

Memorandum



DATE: October 5, 2012

TO: Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: **Family Violence Unit**

Attached is briefing material on the "Family Violence Unit" to be presented to the Members of the Public Safety Committee on Monday, October 8, 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.C. Gonzalez', written over a circular stamp or seal.

A.C. Gonzalez
First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

CC: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
Rosa Rios, City Secretary
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Judge Daniel Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Frank Libro, Public Information Office
Stephanie Cooper, Assistant to the City Manager Mayor/City Council



Family Violence Unit

Public Safety Committee

October 8, 2012



www.dallaspolice.net

David O. Brown
Chief Of Police

Purpose

To provide an update on Family Violence Unit program improvements in:

- Personnel
- Training
- Technology
- Community Education
- Partnerships
- Innovation

Goals

- Reduce overall crime rate by:
 - Improving Lethality Assessment Program
 - Training for all Officers for more efficient call response
- Increase participation with the community by:
 - Promoting Public Education
 - Continuing partnerships with advocates and shelters

Family Violence Facts

- **One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime**
- An estimated 1.3 million women are victims of assault by an intimate partner each year
- 85% of domestic violence victims are women
- Most cases of domestic violence are never reported to the police

2011 Statistics

Family Violence Activity	Count
MURDERS (Investigated and tracked by Homicide)	21
AGG ASSAULT	1,231
BURGLARY-RESIDENCE	9
RAPE	68
ROBBERY-INDIVIDUAL	82
ASSAULTS	11,566
TOTALS	12,977
TOTAL CASES INVESTIGATED	
	10,605
TOTAL CASES FILED	
	3,298

Offenses Reported

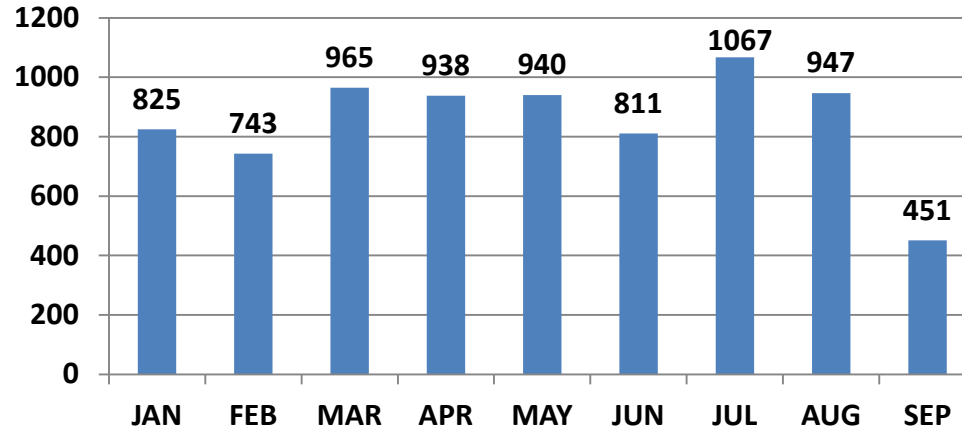
2011 vs 2012 Year to Date

Actual Offenses Reported	LYTD- 2011	YTD - 2012	DIFF
MURDERS (Investigated and tracked by Homicide)	15	19	4
AGG ASSAULT	945	968	23
BURGLARY-RESIDENCE	7	3	- 4
RAPE	49	68	19
ROBBERY-INDIVIDUAL	65	70	5
ASSAULTS	8,933	8,429	- 504
Grand Total	10,014	9,557	- 457

Cases Investigated

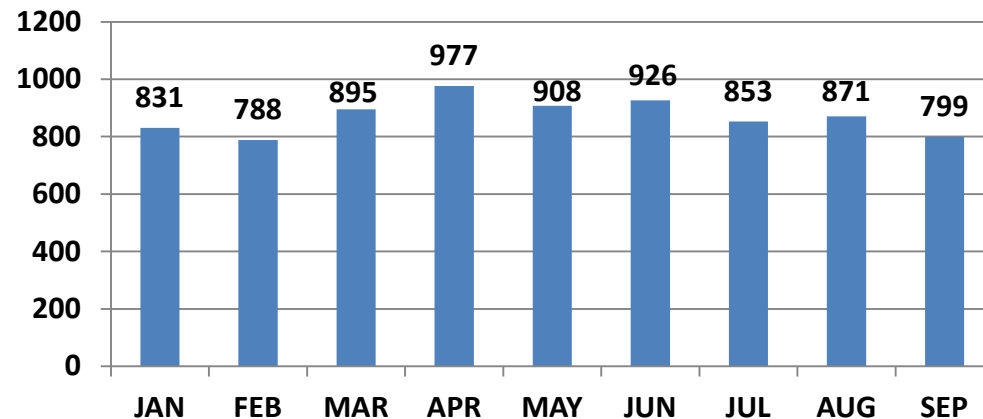
2011	Investigated
JAN	825
FEB	743
MAR	965
APR	938
MAY	940
JUN	811
JUL	1067
AUG	947
SEP	956
Total	8192

