



**LOUISVILLE METRO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**2009-2010 REPORT**

**OCTOBER 2011**

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**LOUISVILLE METRO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**CAROL COBB**  
Co-CHAIR

**DAVID NICHOLSON**  
Co-CHAIR

October 27, 2011

Dear Reader:

On behalf of the members of the Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee, we are proud to offer this compilation of our activities for calendar years 2009 and 2010. As you may be aware, our local Fatality Review Committee was formed in 1996 to identify opportunities to enhance and improve the system response to domestic violence by conducting multidisciplinary and multi-agency examinations of domestic violence fatalities. Our ultimate goals are focused on prevention, information sharing, accountability, and systems improvement.

Issuance of this report represents a significant milestone for the Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee, since it is the first formal report issued by the group since 2005. The report includes an overview of aggregate data collected on cases reviewed by the committee; a list of identified gaps and a series of recommendations derived from the reviews; and a summary of significant accomplishments to improve the local agency and community response to domestic violence over the course of the two-year-period.

Although the report serves to document the critical work of the Fatality Review Committee, more importantly, it represents a call to action. As a committee and as a city, it our goal to eliminate domestic violence and domestic violence-related fatalities—an effort that will require community-wide awareness and participation.

Sincerely,

Judge Jerry Bowles  
Jefferson Family Court  
Fatality Review Committee, Co-Chair

Kim M. Allen, Interim Director  
Louisville Metro Criminal Justice Commission  
Fatality Review Committee, Co-Chair

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
C/O 514 WEST LIBERTY STREET, SUITE 106  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
502.574.5088

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Conducting comprehensive reviews of cases involving domestic violence-related fatalities cannot be accomplished without the involvement and dedication of a broad range of system and community stakeholders. The process requires the commitment of a four-hour block of time for review and discussion of cases; presentation of current and historical case information by all agencies that had even tangential contact with the involved parties; and review of recorded court hearings involving Emergency Protective Orders or Domestic Violence Orders.

With a foundation built upon confidentiality and in recognition of the need for a blame-free environment for discussion, the Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee remains the only known group nationally to review pending cases—an approach that allows for quick responses to system issues requiring immediate attention. The following individuals and organizations are to be thanked and commended for their continued participation and commitment to the Fatality Review Committee.

### Fatality Review Committee Members

Ms. Kim M. Allen, Co-Chair Criminal Justice Commission	Ms. Susan Ely Jefferson County Attorney's Office	Ms. Kathy Paulin Citizen Member
Judge Jerry Bowles, Co-Chair Jefferson Family Court	Ms. Linda Engel, L.C.S.W. Family and Child Therapist	Ms. Tamara Reif Center for Women and Families
Ms. Beth Bacigalupi KY Cabinet for Health & Family Services/Child Protective Services	Chief Judge Stephen George Jefferson Family Court	Ms. Marcia Roth Mary Byron Foundation
Mr. John Balliet Commonwealth Attorney's Office	Ms. Diane Graeter National Council for Jewish Women	Judge Ann Shake Senior Status Judge
Dr. Amy Burrows-Beckham Office of Chief Medical Examiner	Ms. Pamela Johnson Citizen Member	Dr. Bill Smock University of Louisville Emergency Medicine
Ms. Kathy Bingham Metro Corrections Department	Deputy Bob Knoop Jefferson County Sheriff's Office	Ms. Barbara Sullivan Legal Aid Society
Ms. Michele Butts KY Probation & Parole District 16	Ms. Jackie Muncy Jefferson County Public Schools	Ms. Kim Tharp-Barrie Citizen Member
Ms. Michelle Carle KY Cabinet for Health & Family Services/Adult Protective Services	Lt. Carolyn Nunn Louisville Metro Police DV Unit	Judge Jennifer Wilcox Jefferson District Court
Judge Frederic Cowan Jefferson Circuit Court	Ms. Chris Owens Office for Women	Ms. Pam Workhoven Circuit Court Clerk's Office
Ms. Shannon Derrick Home of the Innocents	Mr. Kevin Pangburn Batterer's Intervention Program Provider	

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## **HISTORY OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

In January 1996, the Jefferson County Fiscal Court enacted Ordinance No.1, Series 1996, creating the Jefferson County Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council. The Council was formed based on the recognition that domestic violence is a pervasive community problem—one that cannot not be solved by a single agency. In 2003, the Council was re-authorized during the merger of the governments of the former City of Louisville and Jefferson County to form Louisville Metro Government. As with the previous Council, the Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC) was charged by ordinance with the three following general purposes:

- ❖ To improve interagency cooperation and communication in the area of domestic violence;
- ❖ To promote effective prevention, intervention, and treatment techniques which will be developed based upon research and data collection; and
- ❖ To improve the response to domestic violence and abuse in order to reduce incidents thereof.

To assist the Council with its work, standing sub-committees were created. The Mortality Review Committee (renamed the Fatality Review Committee in 2004) was created in 1996 as a result of a growing community awareness regarding the potential lethality associated with domestic violence. In March 1996, there was a high profile case involving a domestic violence fatality in the City of Louisville. As a result of this incident, a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary group was convened to review the case of Karen and Richard Graves. In December 1996, a report with findings from the case was released which contained a series of recommendations. One of the recommendations focused on establishing an ongoing multi-agency, multi-disciplinary review body to examine domestic violence cases resulting in a fatality.

The purpose of the Fatality Review Committee (FRC) is to identify areas and means by which to increase and enhance coordinated agency and community responses to domestic violence through systemic examinations of domestic violence fatalities. The goals of the FRC are focused on prevention, information sharing, accountability and systems improvement:

- ❑ Prevent future domestic violence cases and homicides;
- ❑ Improve interagency communication and coordination;
- ❑ Collect and publish data on domestic violence fatalities in Louisville Metro;
- ❑ Educate the public on the dynamics of domestic violence and related fatalities;
- ❑ Identify gaps and unmet needs in the current domestic violence response systems; and
- ❑ Recommend and assist in implementing system improvements.

The membership of the FRC primarily includes agency representatives with access to case information on local domestic violence fatalities such as social services reports, court documents, police records, autopsy reports, mental health records, hospital or medical-

related data, and any other information that may have a bearing on the case under review. Additionally, the Committee includes citizen members and representatives from agencies with a vested interest in prevention of domestic violence and system improvement. The Committee operates in the following manner:

- The Committee meets for four hours every two months or as needed.
- Prior to each meeting, members receive an agenda and case list containing information on the cases to be reviewed;
- Members are responsible for acquiring and bringing all pertinent agency documents regarding the involved parties and related records to the meeting;
- At the beginning of the meeting, members sign the confidentiality agreement (see Appendix A);
- During the meeting, each member shares the information they have on a particular case; and
- Members discuss the information, identify potential gaps in the local system response, and generate recommendations (members may also request additional data to be presented at the next meeting).

The FRC is authorized by Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) 403.705, which allows information shared in the review process to be deemed confidential. At every meeting, members are reminded of the importance of confidentiality for all information and opinions expressed during the case reviews. Additionally, members understand that in order to perform at an optimal level, FRC members need to feel comfortable in an open, forthcoming and non-accusatory environment. The FRC has always stressed a “no blame or shame” philosophy in which individuals or agencies are not blamed or singled out. Members recognize that the perpetrator is ultimately responsible for the death, but also recognize that various systems that have contact with the victim and perpetrator may have an opportunity to intervene in a manner that could prevent a death. Therefore, criminal justice system processes, systems and policies are reviewed and improvements recommended when necessary. Since 1999, the Committee has reviewed over 100 cases. Aggregate data from cases reviewed in calendar years 2009 and 2010 is outlined under the Findings section.

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*The ability of the Louisville Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee to identify gaps in service delivery and to identify potential systemic breakdowns is saving lives and making families in our community safer.*

*Judge Jerry Bowles, Co-Chair*

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## COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION AND PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT

As noted in the previous section, the Louisville Metro Fatality Review Committee (FRC) was originally formed in 1996 in response to a recommendation following a comprehensive review of a high profile case involving a domestic violence fatality in the City of Louisville. The findings and report generated as a result of the case review process demonstrated the need for and benefits of an ongoing multi-agency and community-based review of domestic violence fatalities to identify avenues for early intervention and promote system improvement with the ultimate goal of preventing future domestic violence fatalities.

Although the FRC, previously referred to as the Jefferson County Mortality Review Committee, has met on a regular basis since that time, its work has been coordinated informally based on continuity in leadership and staff support without the adoption of a formal protocol. In late 2009, the FRC was facing a number of challenges including turnover in membership, the growing number of attendees at case review meetings, concerns regarding confidentiality, and the continuing need to strike a balance between promoting system accountability while simultaneously creating a neutral environment for conducting unbiased and systemic case reviews based upon a “no blame or shame” philosophy. FRC members agreed that it was time to revisit the mission and function of the committee and to develop formal policies and procedures to address a broad range of issues including membership, case selection, the case review process, data collection, reporting of findings and recommendations, and committee contact with the media.

To facilitate the reorganization process, a committee co-chair was added, and as a starting point, the group revisited a draft protocol that had been compiled by a former committee member in 2005, but never adopted. At the beginning of each FRC meeting, time was set aside to discuss administrative issues related to FRC policies and procedures. A number of the protocol topics resulted in lengthy discussions that continued over several meetings until consensus among members could be achieved.

Along with the topics included in the 2005 draft, considerable attention was focused on the specific elements of the case review process based on the need for access to comprehensive information for review purposes while recognizing the time constraints of individual agency representatives responsible for compiling current and historical information on individual cases. In order to limit the amount of time dedicated to administrative issues at case review meetings, a subcommittee was created to discuss issues related to the case review process and bring recommendations back to the full committee for consideration.


Similarly, the committee spent a significant amount of time discussing the types of cases to be reviewed as it relates to the definition of “domestic violence fatality.” Based on questions regarding the potential impact of the case selection process on confidentiality afforded by KRS 403.705, the state statute which provides for the establishment of local fatality review teams, two separate requests for statutory opinions were submitted to the Office of the Kentucky Attorney General to clarify the types of cases that would be covered by existing confidentiality provisions. Although the responses received from the Office of the Attorney General generally affirmed the case selection procedure agreed to by FRC

members, the process of waiting for the responses contributed additional time to the overall protocol development process.

Following nearly two years of discussion and continual revisions, the Louisville Metro Fatality Review Committee formally approved the adoption of its new protocol at the September 2011 meeting (see Appendix B). Within the new protocol, the definition of “domestic violence fatality”, as approved by the FRC, is listed below.

***Domestic Violence Fatality:*** *Deaths caused directly and indirectly by the manifestations of domestic violence. Domestic violence fatalities potentially include the intended victim, the perpetrator, and third parties involved through intervening in the incident, as by-standers or as secondary victims as a means of the perpetrator hurting the primary domestic violence victim.\**

This culmination of the reorganization and the approval of the new protocol represents a significant achievement in the evolution of the work of the Fatality Review Committee. The new protocol will be used to guide committee activity and provide information on its operation for new members, individuals or organizations interested in the work of the committee, and jurisdictions considering the possibility of convening a group to conduct reviews of domestic violence fatalities.



