (2% of suspects)
  - 2 Hispanic (1% of suspects)
  - 1 Unknown – Race not noted in one 1997 case (Less than 1% of suspects)

## **RELATIONSHIP**

Intimate Relationships – 132 cases (76% of 174 cases) with 143 victims involved intimate relationships.

- In 90 cases (68% of intimate cases), the parties were cohabiting at the time of the homicide.
  - 46 married and cohabiting (35% of intimate cases)
  - 41 not married and cohabiting (31% of intimate cases)
  - 3 divorced and cohabiting (2% of intimate cases)
  
- In 42 cases (32% of intimate cases), the parties were separated or divorced at the time of the homicide.
  - 18 married and not cohabiting (14% of intimate cases)
  - 23 not married and not cohabiting (17% of intimate cases)
  - 1 divorced and not cohabiting (1% of intimate cases)

Non-Intimate Relationships – 42 cases (24% of 174 cases) with 46 victims involved non-intimate relationships

- 18 males and 1 female killed parents/step-parents/grandparents (45% of non-intimate cases)
  - 4 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
  
- 6 males and 2 females killed children/step-children (19% 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
- 6 males killed their brothers (14% of non-intimate cases)
- 1 male killed brother-in-law (2% of cases)
- 1 male killed sister-in-law (2% of non-intimate cases)
- 1 female killed mother (2% of non-intimate cases)
- 2 females killed their brothers (4% of non-intimate cases)
- 1 male killed his ex-mother-in-law (2% of non-intimate cases)
- 1 male killed his niece (2% of non-intimate cases)
- 1 male killed his ex-wife's boyfriend during an attack on ex-wife (2% of cases)
- 1 male killed a male friend of his girlfriend (2% of non-intimate cases)

### **METHOD (BY NUMBER OF VICTIMS)**

Of the total homicides (n=189):

- 109 gunshot wounds (58% of victims)
- 42 stabbing wounds (22% of victims)
  - One involved broken bottle
- 14 strangulations (7% of victims)
- 16 blunt force trauma (8% of victims)
  - 1 also included knife wounds
- 8 other (4% of victims)
  - 1 died of a heart attack during the crime
  - 1 complications caused by paralysis after a broken neck
  - 2 asphyxiation (one during a wrestling restraint)
  - 1 hit by car
  - 1 thrown off a bridge
  - 1 rectal trauma
  - 1 bombing

### **CHILDREN (BY NUMBER OF CASES)**

In 46 cases (26% of cases), a total of at least 96 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 (1% of cases), the children were killed during an attack on an adult.

- In one case victim's 16-year-old daughter was killed
- In one case suspect killed his infant son

## **CRIMINAL HISTORY - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

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

- Victims (n=35, 20% of cases)
  - 24 males had prior arrests for domestic violence
  - 11 females had prior arrests for domestic violence
- Suspects (n=48, 28% of cases)
  - 44 males had prior arrests for domestic violence
  - 4 females had prior arrest(s) for domestic violence

Only 40% of suspects (n=19 of 48) with criminal history were ordered to BIP. In addition, 34% of victims (n=12 of 35) 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
  - 13 females had injunctions in place; one had also had a petition denied
    - 2 reported violations
  - 2 females had a prior injunction
  - 1 female had a temporary injunction dismissed for failure to appear
  - 1 female had an injunction against her husband's ex-girlfriend
  - 1 female filed for an injunction against the suspect's ex-wife but was denied
  - 1 female filed for an injunction against former boyfriend but was denied
  - 1 female was respondent to one injunction by a different person
  - 1 female was respondent to a repeat violence injunction
  - 2 males were respondents to one injunction each (not by the suspect)
  - 1 male was respondent to one injunction (the suspect)
  - 2 males were respondents to two injunctions (not by the suspect). One also had two injunctions that were dismissed and one final injunction entered.
  - 1 male had an injunction against his mother's ex-boyfriend (the suspect)
  - 3 females had dissolutions of marriage (not from the suspect)
  - 3 females had dissolutions of marriage from the suspect (two of them pending at the time of homicide). One of these had a prior dissolution of marriage from suspect.
  - 2 females had filed for a dissolution of marriage
  - 2 females had petitioned for paternity and/or child support enforcement involving suspect