Cases Investigated - LYTD - 2011



2012	Investigated
JAN	831
FEB	788
MAR	895
APR	977
MAY	908
JUN	926
JUL	853
AUG	871
SEP	799
Total	7848

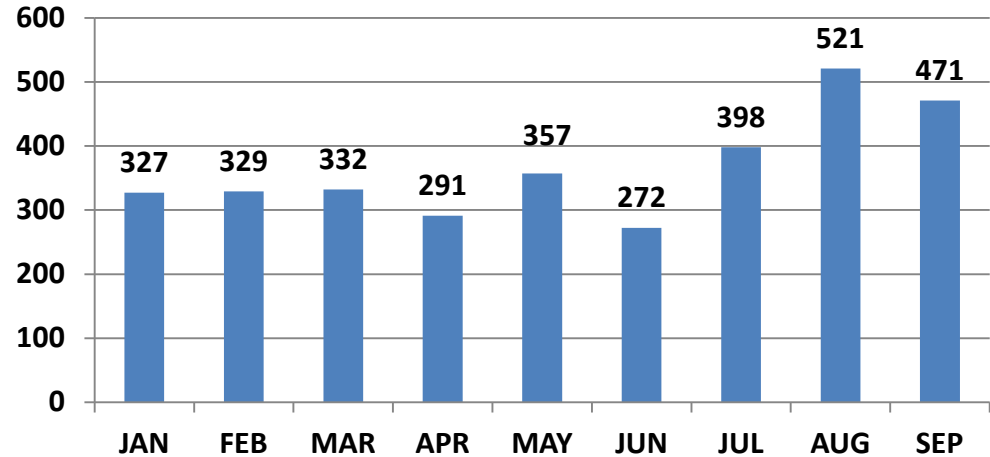
Cases Investigated - YTD - 2012



Case Filed 2011 vs. 2012

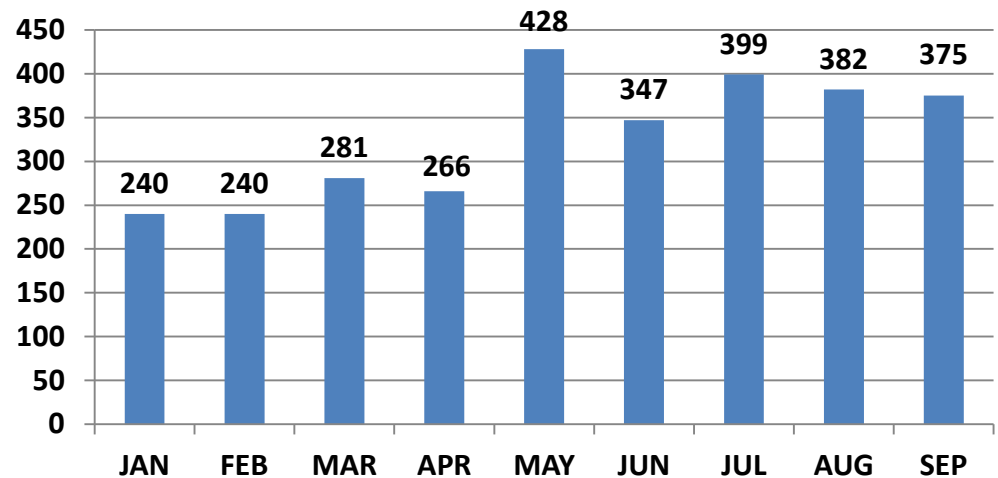
2011	Filed
JAN	327
FEB	329
MAR	332
APR	291
MAY	357
JUN	272
JUL	398
AUG	521
SEP	471
TOTAL	3298