*As a member of law enforcement, serving on this committee provides a unique opportunity to learn how other agencies work and interact with one another. It provides an opportunity to open additional doors for victims of domestic violence and enhance our own individual agency responses. The process allows us to identify areas that need improvement that once made, will result in future successes. Most importantly, the Fatality Review Committee enhances the ability of all agencies to work together to prevent future victims of this deadly pervasive crime.*

*Lt. Carolyn Nunn  
Louisville Metro Police Department*



*\*The definition adopted by the FRC extends beyond the statutory language in KRS 403.720 to include intimate partners who are not living together and do not have a child in common.*



## **IDENTIFIED GAPS AND NEEDS IN LOCAL SYSTEM RESPONSE**

During the course of conducting case reviews, the following systemic gaps and needs were identified by members of the Fatality Review Committee. Many of these items were the subject of lengthy discussion and the focus of specific recommendations, which are addressed in the FRC Recommendations section.

### **(1) Public Protection**

- Opportunity to enhance offender accountability through use of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) technology
- Need to conduct weapons searches in the homes of domestic violence offenders under the supervision of the Home Incarceration Program (HIP)

### **(2) Awareness of Lethality Factors**

- Ongoing need for judicial and system education
- Need for an easy reference guide on domestic violence lethality factors

### **(3) Workplace Security**

- Need for standardized security protocols within the Hall of Justice and Judicial Center
- Need for security protocols for healthcare facilities
- Need for coordination and information sharing between hospitals and law enforcement
- Limited community-wide domestic violence education for employers and employees

### **(4) System Response**

- Opportunity to enhance the police response to domestic violence incidents by having experienced Louisville Metro Police Department Domestic Violence Detectives respond to felony cases and consult with Homicide Detectives
- Limited training for domestic relations attorneys on the dynamics of domestic violence
- Need for availability of educational and informational materials for victims in languages other than English
- Ongoing need for victim access to advocates throughout the court system and community

### **(5) Substance Abuse**

- Need for consistent practices and protocols involving referrals for domestic violence offenders with a history of substance abuse

(6) Legislative Response

- Need for public access to criminal and civil history information
- Opportunity to consider legislation providing for workplace violence restraining orders similar to other jurisdictions
- Critical need to expand access to protective orders for those within dating relationships
- Lack of a common definition and interpretation of KRS 403.740, the Emergency Protective Order statute, as it relates to assessment of risk.

(7) Children Exposed to Domestic Violence

- Limited coordination of community-wide services

*To try to continuously improve upon the quality of domestic violence prosecutions in District Court and to assist in keeping victims safer, it is critical for the Jefferson County Attorney's Office to remain an active member of the Fatality Review Committee.*

*Susan Ely, Division Chief Domestic Violence Unit  
Jefferson County Attorney's Office*

**LOUISVILLE METRO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE (FRC)  
2009-2010 Committee Recommendations**

RECOMMENDATION	FRC ACTION	STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION
Encourage the Kentucky General Assembly and the Governor to create a database accessible via the internet to allow citizens to access the civil and criminal history of offenders. This will assist in raising awareness about the issue of domestic violence and allow individuals to be more informed about the domestic violence history of potential partners in a dating or intimate relationship.	Referred to the Louisville Metro Criminal Justice Commission's (CJC) Legislative Committee and the Jefferson County Legislative Delegation	Representative Joni Jenkins filed HB 233 in the 2011 General Assembly which would require the Administrative Office of the Courts to publish a public website containing information related to the conviction of any misdemeanor or felony offense by an adult or a minor convicted as a youthful offender. The published information would include the offender's name, offense and date of conviction, and any penalty imposed. While the bill did not pass, it will be reviewed and possibly refiled prior to the 2012 Legislative Session.
Encourage the Kentucky General Assembly to consider legislation exploring the use of GPS technology in high risk cases involving domestic violence.	Referred to the CJC Legislative Committee and the Jefferson County Legislative Delegation	Representative Greg Stumbo filed HB 1 in the 2010 General Assembly which would allow the use of global positioning monitoring systems in certain domestic violence cases. The enacted legislation allows jurisdictions meeting specified requirements to use GPS technology for these offenses.
Court orders for domestic violence offenders involving a sentence to the Home Incarceration Program or a release on Probation or Parole should require, as a condition of the order, occupants to consent to a weapons search of the premises and allow random weapons searches during the period the court order is in effect.	Referred to Metro Corrections and Kentucky Probation and Parole	According to the policies and procedures governing Probation and Parole, searches can only be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion to believe that the conditions of supervision have been or are being violated. The current policies and procedures governing Metro Corrections and the Home Incarceration Program (HIP) do not specifically address the issue of searches. A draft policy has been developed which would inform the offender that he/she will be subject to searches based upon reasonable suspicion that the search may produce evidence to support an alleged violation of the conditions, rules and/or regulations of HIP. The policy has not been finalized.
Educate the public and personnel working within the criminal justice system on the danger of strangulation as a lethality factor in domestic violence incidents.	FRC Members initiated training.	During 2010, Lt. Carolyn Nunn, Louisville Metro Police Department and Susan Ely, Division Chief of Domestic Violence Unit, Jefferson County Attorney's Office, trained a majority of the District and Family Court Judges on strangulation, as a lethality factor. In February 2011, this training was conducted again with the assistance of Dr. Bill Smock. Similar trainings have also been presented to personnel from the Commonwealth Attorney's Office and new recruits within LMPD. All trainings have been well attended and generated positive feedback. Future trainings will be held based upon need and request.

<p>Recommend that educational materials for victims be developed and made available in victim waiting areas and that a funding source be sought to print the materials and translate them into other languages. For victims requesting an Emergency Protective Order/Domestic Violence Order, materials would contain a checklist of items that victims may want to raise during the hearing.</p>	<p>Referred to the Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC) – Interagency Committee</p>	<p>This issue was discussed at the February 2011 meeting of the Interagency Committee. Agencies discussed their use and placement of educational materials. Most agencies rely on the materials provided by the Center for Women and Families. Brochure racks are available in the Domestic Violence Intake Center in the Hall of Justice and within the Judicial Center. Additionally, the Center for Women and Families has brochures related to DV and sexual assault available on its website, including materials in Spanish. The Metro Office for Women and the LMPD both have the Family Violence Community Resource Directory posted on their websites which can be printed in English, Spanish, and seven other languages.</p>
<p>Recommend that the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office develop a universal "best practices" security protocol for all courtrooms and provide training for all deputies on this protocol. The protocol should delineate procedures in the event of an emergency (weather, evacuation, etc.) in order to keep all involved parties safe. Members believe that having a consistent approach to security within the courtroom would be beneficial to all court personnel.</p>	<p>Referred to the DVPCC – Interagency Committee</p>	<p>This issue was discussed at the February 2011 meeting of the Interagency Committee. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office reported that the issue had been brought up for discussion among Sheriff's Department personnel, however, traffic volume within the courthouse and the anonymity of victims pose unique challenges for emergency evacuation planning. Discussions involving judges and Sheriff's Department personnel continue regarding the establishment of a standard courtroom protocol.</p>
<p>Based upon the exceptional quality of an investigation conducted by an LMPD Domestic Violence (DV) Detective discussed during a case review, it is recommended that LMPD DV Detectives be called out as primary responders on aggravated felony cases of DV whenever possible. It was also recommended that LMPD DV Detectives be made available as a resource to Homicide Detectives to collaborate on cases involving DV fatalities.</p>	<p>Referred to Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD)</p>	<p>In March 2011, the LMPD announced impending changes in its response to cases involving DV. The department reported that it would be forming a patrol-based DV Unit, which includes division-based DV Detectives as well as felony case DV Detectives working under a Unit Commander at a central location. In DV homicide cases, a DV Detective may be dispatched to the scene to assist Homicide Detectives. LMPD also submitted a Grants to Encourage Arrest Program application that would provide additional advocates within the Domestic Violence Intake Center and the Center for Women and Families. This application was awarded in September 2011.</p>
<p>Develop laminated reference cards listing lethality factors for distribution to court personnel, members of the private bar and other interested parties. Seek funding to support printing and distribution of these cards.</p>	<p>Referred to DVPCC</p>	<p>Laminated cards containing lethality factor information were printed with assistance from the Louisville Bar Association Foundation and distributed during DV Awareness Month in October 2010. Cards were distributed to members of the defense bar, prosecutors, police, advocates, APS personnel, judges, and members of the DVPCC among others. The cards have generated positive feedback and are being used by personnel working with victims of DV.</p>

<p>During case discussion, members discussed the importance of information sharing between hospitals and law enforcement to assist in locating suspects and ensuring the protection of domestic violence victims. With knowledge that 45 CFR 164.512, HIPAA Regulations Regarding Public Health Information, provides an exemption that allows certain protected health information to be disclosed to law enforcement that is relevant and material to a legitimate law enforcement inquiry, the committee recommends that the DVPCC request the assistance of the Greater Louisville Medical Society (GLMS) and the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) in bringing this information to the attention of area physicians, hospitals and other healthcare professionals. As part of the case review discussion, members also raised questions about existing healthcare provider security protocols and procedures to ensure that victims are protected and to ensure the safety of patients, staff and visitors in the event of an incident involving an active shooter. Based upon preliminary inquiries, members identified the need for consistent and comprehensive protocols to be in place across the community. The committee recommends that the DVPCC request the assistance of the GLMS and the KHA in bringing this issue to the attention of area physicians, hospitals and other healthcare professionals.</p>	<p>Referred for Action to a FRC Healthcare Representative for action</p>	<p>Norton Healthcare is revising its policies and procedures on these issues. A doctoral student from Bellarmine University is also assisting Norton Healthcare with a plan to increase the number of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) available on call and a model to provide access and one level of care for all victims across all local hospital Emergency Departments. Additionally, the issue is being taken to the Kentucky Hospital Association Committee for statewide discussion and consideration.</p>
<p>In the process of conducting fatality reviews, members frequently identify that parties involved in the case have substance abuse-related issues and that a number are referred for treatment. Since individuals ordered to substance abuse treatment may also have DV histories, the committee wants to ensure that every effort is made to identify DV and promote appropriate intervention at the earliest opportunity. The Committee recommends that individuals with DV issues be referred to the Batterer's Intervention Program (BIP). BIP providers can assess individuals for possible substance abuse issues as well as DV and make referrals as needed.</p>	<p>Referred to the Batterer's Intervention Treatment Program (BIP) Provider Committee</p>	<p>Members have asked that Batterers' Intervention Treatment Providers discuss this issue along with question raised regarding the availability of sliding scale payment options for participants in the BIP programs. Discussions with members of the local judiciary have reinforced the need for neutral and objective assessments to guide court decision-making and treatment referrals.</p>