- Suspects
  - 1 female filed for injunction against male victim's son and girlfriend - both were denied
  - 3 females had injunctions against their victims
  - 1 female had an injunction against an ex-boyfriend who was not the victim
  - 9 males were respondents to an injunction; one was also respondent to a denied injunction with victim and petitioner and respondent 3 years prior.
  - 5 males were respondents to multiple injunctions (not by the victims); one was denied; one was dismissed because petitioner failed to appear.
  - 1 male was respondent to multiple injunctions by multiple females.
    - This male also petitioned for an injunction multiple times, but was denied
  - 1 male was respondent to a repeat violence injunction
  - 2 males had a dissolution of marriage (not from the victim)
  - 3 males had dissolutions of marriage from the victims (two were pending at the time of the homicide). One of these had a previous dissolution of marriage from the victim.
  - 1 male had filed for dissolution of marriage but did not proceed
  - 2 males had actions to establish paternity and/or child support enforcement
  - 1 male had a repeat violence injunction to protect him as a minor child

### **CHILD ABUSE REFERRALS (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)**

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

- Victims (6% of victims)
  - 8 females had referrals to the Department of Children and Families
  - 4 males had referrals to the Department of Children and Families
- Suspects (9% of suspects)
  - 4 females had referrals to the Department of Children and Families
  - 12 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=14, 7% received some services)
  - 3 females stayed in shelter less than 48 hours several years before the homicides
  - 3 females stayed in shelter for about two months at least a year before the homicide. Only one was killed by the suspect from which they sought shelter.
  - 5 females were provided court advocacy services (including two of those who were sheltered as noted above)
  - 2 females received safety planning
  - 1 female received services through InVEST for police report involving different suspect
  - 2 females received outreach services (1 declined the InVEST program).
- Suspects (n=3, 2% received some services)
  - 1 female went through domestic violence education class
  - 2 females received outreach services

## **HARK (BY NUMBER OF CASES)**

- Of the 46 cases (26%) where children were actually present and/or witnessed the homicide (n=96), HARK referrals were made in only three cases (7%).

## **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=17, 9% of victims)
  - 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
  - 3 males ordered to anger management as part of earlier domestic violence cases
  - 1 male ordered to counseling for previous domestic battery
  - 1 female ordered and completed batterers' intervention program
  - 1 female received marriage counseling
- Suspects (n=31, 18% of suspects)
  - 19 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
  - 1 male ordered to marriage counseling as part of injunction
  - 10 males ordered to anger management (1 on the morning of the homicide)
  - 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 BIP that meets the statutory requirements.

## **ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE (BY NUMBER OF PEOPLE)**

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

- Victims (n=33, 17% of victims)
  - 20 males with substance abuse arrests
  - 13 females with substance abuse arrests
- Suspects (n=61, 35% of suspects)
  - 54 males with substance abuse arrests
  - 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)
  - 2 females with mental health issues
  
- Suspects (n=27, 16% of suspects)
  - 21 males with mental health issues
  - 6 females with mental health issues

## **ZIP CODES (BY NUMBER OF CASES 2006-2013)**

*Zip codes where the homicide occurred. (n=81)*

- 32204 - 1 (1% of cases)
- 32205 - 6 (7.4% of cases)
- 32206 - 6 (7.4% of cases)
- 32207 - 4 (5% of cases)
- 32208 - 6 (7.4% of cases)
- 32209 - 6 (7.4% of cases)
- 32210 - 5 (6% of cases)
- 32211 - 3 (4% of cases)
- 32212 - 1 (1% of cases)
- 32216 - 4 (5% of cases)
- 32217 - 1 (1% of cases)
- 32218 - 5 (6% of cases)
- 32219 - 2 (2.5% of cases)
- 32220 - 1 (1% of cases)
- 32221 - 2 (2.5% of cases)
- 32223 - 2 (2.5% of cases)
- 32224 - 2 (2.5% of cases)
- 32225 - 3 (4% of cases)
- 32226 - 2 (2.5% of cases)
- 32233 - 2 (2.5% of cases)
- 32244 - 4 (5% of cases)
- 32246 - 1 (1% of cases)
- 32250 - 2 (2.5% of cases)
- 32254 - 3 (4% of cases)
- 32256 - 2 (2.5% of cases)
- 32257 - 3 (4% of cases)
- 32258 - 1 (1% of cases)
- 32277 - 2 (2.5% of cases)

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT ZONES (BY NUMBER OF CASES 2006-2013)**