Cases Filed - LYTD - 2011



2012	Filed
JAN	240
FEB	240
MAR	281
APR	266
MAY	428
JUN	347
JUL	399
AUG	382
SEP	375
TOTAL	2958

Cases Filed - YTD - 2012



Family Violence Unit

- 1 Lieutenant
- 3 Sergeants
- 24 Detectives
- 5 Desk Detectives (*Restricted Duty*)
- 1 Crime Analyst
- 2 Case Workers
- 1 Police Service Specialist



***Increased manpower by 8 Detectives from
21 to 29***

Training

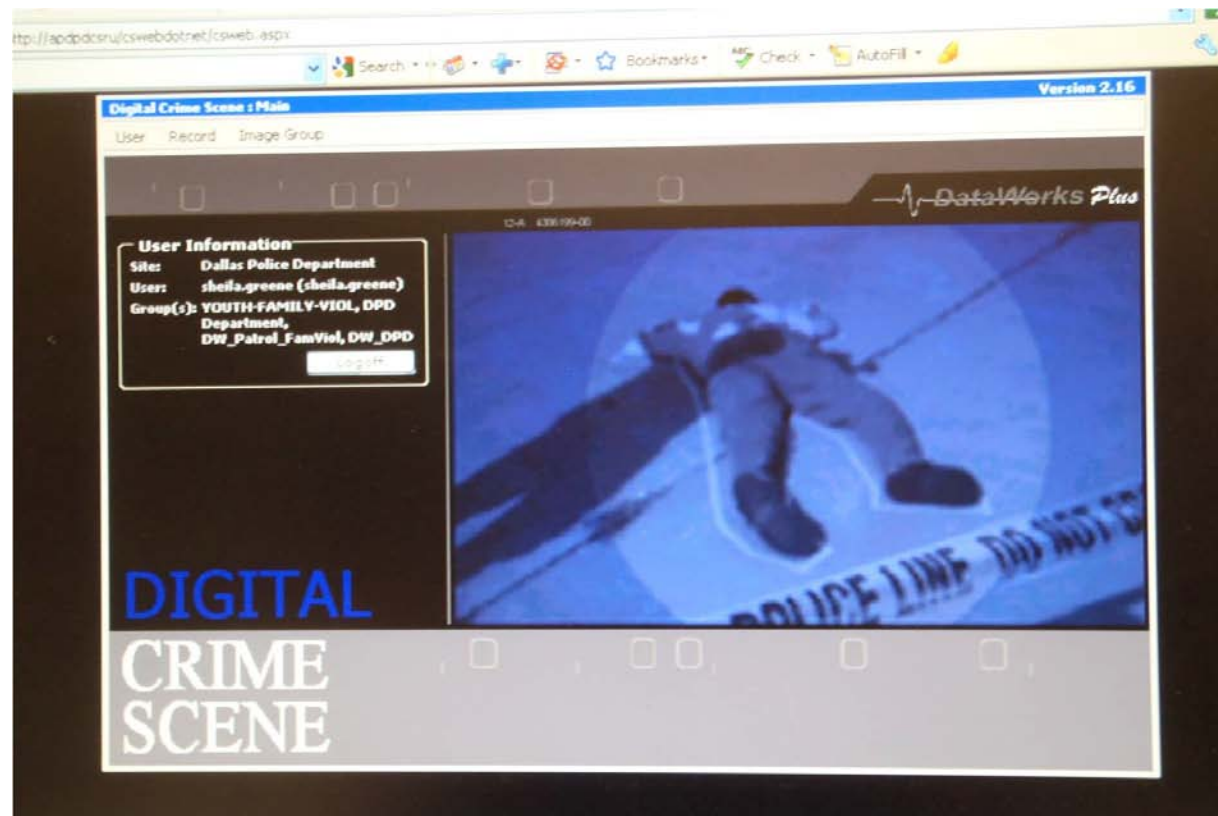
- Bi-monthly unit meetings for Training and Updates
 - Detective Training
 - Sexual Assault Investigations by the Sexual Assaults Unit
 - Reid Interview Interrogation School
 - Regular Dallas County District Attorney updates by Assistant District Attorney Wendy Risinger
 - Patrol Training
 - Lethality Assessment Program
 - Roll Call Training on Misdemeanor A Direct Filings
 - Recruit Training at the Academy & In-service Training

Technology Improvements

- Misdemeanor A Direct Filing
- Crime Scene Photo Kiosk
- Digital Cameras
- Direct Camera Docking stations
- I Pads & New Computers
- Digital Recorders & Pen Recording Equipment