<p>Work with members of the Jefferson County Delegation to discuss potential legislation that would allow area employers to obtain a workplace violence restraining order.</p>	<p>Referred to the CJC Legislative Committee and the Jefferson County Legislative Delegation</p>	<p>In October 2011, the DVPCC proposed this recommendation as one of 11 recommendations submitted to the Jefferson County Delegation. While no legislation was filed during the 2011 General Assembly, it will be reviewed for possible filing during the 2012 Legislative Session.</p>
<p>Educate area employers on the dynamics of domestic violence, lethality factors, obtaining assistance for employees, and workplace security.</p>	<p>Referred to the Center for Women and Families</p>	<p>The Center for Women and Families has developed a DV in the Workplace Program which provides free training for employers on creating and leading educational programs on DV that are specific to the needs of their organization. A significant number of employers have been trained through this program. During the March 2011 DVPCC meeting, Center staff provided members with an overview of this initiative and encouraged them to share the information with area businesses who may benefit from the training.</p>
<p>Provide additional training to domestic relations attorneys on dynamics of domestic violence, lethality factors, safety planning and issues related to ex-parte orders.</p>	<p>Referred to DVPCC</p>	<p>In October 2010, the DVPCC hosted two (CLE approved) domestic violence training sessions in collaboration with the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Louisville Bar Association. The first component of the training consisted of the program "In Her Shoes;" an interactive training simulation designed to help participants understand the experience of battered women and the cyclical nature of domestic violence. The second component involved a presentation on domestic violence lethality factors conducted by the Jefferson County Attorney's Office. A total of 75 people attended the training including prosecutors, advocates, law enforcement, corrections, members of the defense bar, social service organizations, and community residents.</p>
<p>During reviews, members identified that assessment of risk for the purpose of issuance of an EPO may be focused solely on the presence of recent acts of physical violence rather than patterns of behavior over time that demonstrate the presence of risk or lethality factors. As a result, it was recommended that "imminent risk" be defined within Kentucky Statute and training be provided on the new definition for members of the judiciary, attorneys, clerks, and trial commissioners, etc.</p>	<p>No Action Taken, FRC members have held preliminary discussions but, no consensus has been reached on the appropriate action, i.e. a statutory revision or training approach. Ultimately, either action will require significant training of system personnel.</p>	<p>The Kentucky Domestic Violence Association (KDVA) has requested that during the 2012 Legislative Session, "imminent risk" be defined as it relates to assessment of risk within KRS 403.750, the Emergency Protective Order statute. The Kentucky Legislative Research Association is in the process of compiling a bill draft.</p>

## FINDINGS FROM FRC REVIEWS

From January 2009 through December 2010, Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) received over 68,500 domestic violence-related calls for service; 8,552 domestic violence-related offense reports; and 4,793 domestic violence-related arrests. During this same two-year period, there were over 8,300 new domestic violence (DV) cases in Jefferson District Court, 734 new domestic violence cases in Jefferson Circuit Court, and 10,500 new Emergency Protective Orders filed in Jefferson Family Court. Additionally, there were 9,924 domestic violence referrals made to Adult Protective Services (APS) and/or Child Protective Services (CPS) and 13,288 domestic violence-related legal advocacy services provided by the Center for Women and Families (CWF). A table containing totals for each year is listed below. The complete domestic violence data snapshots for 2009 and 2010 can be found in Appendix C.

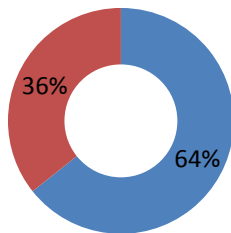
	2009	2010
<b>LMPD DV-Related Calls for Service</b>	<b>33,988</b>	<b>34,528</b>
<b>LMPD DV-Related Offense Reports</b>	<b>3,852</b>	<b>4,700</b>
<b>New DV cases in District/Circuit Courts</b>	<b>4,172</b>	<b>4,897</b>
<b>Emergency Protective Orders Filed</b>	<b>5,388</b>	<b>5,112</b>
<b>CWF Legal Advocacy Provided</b>	<b>7,318</b>	<b>5,970</b>
<b>APS/CPS DV Referrals</b>	<b>4,846</b>	<b>5,078</b>

### Victim/Offender Characteristics:

From January 2009 through December 2010, the Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee reviewed fourteen cases. There were seven cases in 2009 and seven cases in 2010. Of the offenders, thirteen (93%) were men, eight (57%) were Caucasian, five (36%) were African American, one (7%) Hispanic, and the average age was 40 (ages ranged from 25-65 years). For victims, thirteen (93%) were women, nine (64%) were Caucasian, five (36%) were African American, and the average age was 35 (ages ranged from 21-53 years).

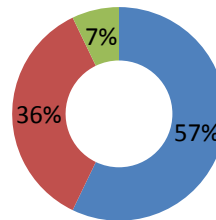
### Race of Victim

■ White ■ African American



### Race of Offender

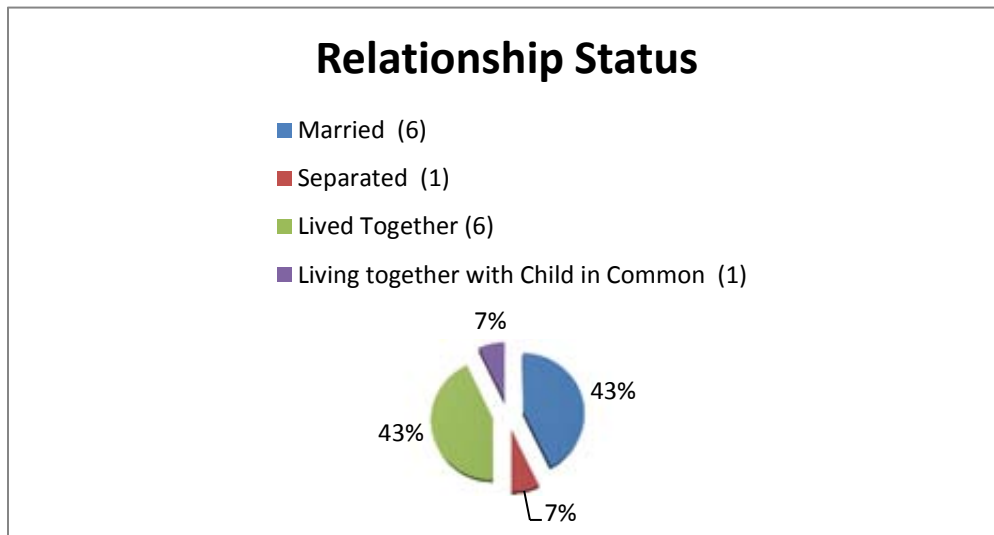
■ White ■ African American ■ Hispanic



A chart detailing demographics by year is listed below.

	2009	2010
<b>Offenders</b>		
Caucasian Males	3	5
African American Males	2	2
Hispanic Males	1	
African American Females	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Victims</b>		
Caucasian Females	4	5
African American Females	2	2
African American Males	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

The relationship between the victim and offender was most frequently reported to be married (six or 43%) or formerly lived together (six or 43%). Additionally, in one case, the victim and offender were separated and in another, the victim and offender were living together with a child in common.



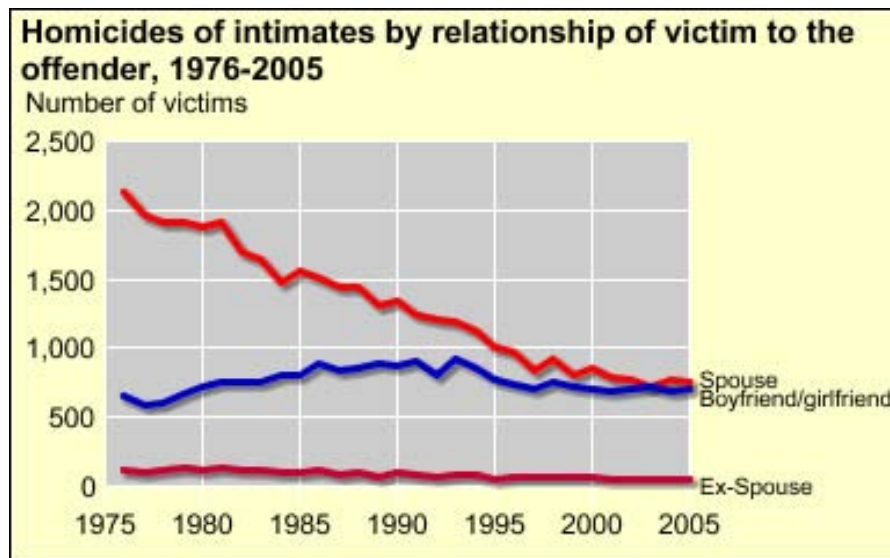
**National Overview of Domestic Violence Data:**

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, nonfatal partner violence as well as homicides of intimates has been declining since 1993. From 2001-2005 nonfatal intimate partner victimizations represented approximately 22% of nonfatal violent victimizations against females age 12 or older. During this same time period, approximately 27% of female victims reported that the offender had threatened to kill them. African American females were most likely to report their victimization to the police (70.2%) followed by other race



males (69.1%), other race females (58.4%), white females (58.2%), white males (57.9%) and African American males (46.5%).

Locally, the domestic violence fatalities reviewed by the FRC represent 11% of the 62 total homicides occurring in Louisville Metro in 2009. This percentage was 14% for 2010 (52 homicides). Nationally, intimate partners were also responsible for 30% of all homicides against females. Those who were separated or divorced had the highest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence. As noted in the chart below (Bureau of Justice Statistics), national data indicates that most intimate homicides involved spouses, while the number of deaths perpetrated by boyfriends and girlfriends has remained fairly consistent.

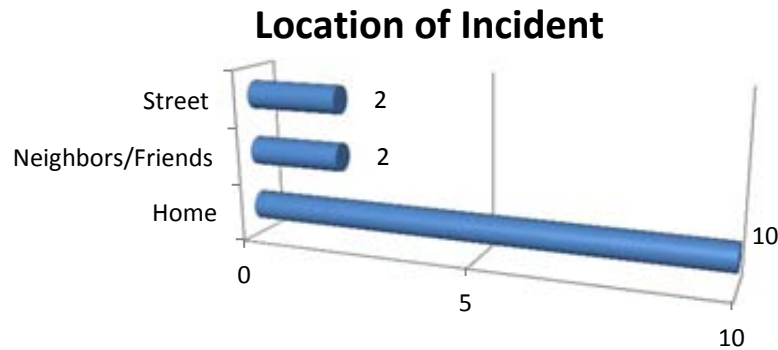


### **Incident Circumstances:**

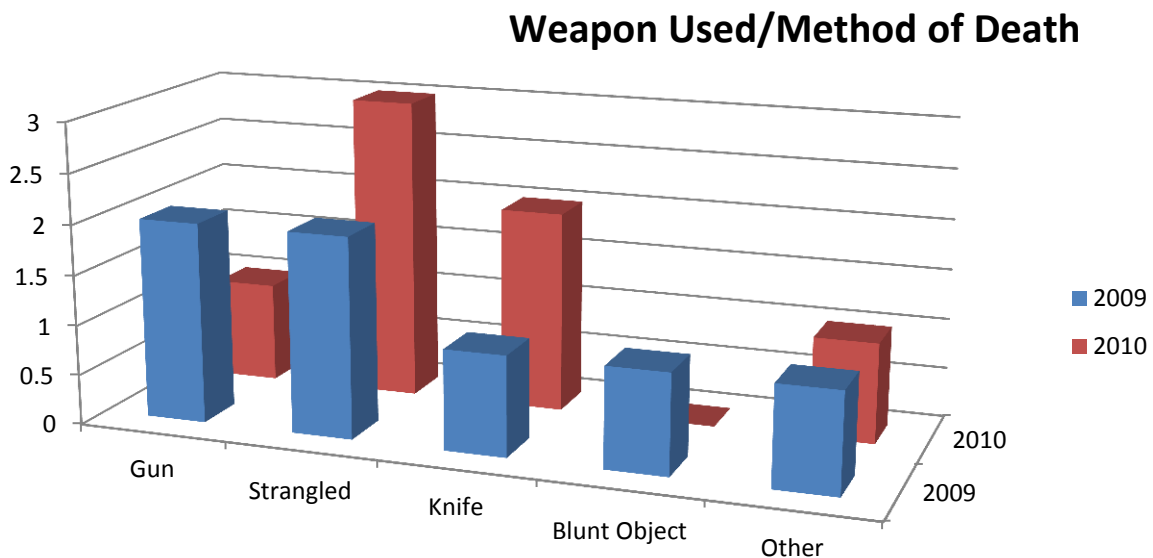
Of the 14 FRC cases reviewed, a third party injury (friend of the victim) was sustained in only one case. Children were present in two cases, an infant and a child between the ages of six to nine years. The offender committed suicide in two of the cases.