*Law Enforcement Zones where the homicide occurred (n=81).*

- Zone 1 - 8 (10% of cases)
- Zone 2 - 9 (11% of cases)
- Zone 3 - 19 (23% of cases)
- Zone 4 - 22 (27% of cases)
- Zone 5 - 16 (20% of cases)
- Zone 6 - 5 (6% of cases)
- Jacksonville Beach - 1 (1% of cases)
- Atlantic Beach - 1 (1% of cases)

2013-01

Date of Homicide: 4/7/2013

Victim: White Female, 54

Suspect: White Male, 57

**I. CRIME**

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Boyfriend/Girlfriend (cohabitating)
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On April 7, 2013 Jacksonville Sherriff's Officers were dispatched to a local gas station, after Suspect asked the gas station attendant to call 911. Upon arrival the officers spoke with Suspect who advised that he was arguing with his girlfriend and that he may have killed her. Suspect gave his house keys to the officer and the address to his residence and the officers went to the home. Upon arrival the officers found Victim deceased from an apparent stabbing to the back. The Victim's landlord advised that Victim and Suspect were separating and that Victim was packing the home to move to New Port Richey, FL.
- 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:
    - a) 05/23/1975 – Rape (Baltimore, MD); Charges dropped.
    - b) 08/28/1974 – Assault and Robbery (Baltimore, MD); Charges dismissed.

c) 08/24/1972 – Homicide (Baltimore, MD);  
Disposition unknown.

C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

- 1. Victim: No Record
- 2. Suspect: a) 06/30/1989 – Possession of Cocaine,  
Cocaine and Conspiracy to Commit Drug  
Offense – Charges dismissed (Ocean Co., NJ).

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:**

Suspect advised that he was an alcoholic as well as had previously abused drugs. Suspect had been in a treatment facility for alcoholism in the 1990's where he was also held in the psychiatric unit. Suspect had attempted suicide in the past and advised he has previously been Baker Acted. Suspect advised he also abused several different types of drugs and was prescribed psychotropic medications, however had been off of his medications for approximately nine months prior to the incident. Suspect reported that he was a victim of child abuse and witnessed domestic violence in his home between his father and mother.

Date of Homicide: 4/11/13

Victim: Hispanic Female, 18

Suspect: Hispanic Male, 26

**I. CRIME**

A. RELATIONSHIP: Wife/Husband (cohabitating)

B. CASE SUMMARY: On April 11, 2013, Victim was found at her residence deceased on the bed. Victim and Suspect began arguing when he grabbed her around the neck and strangled her. Suspect then went to his sister's residence and dropped off their two-year old daughter and told her that something was wrong with the Victim. Suspect provided a key to his apartment to his sister and he fled. An autopsy determined the Victim died as a result of manual strangulation and it was ruled a homicide. Suspect was arrested on May 6, 2013. Suspect pled guilty and was sentenced to 45 years in prison.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: There was one child present, 2 years of age.

D. LOCATION: 32224 (Zone 3)

**II. CRIMINAL RECORDS AND REPORTS**

A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1. Victim: No Record

2. Suspect: a) 03/10/2009 Domestic Battery (California) – Served 32 days in jail and given 3 years' probation. Suspect was deported on 04/03/09.

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**

Victim was only 14 years old when she married the suspect in Mexico. Suspect had previously been deported from the United States, but he returned illegally.

Date of Homicide: 4/30/13

Victim: Black Male, 22

Suspect: Black Female, 27

**I. CRIME**

- A. RELATIONSHIP: Ex-Girlfriend/Ex-Boyfriend (not cohabitating)
- B. CASE SUMMARY: On April 30, 2013, there was an injunction for protection against domestic violence in place against Victim by Suspect. Victim drove by Suspect's home as the Suspect was walking to her vehicle. Victim turned the vehicle around and drove towards Suspect's vehicle. Victim exited his vehicle and began threatening Suspect. Suspect told Victim to leave her alone and retrieved her gun from her glove box. Victim continued to make threats toward Suspect and entered his vehicle stating he was going to damage Suspect's vehicle. Victim put his vehicle in reverse hitting a neighbor's vehicle, and then proceeded forward towards the Suspect. Suspect believed that Suspect was going to strike her with his vehicle. Suspect fired one shot at Victim's vehicle striking Victim in the chest. Victim continued to drive the vehicle for two blocks and parked in a parking lot. Suspect called the police to report the incident. Victim was found deceased in his vehicle in the parking lot. After investigation, the homicide was ruled justified.
- C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None
- D. LOCATION: 32208 (Zone 1)

**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: a) 01/23/2010 – Possession and sale of controlled substance; 18 months' probation and a fine.
- 2. Suspect: No Record

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

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

**III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS**

- A. Victim: a) 04/08/2013 – Respondent in Injunction for Protection filed by Suspect.
- B. Suspect: a) 04/08/2013 – Petitioner in Injunction for Protection against Victim.

**IV. SERVICES**

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

**V. OTHER CONCERNS**

During the months leading up to the homicide, Suspect made numerous reports of incidents regarding Victim after Suspect broke relationship off with Victim. Suspect did not seek shelter services.

Three months prior to the homicide, Victim vandalized Suspect's vehicle and stole her guns. At the time of this incident, Suspect and Victim had been separated for two weeks. Suspect received her guns back and did not want charges filed. No arrests were made.

One month prior to the homicide, Suspect was driving with four children in her vehicle. Victim observed Suspect at a red light and bumped the rear of her vehicle with the vehicle he was driving in order to get her attention. Suspect became fearful and contacted the police. Suspect was given a State Attorney's card.

Three days prior to the homicide, Victim came to where Suspect was visiting with someone and vandalized Suspect's vehicle. At the time of this incident, there was a

temporary injunction in place. Suspect was given a State Attorney's card. Suspect met with State Attorney's office Intake Officer. No arrests were made. A witness to one of the incidents stated that Victim showed up at witness's home whenever Suspect was visiting.

2013-04

Date of Homicide: 5/11/13

Victim: Black Male, 57

Suspect: Black Male, 55

**I. CRIME**

A. RELATIONSHIP: Brothers (not cohabitating)

B. CASE SUMMARY: On May 11, 2013, Victim #1 (brother) and Victim #2 (sister-in-law) were called to the residence by the Witness to settle a dispute with Suspect regarding the Suspect changing the locks on the residence. Witness, with her 7 year old daughter, and Suspect were platonic roommates. Suspect was angry with Victim #1 and Victim #2 for allowing the Witness to move into the home with her daughter as well as taking the rent money and spending it on other things while the house was in foreclosure for non-payment.

Witness and Victim #2 assumed the dispute had deescalated. Suspect went to the rear of the house to a bedroom, retrieved a .357 revolver, and returned to living room where Victim #1 and Victim #2 were seated on the couch. Suspect stated "I'll love you forever" and then fired multiple gunshots at the victims. Victim #1 was shot twice in the chest. Suspect continued shooting at Victim #2 as she ran towards bedroom and continued shooting through the closed door. Witness ran to bedroom where her daughter was already under the bed and closed the door. Both witnesses and Victim #2 escaped through a window to a neighbor's residence.

A call was made to 9-1-1 by Suspect. He stated "I just shot my brother and sister-in-law." He advised 9-1-1 dispatch that he was going to wait on the front porch for the police. Upon police arrival, Suspect was questioned on possession of any weapons or drugs. Suspect replied "everything you looking for is in the house." Suspect was arrested without incident. According to police report, Suspect did not talk to investigators because he did not want to incriminate himself. Victim #1 was found unresponsive and pronounced deceased at the scene. Victim #2 was transported to Shands Hospital where she was listed in critical but stable condition. Suspect was arrested for Second degree murder and Possession of Firearm by a Convicted Felon. Case set for trial – pending date.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: There was one child present, 7 years of age.

D. LOCATION: 32209 (Zone 5)

## II. CRIMINAL HISTORY

### A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

### B. NON-DOMESTIC VIOLENT CRIMES

1. Victim:
  - a) 11/09/1991 – Battery (Simple) – not related Adjudicated guilty; 10 months county jail.
  - b) 04/09/1991 – Battery (Simple) – Dropped.
2. Suspect:
  - a) 10/15/1979 – Aggravated Battery – Weapon Convicted; 15 years (served 9 years).
  - b) 07/20/1977 – Homicide – Willful kill – Weapon; Attempted Murder and Armed Robbery; Convicted; 40 years, Florida State Prison (served 11 years).
  - c) 12/20/1976 – Assault on Law Enforcement Officer.

### C. DRUG OR ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES

1. Victim: No record
2. Suspect:
  - a) 12/15/2012 – Drinking in Public – Adjudication Withheld.

### D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

1. Victim: No Record
2. Suspect:
  - a) 12/06/1979 – Aggravated Assault – Weapon, Convicted.
  - b) 04/17/1976 – Aggravated Assault – Weapon, Dismissed.