A prior criminal history was documented for twelve of the fourteen offenders (86%) and six of the fourteen (43%) victims. In ten cases, the offender had a history of domestic violence in a prior relationship (71%). The reported histories of prior domestic violence included police involvement (six or 43%), issuance of prior Emergency Protective Orders (five or 36%), and prior Adult Protective Services involvement (one case). In five cases, victims were reported to have a history of domestic violence in a prior relationship (36%). The reported histories of prior domestic violence included prior Emergency Protective Orders (one case), prior Adult Protective Services involvement (four or 29%), and prior contact with the Center for Women and Families (two cases). Additionally, there were five cases in which the perpetrator had a known criminal or civil history in another state or jurisdiction outside of Jefferson County.

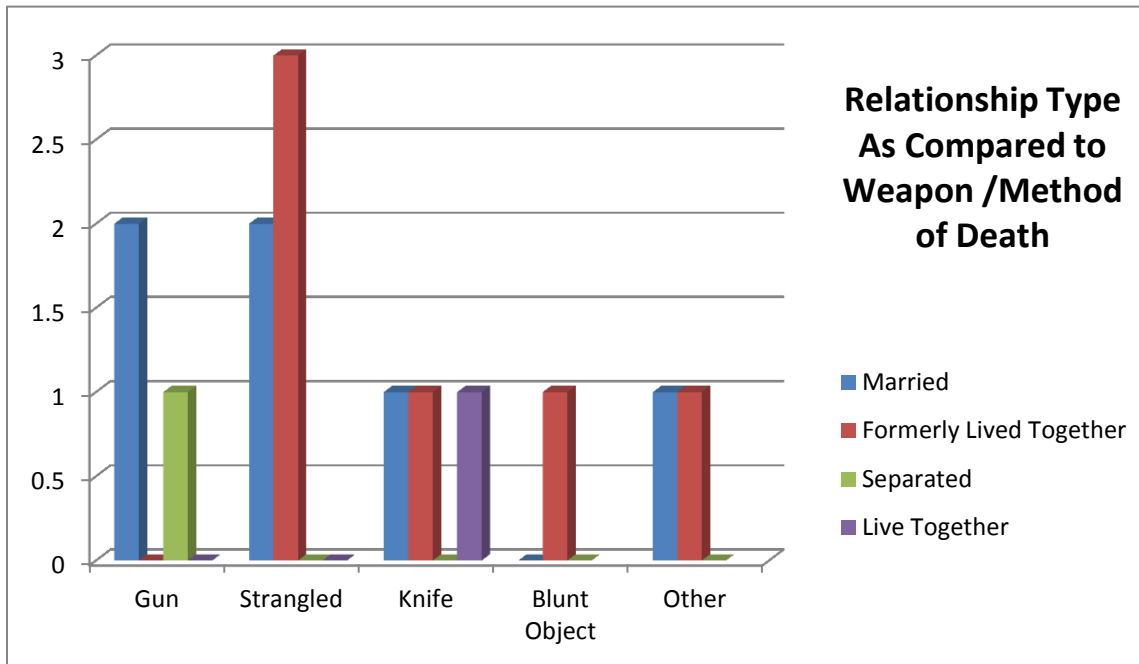
The most likely location for the fatal incident to occur was the home (ten or 72%), followed by the home of a friend or neighbor (two cases) and on the street (two cases). This data corresponds with national statistics from the Bureau of Justice Statistics which reports that over 60% of nonfatal intimate partner violence occurs in the home with the next highest being the home of a friend or neighbor (11%).



In determining the method of death for a domestic violence fatality, death is assumed to have been caused by the most lethal weapon used. A gun was used in three (21.4%) of the 14 cases, a knife in three cases (21.4%), a blunt object in one case, and the victim was strangled in five of the cases (36%). In the remaining two cases, one victim was struck by a motor vehicle and the other was injected with drugs. A chart detailing the weapons used in cases reviewed by the FRC Committee for 2009 and 2010 is listed below.



An analysis of the fourteen cases revealed that a gun was used in cases in which a couple was married or previously married and currently separated. A chart detailing the method of death/weapon used in the fourteen cases by relationship type is listed below.



Nationally, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, guns are most often used in intimate partner homicide, but the type of weapon varies by relationship. From 1990-2005, girlfriends were more likely to be killed by force than any other group of intimates and boyfriends were more likely to be killed by knives than any other group of intimates. As noted in the chart below, those married or separated were most likely to be killed by a gun, which corresponds with the local data outlined in the previous section.

#### Homicides by relationship and weapon type, 1990-2005

Relationship of victim to offender	Total	Gun	Knife	Blunt object	Force	Other weapon
Husband	100 %	69 %	26 %	2 %	1 %	3 %
Ex-husband	100	86	10	1	0	3
Wife	100	68	14	5	10	4
Ex-wife	100	77	12	3	5	3
Boyfriend	100	45	47	3	3	3
Girlfriend	100	56	20	5	14	5

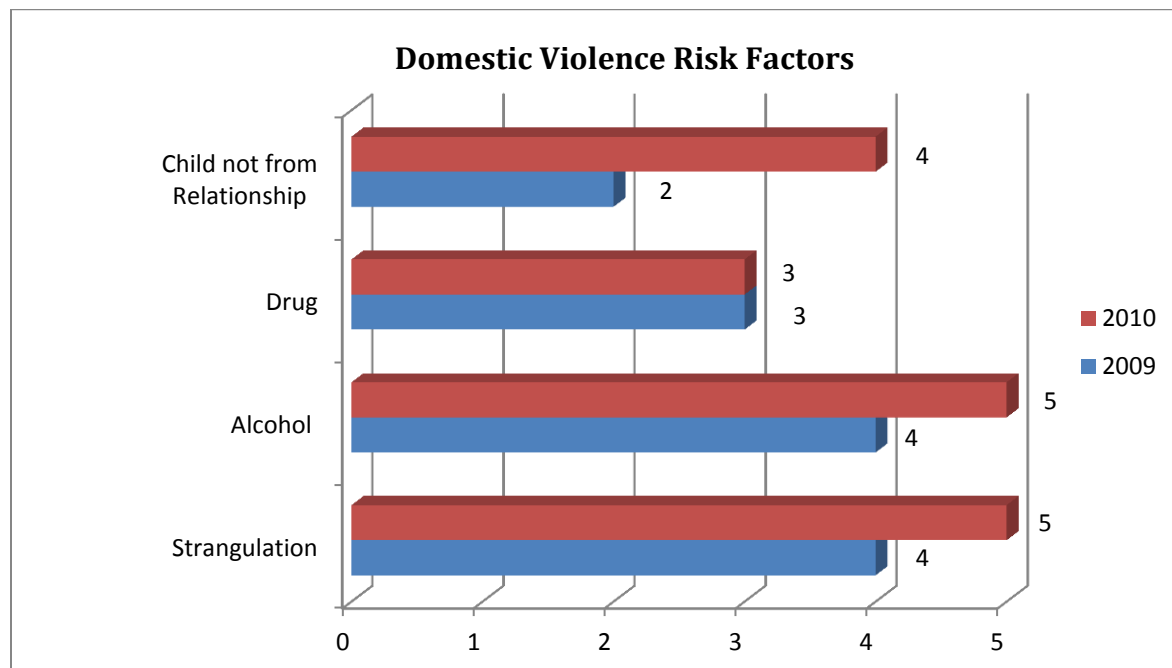
Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

The Danger Assessment Tool, developed by Jacquelyn C. Campbell, Ph.D., R.N., in 1985 and revised in 1988, assists victims in evaluating the degree of danger faced in the relationship. The tool helps identify risk factors that have been associated with an increased likelihood of a domestic violence homicide. In national studies, some lethality markers have been

found to multiply the odds of homicide over nonfatal abuse. As an example, prior strangulation attempts by the abuser increases the likelihood of homicide by 9.9 times. Research has also noted that male abusers are more likely to kill if they are not the fathers of children in the household and that use/abuse of drugs and alcohol also increases the risk to a victim.

Of the lethality factors contained within the Danger Assessment tool (see Appendix D), four were readily identified as factors in the fourteen cases reviewed by members of the Fatality Review Committee. A history of strangulation was noted in nine of the cases (64%), alcohol use/abuse in the relationship was noted in nine of the cases (64%), and illegal drug use/abuse was noted in six of the cases (43%). Additionally, six of the cases included reports of children that were not from the current relationship (36%). A chart detailing these factors by year is listed below.

A chart detailing these factors by year is listed below.



**Prior Courts/Criminal Justice System Contact:**

In ten of the fourteen cases (71%), prior to the fatality, either the victim and/or the offender had contact with the local courts or criminal justice system that was related to incidents of domestic violence within the relationship. The average number of agency contacts was 6.4, which was consistent for both 2009 and 2010. For the ten cases with known prior court/criminal justice system contact, eight had previous police contact. This could have involved a prior call for service, an offense report or an arrest. Seven of the cases had previous contact with the Circuit Court Clerk’s Office, Sheriff’s Office, and Jefferson District Court (agencies directly involved with the Emergency Protective Order process).

Agency		
<b>Justice System Agencies</b>	Commonwealth Attorney	1
	Circuit Court Clerk - EPO	7
	Sheriff - EPO	7
	District Court EPO	7
	Circuit Court	0
	Family Court	4
	Metro Corrections	3
	CMC - BIP	3
	Louisville Metro Police	8
	County Attorney	4
	Probation and Parole	1
<b>Health Care Agencies</b>	Emergency Medical	3
	Hospital/ Emergency Room	6
<b>Social Service Agencies</b>	Adult Protective Services	3
	Child Protective Services	1
<b>Community Based Programs</b>	Center for Women and Families	4



The systemic and multi-disciplinary nature of the fatality review process allows members to more fully understand and value the importance of victim advocacy in a very real way. This process has been the catalyst for enhancements to vital victim services throughout the community.