**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 the interview, Suspect stated he had not consumed more alcohol than normal, only a half pint of gin the day of the incident. He was coherent during the interview. Suspect openly stated he had several mental conditions including schizophrenia. Suspect also stated to detectives during interview "that if anything happened to them, they brought it on themselves and that they had pissed on him." Suspect previously served 11 years for an attempted murder and robbery charge, being released in 1988.

2013-05

Date of Homicide-Suicide: 7/6/13

Victim: White Female, 84

Suspect: White Male, 84

**I. CRIME**

A. RELATIONSHIP: Wife/Husband (cohabiting)

B. CASE SUMMARY: On July 6, 2013 sometime between 6 AM and 8 AM, Suspect took Victim to a nearby park where Suspect shot Victim two times and then turned the gun on himself. Both Victim and Suspect were found deceased in the park.

Victim and Suspect had been married for more than fifty years. Victim had been suffering from dementia and progressively getting worse. Suspect was suffering from depression and health issues. One of Victim and Suspect's sons lived with them and told police he went to work early that morning and both Victim and Suspect were fine.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: None

D. LOCATION: 32216 (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: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

IV. **SERVICES**

A. Victim: None Found

B. Suspect: None Found

V. **OTHER CONCERNS**

Suspect had told his son earlier in the week that he should just kill himself and get it over with as he believed he had some type of terminal illness. Suspect expressed concerns to his son over who would take care of Victim who sometimes didn't know who anyone was.

Date of Homicide-Suicide: 11/26/13
------------------------------------

Victim: White Female, 45

Suspect: White Male, 44

## I. CRIME

A. RELATIONSHIP: Girlfriend/Boyfriend (cohabiting)

B. CASE SUMMARY: On November 26, 2013, Suspect shot Victim multiple times during a heated argument inside their shared apartment. Victim and Suspect had been in a long term relationship in spite of the fact that Victim was still legally married to another man. Their relationship had turned volatile resulting in frequent heated arguments. Immediately following the murder, Suspect committed suicide by shooting himself.

The night of the incident, Suspect and Victim got into an explosive argument which ended in Victim calling police for help. While Victim was on the phone with 9-1-1, Suspect shot her multiple times killing her. Afterward, Suspect put the gun in his mouth and pulled the trigger, killing himself. Victim's daughter heard the argument and the gunshots. Victim had secretly planned to break up with Suspect and move out. At a forensic interview conducted by the First Coast Child Protection Team, Victim's daughter specifically put the murder weapon in Suspect's hands.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: There was one child present, 11 years of age.

D. LOCATION: 32225 (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: a) 06/02/1988 – DUI, pled guilty; 1 day in jail.

D. WEAPONS OFFENSES

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

**III. CIVIL RECORDS AND REPORTS**

- A. Victim: a) 04/30/2012 – Petitioner in Injunction for Protection against Suspect.
- B. Suspect: a) 04/30/2012 – Respondent in Injunction for Protection filed by Victim.  
b) 04/14/2012 – Committed under the Baker Act

**IV. SERVICES**

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

**V. OTHER CONCERNS**

Suspect was committed under the Baker Act for threatening to shoot himself and “take everyone else with him.” A gun was seized and placed into the police property room.

Two weeks later, an Injunction for Protection was issued. The petitioner withdrew her request for ‘no contact’ provision in the injunction. The Judge granted a non-violent contact injunction for one year, which expired on April 30, 2013.

Suspect was not ordered to do any program or counseling, but in the Petitioner’s petition, it was marked that Victim wanted an order for the Respondent to participate in treatment, intervention, and/or counseling.

Date of Homicide: 12/29/13
----------------------------

Victim: White Female, 42

Suspect: Black Male, 44

## I. CRIME

A. RELATIONSHIP: Wife/Husband (not cohabiting)

B. CASE SUMMARY: On December 29, 2013, the adult daughter (age 18) of Victim and Suspect was home from military duties for a holiday visit and had been dropped off by Victim at a local Applebee's restaurant for a visit with her father. According to the daughter, she and Suspect sat down in a booth, but her parents were fighting and arguing via phone. Suspect was upset that Victim was driving her boyfriend's vehicle, felt disrespected by that, and wanted Victim to give the car back. At some point Suspect stopped responding to Victim's phone calls and text messages.

Shortly thereafter, Victim came into the restaurant and sat down in the booth with them. A verbal argument ensued during which Suspect told Victim to leave the restaurant or he would "reach into my pocket." Victim reportedly said "What are you going to do, shoot me in front of your daughter?" Suspect went outside to his vehicle for a few moments but came back in and sat down again. The daughter was crying. Suspect told Victim "You have thirty seconds to leave," to which Victim responded "You are not going to shoot me in front of your daughter." Victim got up and walked toward the door, saying to Suspect "You are a worthless piece of shit." Victim also told a restaurant employee who was working the door "This mother fucker is trying to kill me. If he follows me, call the police."

Suspect then told his daughter, "Excuse me for a second," and followed Victim toward the door. Both Victim and Suspect went through the doors to the lobby area, at which point witnesses reported that several shots were heard. Victim fell to the floor, and a few witnesses saw Suspect continue to shoot at her. The daughter ran to the door, saw Suspect's handgun on the floor where he had dropped it, knelt by Victim and asked Suspect why he had shot Victim. Suspect reportedly replied "She called me a worthless piece of shit." The daughter admitted she grabbed the gun to go after Suspect as he walked out the door, but was held back by witnesses from the restaurant. Witnesses also detained Suspect, who admitted to them and to police that he had shot Victim.

Victim died at the hospital. Suspect has been charged with murder and the case is pending.

C. CHILDREN PRESENT: There were no minor children present.

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: a) 06/06/1994 – Arrested for Battery in Maryland. On 09/13/1994 STET disposition.

### 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: a) 2012 – Received services on an outreach basis from Hubbard House.

B. Suspect: None Found

## **V. OTHER CONCERNS**

The daughter informed police that in March 2013 she and her brother overheard Victim and Suspect having a physical confrontation in their bedroom. The brother forced open the bedroom door. Suspect was holding a handgun which he then pointed at the brother. The daughter reported that Victim told her that Suspect had also pointed the gun at her, but the police were never called. Victim moved out of the house shortly thereafter.

Victim had received some services from Hubbard house the previous year, but there are no police reports. It is unknown if the Suspect's prior arrests were for actions against Victim or someone else.

## **REFERENCES USED**

- Browne, A. & Williams, K.R. (1993). Gender, intimacy, and lethal violence: Trends from 1976 through 1987. *Gender & Society*, 7, 78-98.
- Browne, A., Williams, K.R., & Dutton, D.G. (1999). Homicide between intimate partners. In M.D. Smith & M.A. Zahn (Eds.), *Homicide: A sourcebook of social research* (pp. 149-164). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Campbell, J. C., Glass, N., Sharpe, P. W., Laughon, K., & Bloom, T. (2007). Intimate partner homicide: Review and implications of research and policy. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 8, 246-269.
- Campbell, J. C., Webster, D. W., & Glass, N. (2009). The danger assessment: Validation of a lethality risk assessment instrument for intimate partner femicide. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 24, 653-674.
- Dugan, L., Nagin, D. & Rosenfeld, R. (1999). Explaining the decline in intimate partner homicide: The effects of changing domesticity, women's status, and domestic violence resources. *Homicide Studies*, 3, 187-214.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2009). *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports*. Washington DC: U. S. Department of Justice. Retrieved on 09/06/2011 from [www.fbi.com](http://www.fbi.com).
- Florida State Statutes, Chapter 741.28 and Chapter 741.325. Retrieved from [www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes).
- Macy , R. J. & Goodbourn, M. (2012). Promoting successful collaborations between domestic violence and substance abuse treatment service sectors: A review of the literature. *Trauma, Violence & Abuse*, 13(4), 234-251.
- National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative. Retrieved from [www.ndvfri.org](http://www.ndvfri.org).
- Puzone, C.A., Saltzman, L.E., Kresnow, M.J., Thompson, M.P., & Mercy, J.A. (2000). National trends in intimate partner violence: United States, 1976-1995. *Violence Against Women*, 6,4, 409-426.
- Rosenfeld, R. (1997). Changing relationships between men and women: A note on the decline in intimate partner homicide. *Homicide Studies*, 1, 72-83.
- United States Census. 2010 Census Interactive Population Search, Duval County, Florida. Retrieved on September 17, 2012 from <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/>.
- Websdale, N. (Nov. 2003). Reviewing domestic violence deaths. *NIJ Journal*, no.250, 26-31.

## **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.

**DVFRT** – Domestic Violence 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.