Tamara Reif, Vice President of Client Experiences  
Center for Women and Families



**Case Scenarios:** *A few scenarios from the cases reviewed are provided below to illustrate the broad range of situations and circumstances present in these homicides.*

*A nine-year-old daughter called the police to report that she had discovered her mother's body. The 43-year-old victim had been strangled by her boyfriend.*

*Police were called to the scene of an incident in which a husband had killed his 47-year-old wife while at a neighbor's party. The victim was shot as her husband was showing his gun to neighbors. He pointed the gun at her several times before pulling the trigger, shooting her in the chest.*

*Officers were dispatched to a call reporting than an injured person was knocking on doors. Upon arriving, the police found a man with multiple stab wounds who told them he ran from a nearby home after a man entered the home and began stabbing him. Officers went to the home and found a 25-year-old woman dead from stab wounds. Her ex-boyfriend was arrested. The couple's infant child was present in the home during the incident.*

*Police, responding to a request to check the welfare of residents, found a husband and wife dead from gunshot wounds. The husband had shot his 50-year-old wife shortly after she arrived home from work and then killed himself.*

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF EFFORTS/ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE LOCAL RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**2009-2010**

In addition to the work of the Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC) and the Fatality Review Committee (FRC), a number of exciting projects and initiatives were launched or took place during calendar years 2009 and 2010 with the intent of improving the community and system response to victims of domestic violence. The activities listed below serve to document the ongoing commitment of Louisville Metro to provide a safety net for survivors and to ultimately prevent the escalation of domestic violence cases into fatalities:

### **2009**

- June:** Creation of the Domestic Violence Advocacy Program, sponsored by the Legal Aid Society, to provide legal representation to victims of domestic violence at Domestic Violence Order (DVO) hearings in Jefferson Family Court. Legal Aid recruits, trains and schedules volunteer attorneys to provide this service on a pro bono basis.
- August:** The DVPCC released an annual compilation of data on domestic violence case information processed by the local system. The data, compiled by the Metro Criminal Justice Commission, included a four-year comparison for trend evaluation purposes.
- October:** Official opening of the fully centralized and furnished Domestic Violence Intake Center (DVIC) in which customers/clients have access to all needed services from the Offices of the Jefferson Circuit Court Clerk and the Jefferson County Attorney. Based upon a collaborative effort among system stakeholders, the DVIC Project was completed in four phases and necessitated five “real estate” or space moves within the Hall of Justice.

### **2010**

- January:** A panel presentation on stalking was presented to the members of the DVPCC in recognition of Stalking Awareness Month. Panel members included representatives from the County Attorney’s Office, Commonwealth Attorney’s Office, Louisville Metro Police Department, Center for Women and Families and the University of Louisville PEACC Program. The focus of presentations was the potential lethality of stalking behavior and how the local criminal justice system responds to these crimes.

- March:** Louisville Metro Government, through the Metro Criminal Justice Commission (MCJC), received Violence Against Women grant funds (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act dollars) from the Kentucky Justice Cabinet to develop and implement an electronic Emergency Protective Order/Domestic Violence Order system for the Jefferson County Courts. The MCJC has worked closely with the Jefferson County Circuit Court Clerk's Office, the selected vendor and local/state agencies to develop a system that works for the local courts and can be replicated state-wide.
- April:** Fatality Review Committee members representing the Louisville Metro Police Department and the Office of the Jefferson County Attorney provided training to District and Family Court Judges on the danger of strangulation as a lethality factor in domestic violence incidences.
- May:** Findings published on a study of 50 cases from the first three years of operation of the Family Enhanced Supervision Docket indicating that only 2% of the cases had repeat offenses compared to 19% on the regular docket. The Enhanced Supervision Docket targets first-time and non-felony domestic violence offenders who voluntarily agree to attend counseling and participate in supervision requiring regular court appearances for two years. Upon successful completion, charges are expunged from the record.
- October:** In response to a recommendation arising from the work of the Fatality Review Committee, laminated cards containing information on domestic violence lethality factors were printed with the assistance of the Louisville Bar Association Foundation and widely distributed to members of the defense bar, prosecutors, detectives, advocates, Adult Protective Services personnel, judges, and members of the DVPCC during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- October:** The Louisville Metro DVPCC and the Louisville Bar Association hosted domestic violence training presented by the Judicial Branch Education, Administrative Office of the Courts, entitled, "In Her Shoes: Living with Domestic Violence." The program, developed by the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, includes scenarios based on real-life experiences of women with abusive partners and is designed to promote understanding of the cyclical nature of domestic violence. Information on lethality factors was also included in the training.



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# APPENDICES

## Appendix A: FRC Confidentiality Statement



## Appendix B: FRC Protocol

## **Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee (FRC)**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the FRC is to identify areas and means by which to increase and enhance coordinated agency and community responses to domestic violence through a systems-review approach by conducting multidisciplinary and multi-agency examinations of domestic violence fatalities.

### **GOALS**

The goals of the FRC are focused on prevention, information sharing, accountability and systems improvement:

- Prevent future domestic violence cases and homicides;
- Improve interagency communication and coordination;
- Collect and produce data on domestic violence fatalities in Louisville Metro;
- Educate the public on the dynamics of domestic violence and related fatalities;
- Identify gaps and unmet needs in the current domestic violence response systems; and
- Recommend and assist in implementing system improvements.

### **OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS**

In an effort to facilitate communication and minimize misunderstanding, the FRC will adopt certain standard operational definitions to be used for the purposes of the case reviews.

**Domestic Violence:** A pattern of abusive behavior by an intimate partner or a family or household member against another family or household member that can be physical, sexual, verbal, psychological, and/or economic, and is intended to establish and maintain control over another individual. The Committee focus shall be on:

1. persons who are current or former spouses
2. persons who are current or former intimate partners
3. persons who have a child in common;
4. dependents or persons in the custodial care of a person in a relationship that is described in paragraphs 1 through 3 above.

**Preventability:** “A death [is] considered preventable if reasonable medical, educational, social, legal or psychological intervention could have prevented this death from occurring. A “reasonable” intervention is one that would have been possible given known circumstances and resources available.” (From Washington State Child Death Review Program Report, 1998-2000)

Because domestic violence is preventable, domestic violence fatalities are preventable as well. The role of the review committee is to identify means by which to decrease the incidence of these preventable fatalities through a systems analysis and improvement process.

**Domestic Violence Fatality:** Deaths caused directly and indirectly by the manifestations of domestic violence. Domestic violence fatalities potentially include the intended victim, the perpetrator, and third-parties involved through intervening in the incident, as by-standers, or as secondary victims as a means of the perpetrator hurting the primary domestic violence victim. The Committee may hear other domestic violence cases that members feel further the mission and purpose of the Committee. These cases can be added to the agenda by a majority vote and approval by the members present.

**Member:** The term member refers to the agency represented on the committee and not the individual representing the agency. This distinction clarifies the role and commitment of agencies in the fatality review process.

### **STATEMENT OF CULTURE AND PHILOSOPHY**

The FRC has adopted a “no blame or shame” philosophy. In order for the FRC to perform at an optimal level, members should feel comfortable in an open, forthcoming and non-accusatory environment. Further, the FRC recognizes that the perpetrator is the ultimate responsible party for the death. However, we also recognize that various systems that have contact with the victim and perpetrator may have an opportunity to become involved in a manner that could prevent a death. Individuals **will not be blamed** or singled out, rather processes, systems and policies will be reviewed and improvements will be recommended when necessary.

The committee will work to balance the “no blame or shame” approach with the need for agency accountability. To this end, **confidentiality must be maintained** at all times regarding all information and opinions expressed during the case reviews.

### **CASE REVIEW PROCESS**

**Cases Reviewed:** Cases in which fatalities resulted from domestic violence. (See operational definition section above).

#### **Criteria for Inclusion:**

- ❑ Open and closed cases
- ❑ Age of fatalities: Adults, 18 and older. Children will be included when children are injured as a means to control, coerce, or hurt primary adult domestic violence victim since review of such cases will glean information about the domestic violence response and systems.

- Geography: Residence of any party in Louisville Metro or incident occurring in Louisville Metro regardless of residence of parties.
- Time Frame: Deaths that occur during the current calendar year (January 1 – December 31).

**Case Selection**: Cases are selected through a number of mechanisms:

- Agency Request for a review
- Member request for a review
- Media reports

Once identified, these cases are referred to the co-chairs of the committee and if they fit the case review criteria, they are added to the next meeting's agenda.

**Agency Coordination**: Each FRC member will receive a copy of the agenda with a list of the cases that will be reviewed at the next meeting and is asked to bring all pertinent agency documents regarding the involved parties and related records to the meeting. Each agency is responsible for acquiring and bringing to the next meeting all pertinent records.

**Review of Case File/Information**: As part of the fatality case review process, designated agency representatives are responsible for seeking and obtaining all available information as identified in the following. The agency representatives are asked to bring a hard copy of specific case information to the committee meeting including the police report, JC-3 or criminal complaint and the EPO petition along with any EPOs/DVO that were issued for the current case. Any case information related to the prior history between the same parties will be brought to the initial review.

Prior to the meeting, agency representatives are also asked to review case files and relevant criminal history records to identify any related cases and associated timelines. During the meeting, each agency representative will be responsible for presenting any case information obtained. Information may be presented orally by members during the meeting in lieu of providing hard copies. Based upon a consensus of the committee that information on related cases would be helpful or germane to the discussion, hard copies of related case information will be brought to the next meeting.

*The following list was compiled to identify the broad scope of information that is potentially available for fatality review case reviews. Based on the committee protocol, information may be presented orally by members during the meeting in lieu of providing hard copies. In order to avoid duplication, members are asked to coordinate data collection efforts.*



Law Enforcement

- 911 calls for service
- CAD runs and dispatch information
- Previous domestic violence case information (prior JC3s, incident reports, arrests, etc.)
- Homicide case information
- Autopsy information

Sheriff's Office

- Service of EPO
- Firearms confiscation

Jefferson County Circuit Court Clerk's Office

- Audio/Video Tapes
- EPO/DVO records
- Other family court records if applicable
- Criminal/District Court information, if applicable

Family Court

- EPO/DVO records, related cases and individuals if applicable
- Records checks
- Hard copies of relevant case information
- CD of EPO/DVO hearings

Jefferson County Attorney's Office

- District Court case dispositions
- Criminal histories of offender and victim
- Victim and witness interviews

District Court

- District Court case hearings such as arraignment, bond hearings, pretrial conferences, miscellaneous evidentiary hearings, trial proceedings
- District Court case dispositions
- Criminal histories of offender and victim

Commonwealth's Attorney's Office

- Criminal histories of offender and victim
- Family Court history
- Circuit Court case dispositions
- Victim and witness interviews

Circuit Court

- Criminal histories of offender and victim
- Circuit Court case hearings such as arraignment, bond hearings, pretrial conferences, miscellaneous evidentiary hearings, trial proceedings
- Circuit Court case dispositions

University Hospital

- Medical records regarding treatment at University Hospital

Medical Examiner

- Autopsy report
- Police report, if available
- Medical records of victim, if available

Metro Corrections

- Jail records on bookings and arrests
- HIP or Work Release supervision histories of victim and/or perpetrator
- Court Monitoring Center records

Kentucky Probation and Parole

- Supervision histories of victim and/or perpetrator
- Corrections incarceration information
- Presentence Investigation Reports

Adult Protective Services/Child Protective Services

- Case investigation reports involving child protection (including disposition of cases, interviews, services provided, referrals, etc.)
- Case investigation reports involving adult protection (including disposition of cases, interviews, services provided, referrals, etc.)

Center for Women and Families

- Information related to shelter, counseling/therapy, DV education, group counseling, legal advocacy, hospital advocacy, and crisis counseling (by phone and/or in-person)

Home of the Innocents

- Applicable case information such as if children involved in the incident were placed at the Home or used Safe Exchange

Legal Aid

- Case information from clients, if applicable

Jefferson County Public Schools

- Attendance reports, report cards, behavior on students as needed and applicable

External Agencies or Practitioners

- Additional reports and data as applicable, appropriate and available.

**Review of Video/Audio Tapes:** As a component of the fatality review process, the most recent video tapes of EPO hearings along with audio tapes of the 911 call and District Court proceedings of any prior history between the same parties will be brought to the meeting and reviewed by the committee. The committee will utilize the agreed upon criteria (see below) along with established best practice guidelines and checklists (see Appendices) to guide the review process and ensure that questioning remains focused on systemic issues and identifying opportunities to promote optimal case processing.

Based upon a consensus of the committee members that information on related cases would be helpful or germane to the discussion, additional video and audio tapes will be brought to the next meeting.

***Video/Audio Tape Review Criteria:*** The purpose of reviewing any case-related video/audio tape is to promote best practices and procedures in cases of domestic violence and to ensure that elements of optimal case processing are encouraged and supported. In conducting the preliminary review, members are requested to take the specific items listed below into consideration along with all discipline-specific guidelines and procedures (see Appendices.)

#### **911 Calls**

- Did call taker ask the caller to identify type of emergency?
- Did dispatcher ask questions and/or allow individual to clearly identify the circumstances related to the need for emergency services?
- Did the call taker handle the call and the caller according to agency policies and procedures?
- **Prior Calls/Runs** – For calls/runs prior to homicide: Was the call for assistance identified as domestic violence? Was the dispatched run identified as domestic violence so that emergency responders were aware? Depending upon the call, were appropriate resources dispatched for assistance? How long did it take emergency responders to arrive on the scene after the call was dispatched? Did they have all of information available at the time - related to the call for assistance?
- **Homicide Call/Run:** How was run received? (911 call, officer flagged down, any motorist flagged down) Who called the police? Was the individual who called at the scene when police arrived?

#### **EPO/DVO Hearings**

- Were parties represented by counsel? Did counsel participate on behalf of the parties in the proceeding?
- Was a victim advocate present? Did the victim advocate provide assistance and information to the respondent?

- Were parties informed about the purpose of the proceeding, process and options?
- Was consideration given to victim dynamics and best practices?
- Was there evidence/recognition of lethality indicators?
- If applicable, was the plaintiff informed regarding firearms confiscation?

### **Court Hearings**

- Bond hearings - Did prosecutor make appropriate arguments regarding seriousness of incident, defendant's criminal record, and safety of victim; did the Judge discuss factors used to make his or her decision regarding bond; was a pre-trial no contact order entered? If not, why?
- Plea agreements- was Batterers Intervention Program (BIP) and/or substance/alcohol treatment ordered? Was there a no contact order or no unlawful contact order entered? Was there jail time? Misdemeanant Intensive Probation (MIP)? Supervised probation? Conditional Discharge time? Did judge explain sentence and conditions of sentence clearly to the defendant? Was the victim present? Was a victim advocate present?
- Trials- What was the disposition? If conviction, what is the sentence? Was defendant taken into custody the same day verdict returned?
- Revocation hearings- Was the motion to revoke granted? If so, what is the sentence? Was the defendant granted release? What was the prosecutor's position?
- Post-disposition motions (shock probation, Home Incarceration Program (HIP), releases, etc) - What was the prosecutor's position? What was the judge's decision? What factors did judge consider in his or her decision? Was victim present or aware of motion?

**Data Sharing:** When appropriate, a memorandum of agreement for data sharing and access to information should be arranged to assure for a timely and clear mechanism for obtaining information from necessary agencies.

**Record Keeping:** Case review sessions will be documented at every FRC meeting by member completion of any case review data form(s) for each case, noting when information is not available and whether it will be sought further. Each case will have its own file with any completed case review data form(s). These files will provide the basis for reports. Staff will document recommendations and follow up suggestions for each case. Relevant recommendations and follow up will be first order of business at the next FRC meeting.

Any agency documents with identifying information distributed during the meetings other than the records kept in the case files will be collected by the co-chairs or staff at the end of each FRC meeting. Any documents not kept in the case file will be destroyed. It is the responsibility of each member to make sure that they do not leave a meeting with documents containing identifying information. Kentucky State Statute (KRS 403.705) and local ordinance LMCO

32.975 et seq. provide that FRC information is protected information and not subject to open records.

**Recommendations/Observations:** FRC members will be invited to share their views on each case and provide observations of systems involvement. Formal recommendations from the Committee are those voted on and approved by the majority of members present at the FRC meeting. These formal recommendations will be disseminated to members and forwarded to the Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC) for their review and potential implementation.

***Appropriate Action/Disposition for Committee Recommendations:***

Since the overall purpose of conducting multidisciplinary fatality case reviews is focused on prevention and improving the community and system response to domestic violence, findings and recommendations generated by the FRC may address a broad range of processes, issues and activities. In making recommendations to the DVPCC, the FRC will take into account the type of action and level of authority required to implement each draft recommendation in accordance with the following dispositional options:

<b><u>Level of Authority Required for Implementation</u></b>	<b><u>Appropriate Response Disposition</u></b>
(1) Committee Member	Recommended Action by Member
(2) Local Criminal Justice/Social Service Agency	Recommended Action by Agency
(3) External Community Organization	Notification/Sharing of Information with External Organization(s)
(4) State Policy/Practice	Notification/Sharing of Information with State Agency
(5) Kentucky Revised Statute	Referral of Issue to Louisville Metro Criminal Justice Commission Legislative Committee

**Conflict of Interest:** It is the responsibility of each FRC member to note any potential conflict of interest prior to the start of the case review.

**Confidentiality:** FRC members respect the privacy of the individuals in the cases reviewed. Committee members and attendees are required to sign a confidentiality agreement at the beginning of each and every FRC meeting.

Kentucky State Statute KRS 403.705 provides that FRC information is protected information.

**Files:** All FRC files and notes will be maintained together in a locked location with access only for FRC purposes. All recommendations and any completed data form(s) from each meeting will be kept along with each case file. FRC files will be kept at the Louisville Metro Criminal Justice Commission.

### **FRC STRUCTURE**

**Membership:** FRC is a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary body with broad representation from various sectors of the community involved in domestic violence and related fields. The committee is authorized by the DVPCC and is protected by KRS 403.705.

#### **Primary Agencies:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) | 14. Louisville Metro Department of Corrections                          |
| 2. Jefferson County Attorney's Office (JCAO) | 15. Batterer's Intervention Program (BIP)                               |
| 3. Commonwealth's Attorney Office            | 16. Emergency Medical Field   |
| 4. Jefferson Circuit Court Clerk's Office    | 17. Louisville Metro Office for Women                                   |
| 5. Center for Women and Families             | 18. Exchange/Supervised Domestic Violence Visitation                    |
| 6. Jefferson County Sheriff's Office         | 19. Three Domestic Violence Community Organizations at Large            |
| 7. Probation and Parole                      | 20. Three Citizens at Large (to include one domestic violence survivor) |
| 8. Cabinet for Health and Family Services    | 21. Co-Chair Designee   |
| 9. Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS)    |   |
| 10. Jefferson District Court                 |   |
| 11. Jefferson Circuit Court                  |   |
| 12. Jefferson Family Court                   |   |
| 13. Medical Examiner                         |   |

#### **Ancillary Memberships:**

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. Mental Health   | 7. Child Fatality Review                 |
| 2. Substance Abuse | 8. Forensic/SANE Nurses                  |
| 3. EMS             | 9. Catholic Charities/Immigrant Services |
| 4. Fire/Arson      | 10. Pretrial Services                    |
| 5. MetroSafe       |  |
| 6. Animal Control  |  |

**Structure:**

- *Member:* The term member refers to the agency represented on the committee and not the individual representing the agency. This distinction clarifies the role and commitment of agencies in the fatality review process.
- *Member terms:* Individuals will be asked to serve based upon the approved membership structure. Primary members are those agencies or individuals that regularly attend FRC meetings and may have information pertinent to case review. Ancillary members are those agencies or individuals who do not attend FRC meetings regularly, but may be invited to attend on a case-by-case basis in order to share pertinent information. The structure of the membership will be reviewed every two years.
- *Chairs:* Two co-chairs will be nominated by the FRC Committee and approved by the Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC).
- *Staffing:* Will be provided by the Louisville Metro Criminal Justice Commission with support by FRC Committee members.

**Meetings:** FRC committee will meet on a bi-monthly basis. Reminders of meetings will be sent to all members via e-mail at least one week in advance and at each meeting the next meeting date will be announced as well. Location of meetings may be variable. Meetings will last four (4) hours; on occasion, special all day meetings may be called.

**Coordination:** One of the primary purposes of fatality review is to increase and improve coordination and collaboration among agencies and organizations and to strengthen the coordinated community response to domestic violence. The FRC will coordinate with other committees and task forces as appropriate to reduce duplication of efforts, maximize resources, and share knowledge and findings.

**DISSEMINATION OF DATA AND FINDINGS**

**FRC Reports:** The FRC will develop and submit a report to the DVPCC on an annual or biennial basis. The report will be based on a statistical and systems review analysis of the cases reviewed within the calendar years. The DVPCC will in turn approve the report or suggest changes to the report and make the report available pursuant to LMCO 32.975.

The DVPCC may choose to use data from the FRC report to create educational briefs for professionals in the community on working with domestic violence victims and lessons learned for preventing domestic violence fatalities. Other publications, trainings or efforts may be recommended by the FRC in their reports.

**Media Communications:** All media communications regarding the FRC should be conducted through the FRC co-chairs. The annual/biennial report and recommendations generated by FRC are the only items to be released to the media. Inappropriate release of information is considered a breach of confidentiality which may result in a member's removal from the FRC. When FRC members are contacted by the media with questions regarding cases reviewed by the FRC, the member shall refer

them to one of the FRC co-chairs. FRC co-chairs shall advise media contacts that information discussed in the case review process is confidential and protected information.

**Standardized Forms:**

- *Confidentiality Form*
- *Case Review Data Form(s)*
- *Recommendation(s)*

**Database:** In order to effectively track patterns and trends of domestic violence fatalities and facilitate statistical analysis of cases, a database may be created. The FRC will evaluate the need for and feasibility of a database to store and analyze FRC data. If determined to be feasible and beneficial, the FRC will seek funding to support development of a database. During the development phase, the FRC will seek input from community partners. Similar to case reviews, this database would be protected by KRS 403.705, and ordinance LMCO 32.975 et seq. and would be secured under password protection.

**TRAINING AND ORIENTATION**

All new FRC members will receive a binder of orientation materials that will include a copy of KRS 403.705 and ordinance LMCO 32.975 et seq.; a copy of the Committee policies and procedures; a copy of all FRC forms; a list of all FRC members with contact information; and other criminal justice system review materials. The new member will meet with staff and/or a FRC member to have any questions answered and have the process of FRC explained.

***The purpose of this orientation is to:***

- (1) Provide members with the knowledge and skills needed to perform a comprehensive review of the available case information in order to identify possible opportunities for earlier intervention or system improvement;
- (2) Allow members to utilize standard criteria to guide their review process and therefore promote a neutral and objective forum for discussion of case information;
- (3) Provide members with the information needed to better understand the proceedings and events impacting the victim and resulting in a domestic violence fatality and allow for a member's active participation in Committee discussions.

As a condition of participation, at every meeting, members must sign the confidentiality agreement on behalf of themselves and their agency. All member and ad hoc member/guest signed confidentiality agreements will be kept in a file along with the case files.



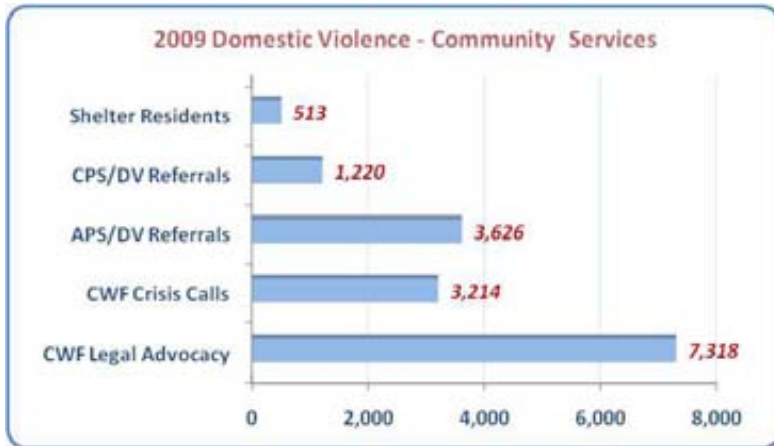
Appendix C: Domestic Violence Data  
Snapshots: 2009 & 2010

As in past years, the Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC) has collected data from key local governmental and non-profit agencies. The purpose of this data collection is to provide information to assist in furthering the DVPCC's and the community's knowledge and awareness of domestic violence including its scope and prevalence. Data collected also provides insight into how cases of domestic violence are processed within Jefferson County courts. Participating agencies, Louisville Metro Police Department, Jefferson County Attorney's Office, Jefferson County Commonwealth Attorney's Office, Metro Corrections, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Center for Women and Families, Jefferson Family Court, and Cabinet for Health/Family Services, were asked to provide data for calendar year 2009.

### 2009 Domestic Violence-Related Statistics

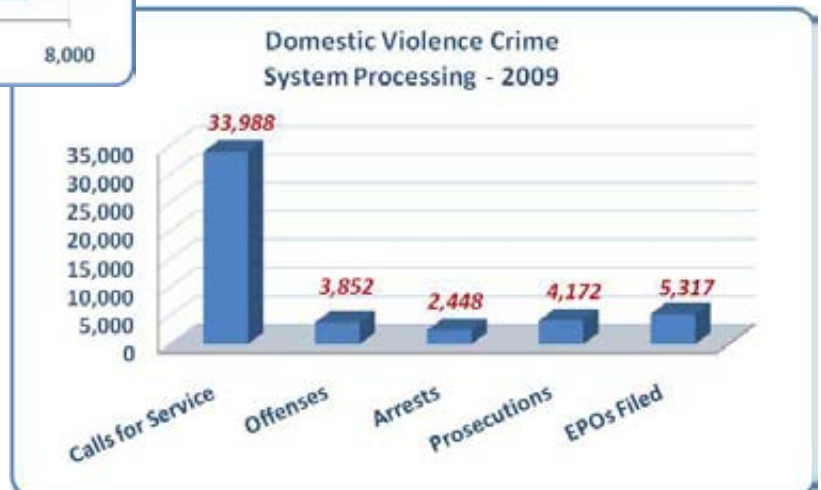
*Every day in Louisville there are:*

- ✚ 93 calls for service to LMPD and 9 crisis calls to the Center for Women & Families (CWF)
- ✚ 11 offense reports taken by LMPD
- ✚ 7 perpetrators arrested
- ✚ 10 cases prosecuted in Jefferson District Court and 1 case prosecuted Jefferson Circuit Court
- ✚ 7 offenders referred to Domestic Violence Treatment
- ✚ 15 Emergency Protective Orders (EPO) issued and 17 protective orders are served
- ✚ 13 victims referred and assisted by Adult & Child Protective Services
- ✚ 20 victims receiving legal advocacy by the CWF; and
- ✚ 61 victims residing at the CWF shelter staying an average of 44 days



Data reflected in the charts to the left and below represent key entry points into the criminal justice system and key access points for advocacy/social services. The table on the next page contains five years (2005 – 2009) of data for individual agencies.

Domestic Violence calls for service, as noted in the chart to the right, may not involve a current act of violence, but may be for "property exchange assistance" or for incidents where the caller/dispatcher only suspects DV. The prosecution numbers include not only cases resulting from arrests, but also cases resulting from individuals filing criminal complaints which may not result in an arrest. Depending upon the incident, victims may also choose to file for a civil emergency protective order (EPO).



### Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Statistics - Five Year Comparison

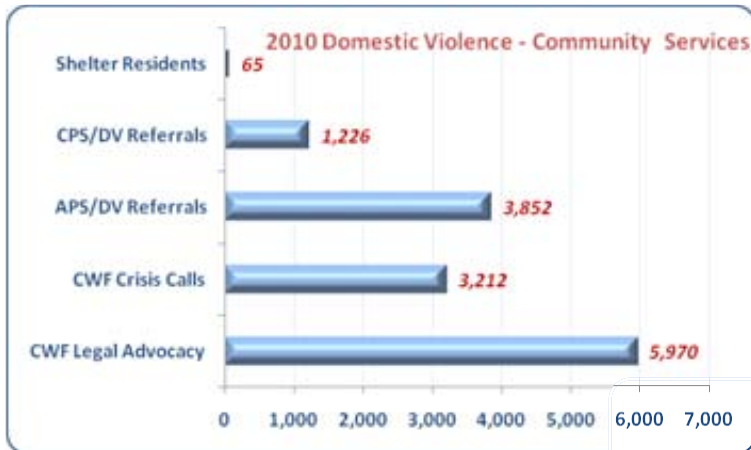
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	5-Year Average
<b>Louisville Metro Police Department</b>						
<i>Calls for Service</i>	31,285	31,008	30,528	30,278	33,988	<b>31,417</b>
<i>Offenses *</i>	3,577	3,413	3,729	4,010	3,852	<b>3,716</b>
Homicide	8	9	12	21	11	<b>12</b>
Rape	67	64	52	50	69	<b>60</b>
Aggravated Assault	549	569	578	647	648	<b>598</b>
Simple Assault	2,763	2,547	2,721	2,785	2,585	<b>2,680</b>
Intimidation	321	335	304	370	366	<b>339</b>
All Other Offenses	149	49	62	137	174	<b>114</b>
<i>Arrests</i>	1,715	1,809	1,908	2,106	2,448	<b>1,997</b>
<i>* Offenses listed above are not all inclusive, but those reported had a statute-defined DV relationship code</i>						
<b>Jefferson County Attorney's Office</b>						
<i>New DV Cases</i>	4,277	4,174	4,295	4,180	3,794	4,144
<b>Commonwealth Attorney's Office</b>						
<i>DV Cases Handled</i>	349	413	460	466	378	413
<b>Jefferson Family Court</b>						
<i>EPO Filings</i>	5,235	5,012	5,164	5,326	5,317	5,211
<b>Adult &amp; Child Protective Services</b>						
<i>APS/DV Referrals</i>	4,129	3,813	3,740	3,643	3,626	3,790
<i>CPS/DV Referrals</i>	795	745	159	473	1,220	678
<b>Jefferson County Sheriff's Office</b>						
<i>EPOs</i>						
Received	7,420	6,965	7,228	7,109	6,794	<b>7,103</b>
Served	5,285	5,155	5,246	6,063	6,304	<b>5,611</b>
Outstanding	167	138	153	167	1,228	<b>371</b>
Returned	1,968	1,672	1,829	1,632	490	<b>1,518</b>
<i>DV Warrants</i>						
Received	1,058	1,080	968	412	Unknown	<b>704</b>
Served	397	392	350	206	Unknown	<b>269</b>
Outstanding	142	115	164	32	Unknown	<b>91</b>
Returned	519	573	418	33	Unknown	<b>309</b>
<b>Metro Department of Corrections Court Monitoring Center (CMC)</b>						
<i>DVOT Referrals</i>	1,946	1,721	1,621	1,530	2,575 *	<b>1,364</b>
<i>* 2009 DVOT referral total reflects cases docketed, not individuals, therefore, duplicates are included.</i>						
<b>Center for Women and Families *</b>						
<i>Individual Counseling **</i>	45,494	26,419	20,016	29,491	25,710	<b>29,426</b>
<i>Total Number of Residents in Shelter</i>	519	350	337	519	513	<b>448</b>
<i>Average Daily Number of Residents in Shelter</i>	35	37	72	80	61	<b>57</b>
<i>Average Length of Stay (days) per Resident</i>	65	52	72	54	44	<b>57</b>
<i>Crisis Calls</i>	4,716	3,997	4,420	5,339	3,214	<b>4,337</b>
<i>Legal Advocacy</i>	13,520	9,135	10,066	12,415	7,318	<b>10,491</b>
<i>* Center for Women and Families data reflect Fiscal Years (July 1 - June 30)</i>						
<i>** Individual Counseling totals reflect units, not individuals - one unit = 30 minutes of counseling provided</i>						

As in past years, the Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (DVPCC) has collected data from key local governmental and non-profit agencies. The purpose of this data collection is to provide information to assist in furthering the DVPCC's and the community's knowledge and awareness of domestic violence including its scope and prevalence. Data collected also provides insight into how cases of domestic violence are processed within Jefferson County courts. Participating agencies, Louisville Metro Police Department, Jefferson County Attorney's Office, Jefferson County Commonwealth Attorney's Office, Metro Corrections, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Center for Women and Families, Jefferson Family Court, and Cabinet for Health/Family Services, were asked to provide data for calendar year 2010.

### 2010 Domestic Violence-Related Statistics

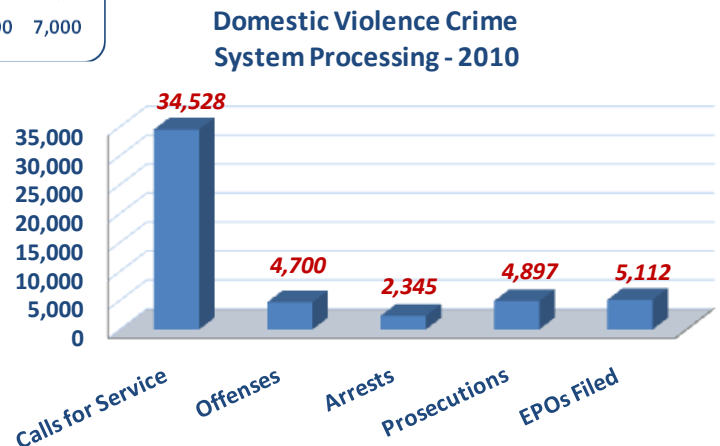
*Every day in Louisville there are:*

- ✚ 95 calls for service to LMPD and 9 crisis calls to the Center for Women & Families (CWF)
- ✚ 13 offense reports taken by LMPD
- ✚ 6 perpetrators arrested
- ✚ 12 cases prosecuted in Jefferson District Court and one (1) case prosecuted Jefferson Circuit Court
- ✚ 7 offenders referred to Domestic Violence Treatment
- ✚ 14 Emergency Protective Orders (EPO) filed and 16 protective orders are served
- ✚ 14 victims referred and assisted by Adult & Child Protective Services
- ✚ 16 victims receiving legal advocacy by the CWF; and
- ✚ 65 victims residing at the CWF shelter staying an average of 37 days



*Data reflected in the charts to the left and below represent key entry points into the criminal justice system and key access points for advocacy/social services. The table on the next page contains six years (2005 - 2010) of data for individual agencies.*

Domestic Violence calls for service, as noted in the chart to the right, may not involve a current act of violence, but may be for "property exchange assistance" or for incidents where the caller/dispatcher only suspects DV. The prosecution numbers include not only cases resulting from arrests, but also cases resulting from individuals filing criminal complaints which may not result in an arrest. Depending upon the incident, victims may also choose to file for a civil emergency protective order (EPO).



## Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Statistics - Six Year Comparison

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Louisville Metro Police Department</b>						
<i>Calls for Service</i>	31,285	31,008	30,528	30,278	33,988	34,528
<i>Offenses *</i>	3,577	3,413	3,729	4,010	3,852	4,700
Homicide	8	9	12	21	11	14
Rape	67	64	52	50	69	84
Aggravated Assault	549	569	578	647	648	610
Simple Assault	2,763	2,547	2,721	2,785	2,585	3,287
Intimidation	321	335	304	370	366	516
All Other Offenses	149	49	62	137	174	189
<i>Arrests</i>	1,715	1,809	1,908	2,106	2,448	2,345
<i>* Offenses listed above are not all inclusive, but those reported had a statute-defined DV relationship code</i>						
<b>Jefferson County Attorney's Office</b>						
<i>New DV Cases</i>	4,277	4,174	4,295	4,180	3,794	4,541
<b>Commonwealth Attorney's Office</b>						
<i>DV Cases Handled</i>	349	413	460	466	378	356
<b>Jefferson Family Court</b>						
<i>EPO Filings</i>	5,235	5,012	5,164	5,328	5,388	5,112
<b>Adult &amp; Child Protective Services</b>						
<i>APS/DV Referrals</i>	4,129	3,813	3,740	3,643	3,626	3,852
<i>CPS/DV Referrals</i>	795	745	159	473	1,220	1,226
<b>Jefferson County Sheriff's Office</b>						
<i>EPOs</i>						
Received	7,420	6,965	7,228	7,109	6,794	7,757
Served	5,285	5,155	5,246	6,063	6,304	5,894
Outstanding	167	138	153	167	1,228	1,805
Returned	1,968	1,672	1,829	1,632	490	57
<i>DV Warrants</i>						
Received	1,058	1,080	968	412	Unknown	196
Served	397	392	350	206	Unknown	186
Outstanding	142	115	164	32	Unknown	10
Returned	519	573	418	33	Unknown	0
<b>Metro Department of Corrections Court Monitoring Center (CMC)</b>						
<i>DVOT Referrals</i>	1,946	1,721	1,621	1,530	2,575 *	2,497
<i>* 2009 DVOT referral total reflects cases docketed, not individuals, therefore, duplicates are included.</i>						
<b>Center for Women and Families *</b>						
<i>Individual Counseling **</i>	45,494	26,419	20,016	29,491	25,710	22,402
<i>Total Number of Residents in Shelter</i>	519	350	337	519	513	450
<i>Average Daily Number of Residents in Shelter</i>	35	37	72	80	61	65
<i>Average Length of Stay (days) per Resident</i>	65	52	72	54	44	37
<i>Crisis Calls</i>	4,716	3,997	4,420	5,339	3,214	3,212
<i>Legal Advocacy</i>	13,520	9,135	10,066	12,415	7,318	5,970
<i>* Center for Women and Families data reflect Fiscal Years (July 1 - June 30)</i>						
<i>** Individual Counseling totals reflect units, not individuals - one unit = 30 minutes of counseling provided</i>						

## Appendix D: Danger Assessment Tool

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# DANGER ASSESSMENT

Jacquelyn C. Campbell, Ph.D., R.N.  
Copyright, 2003; www.dangerassessment.com

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Several risk factors have been associated with increased risk of homicides (murders) of women and men in violent relationships. We cannot predict what will happen in your case, but we would like you to be aware of the danger of homicide in situations of abuse and for you to see how many of the risk factors apply to your situation.

Using the calendar, please mark the approximate dates during the past year when you were abused by your partner or ex partner. Write on that date how bad the incident was according to the following scale:

1. Slapping, pushing; no injuries and/or lasting pain
2. Punching, kicking; bruises, cuts, and/or continuing pain
3. "Beating up"; severe contusions, burns, broken bones
4. Threat to use weapon; head injury, internal injury, permanent injury
5. Use of weapon; wounds from weapon

(If **any** of the descriptions for the higher number apply, use the higher number.)

Mark **Yes** or **No** for each of the following. ("He" refers to your husband, partner, ex-husband, ex-partner, or whoever is currently physically hurting you.)

- \_\_\_ 1. Has the physical violence increased in severity or frequency over the past year?
- \_\_\_ 2. Does he own a gun?
- \_\_\_ 3. Have you left him after living together during the past year?  
3a. (If have *never* lived with him, check here \_\_\_)
- \_\_\_ 4. Is he unemployed?
- \_\_\_ 5. Has he ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a lethal weapon?  
(If yes, was the weapon a gun? \_\_\_)
- \_\_\_ 6. Does he threaten to kill you?
- \_\_\_ 7. Has he avoided being arrested for domestic violence?
- \_\_\_ 8. Do you have a child that is not his?
- \_\_\_ 9. Has he ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?
- \_\_\_ 10. Does he ever try to choke you?
- \_\_\_ 11. Does he use illegal drugs? By drugs, I mean "uppers" or amphetamines, "meth", speed, angel dust, cocaine, "crack", street drugs or mixtures.
- \_\_\_ 12. Is he an alcoholic or problem drinker?
- \_\_\_ 13. Does he control most or all of your daily activities? For instance: does he tell you who you can be friends with, when you can see your family, how much money you can use, or when you can take the car? (If he tries, but you do not let him, check here: \_\_\_)
- \_\_\_ 14. Is he violently and constantly jealous of you? (For instance, does he say "If I can't have you, no one can.")
- \_\_\_ 15. Have you ever been beaten by him while you were pregnant? (If you have never been pregnant by him, check here: \_\_\_)
- \_\_\_ 16. Has he ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
- \_\_\_ 17. Does he threaten to harm your children?
- \_\_\_ 18. Do you believe he is capable of killing you?
- \_\_\_ 19. Does he follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes or messages, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want him to?
- \_\_\_ 20. Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
- \_\_\_ Total "Yes" Answers

**Thank you. Please talk to your nurse, advocate or counselor about what the Danger Assessment means in terms of your situation.**

## Appendix E: Lethality Card



## LOUISVILLE METRO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RISK REFERENCE CARD

*Information provided below is meant to serve as a tool to assist those working with individuals involved in an intimate partner domestic violence relationship. It is hoped that this information will help prevent domestic violence fatalities. The Presence of risks indicates an Elevated Risk of serious injury or death. However, the Absence of these factors is Not Evidence of the Absence of risk of lethality.*

#### Lethality Risk Factors

- Has the abuser ever used or threatened to use a gun, knife, or other weapon against the victim?
- Has the abuser ever threatened to kill or injure the victim?
- Has the abuser ever tried to strangle (choke) the victim?
- Is the abuser constantly jealous?
- Has the abuser ever left threatening messages?
- Has the abuser ever followed, spied on or stalked the victim?
- Has the abuser ever forced the victim to have sex?
- Has the victim ever left the abuser or separated after living together/married or attempted to end the relationship?
- Victim believes abuser will attempt to kill him/her.

#### Lethality Associated with Strangulation

- Strangulation is one of the most lethal forms of intimate partner violence.
- Loss of consciousness can occur in about 10 seconds, brain damage in 2-3 minutes and death within 4-5 minutes.
- Pregnant women are at an especially high risk for miscarriage, injury and death as a result of strangulation.
- Potential signs of strangulation include breathing and swallowing difficulties, hoarseness, restlessness, bruising, involuntary urination and/or defecation, chin abrasions, and blood red eyes.
- ***If an individual reports being strangled – victim should seek medical attention immediately.***

#### Stalking in Intimate Partner Relationships

- Stalking behavior can include: following the victim; showing up at place of work, school or residence; unwanted telephone calls, text messages, or emails; unwanted gifts; damage to property; and defamation of character including postings on web pages.
- Stalking behavior should be taken seriously – it can escalate and is a significant risk factor in intimate partner violence.
- Victim should treat all threats, direct and indirect, as legitimate and inform law enforcement immediately.
- Victim should stop all communication with the individual.
- Victim should develop a safety plan to include having access to a telephone at all times; trying not to travel alone, and consider seeking legal interventions such as a protective order and/or criminal complaint. More information can be found on the National Stalking Resource Center website @ [www.ncvc.org/sfc](http://www.ncvc.org/sfc)
- Victim should keep a log of all stalking behaviors and collect evidence to assist in possible prosecution - such as texts, letters, emails, telephone calls, photos of property damage, etc.

#### CONTACT NUMBERS

##### Louisville Metro Police Department:

**IF EMERGENCY - CALL 911**

Non-Emergency – To speak with a Domestic Violence Detective

**CALL: 502-574-7111**

**Domestic Violence Intake Center: Open 24/7** Intake Center provides assistance to victims seeking Emergency Protective Orders and/or Criminal Complaints. Center is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Hall of Justice, 600 West Jefferson Street

**CALL: 502-595-0853**

**Center for Women & Families:** Offers free services to victims of intimate partner abuse or sexual violence.

**CALL: 502-581-7222**

**- OR -**

**24 Hour Toll Free Crisis Line - 1-877-803-7577**

*Printing costs courtesy of the Louisville Pro Bono Consortium*

*During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month,  
we recommit ourselves to ending violence within our  
homes, our communities, and our country...Together, we  
must ensure that, in America, no victim of domestic  
Violence ever struggles alone.....*

*President Barack Obama (September 30, 2009)*

**For questions, or for more information regarding this report, please contact:**

The Louisville Metro Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinating Council  
Fatality Review Committee  
c/o Louisville Metro Criminal Justice Commission  
514 West Liberty Street, Suite 106  
Louisville, KY 40202  
(502) 574-5088

[www.louisvilleky.gov/CriminalJusticeCommission/contactus.htm](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/CriminalJusticeCommission/contactus.htm)