Crime Scene Kiosk

- Crime scene photos are downloaded and collected through the web



Photograph Downloads

- Camera docking stations in all 7 Patrol Divisions



Technology Improvements

- Case Data Tracking Systems
 - Family Violence Crime Tracking - Web Base
 - Investigative Data Base - Access Base
- Shared Server with the Dallas County F/V DAs
 - Go on line: October 2012
 - Gives Family Violence DAs access to all Family Violence Case filings

Community Education

- Community Safety Fairs
 - Chief On The Beat
- Citizens Police Academy
 - English & Spanish Academy classes
- Geographical Assignments
 - 14 Detectives divided per East & West
 - Community meetings & Patrol Station needs
- Dallas Police Family Violence Website

Partnerships

- Genesis Women's Shelter
- The Family Place
- Brighter Tomorrows
- Hope's Door
- Mosaic Family Services
- New Beginning
- Salvation Army
- Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center
- Violence Intervention & Prevention Center (Parkland Hospital)
- Child Protective Services
- Adult Protective Services
- City of Dallas Intervention Unit
- Dallas County Family Violence
- Dallas County Domestic Violence Resources
- ***Citizens are able to locate valuable resources for assistance through the Domestic Violence Task Force web page created by Councilmember Jasso***

<http://dallascityhall.com/dvtf/resources.html>

Family Violence Unit Monthly & Quarterly Meetings

- Dallas County Fatality Review Team
- Dallas County Sexual Assault Committee
- Dallas County Domestic Violence Task Force

Innovative Programs

Lethality Assessment Training



Lethality Assessment Program Goals

- Identify victims of domestic violence, who are at the **greatest risk of being killed**,
- Get them **out of harm's way**, if necessary, and,
- Encourage them to go ***into domestic violence services****

* *Services does not always mean going into a shelter, it could be counseling.*

Lethality Assessment Program History

- Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell of John Hopkins University
- DPD applied and was approved for the grant in April 2012.
- Dallas will be one of the largest cities to implement this program (San Antonio)
- The Family Place & Genesis Women's Shelter will be our partners



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LETHALITY
SCREEN FOR FIRST RESPONDERS**



**214-941-1991
214-946-4357 (help)**

Officer:	Date:	Case #:
Victim:	Offender:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if victim did not answer any of the questions.		
▶ A "Yes" response to any of Questions #1-3 automatically triggers the protocol referral.		
1. Has he/she ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a weapon?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
2. Has he/she threatened to kill you or your children?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
3. Do you think he/she might try to kill you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
▶ Negative responses to Questions #1-3, but positive responses to at least four of Questions #4-11, trigger the protocol referral.		
4. Does he/she have a gun or can he/she get one easily?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
5. Has he/she ever tried to choke you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
6. Is he/she violently or constantly jealous or does he/she control most of your daily activities?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
7. Have you left him/her or separated after living together or being married?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
8. Is he/she unemployed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
9. Has he/she ever tried to kill himself/herself?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
10. Do you have a child that he/she knows is not his/hers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
11. Does he/she follow or spy on you or leave threatening messages?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Ans.
▶ An officer may trigger the protocol referral, if not already triggered above, as a result of the victim's response to the below question, or whenever the officer believes the victim is in a potentially lethal situation.		
Is there anything else that worries you about your safety? (If "yes") What worries you?		
Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> Victim screened in according to the protocol <input type="checkbox"/> Victim screened in based on the belief of officer <input type="checkbox"/> Victim did not screen in		
If victim screened in: After advising her/him of a high danger assessment, <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No did the victim speak with the hotline counselor?		

Note: The questions above and the criteria for determining the level of risk a person faces is based on the best available research on factors associated with lethal violence by a current or former intimate partner. However, each situation may present unique factors that influence risk for lethal violence that are not captured by this screen. Although most victims who screen "positive" or "high danger" would not be expected to be killed, these victims face much higher risk than that of other victims of intimate partner violence.

Lethality Assessment

October 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

- Officer who responds to Domestic Violence call determines:
 - If the assault was between intimate partners
 - If the victim is in danger
 - If a lethality assessment is appropriate
 - may result in contacting a counselor provided by one of the shelters
 - If contact information and preparation of a report is to be given and produced
 - In situations when the victim does not want to participate

Challenges

- Prosecution
 - Crawford v. Washington
- Lethality Assessment
- Training & Manpower
- Case Management
- Resources

Anticipated Results from Improvements

- Reduced case load due to more personnel and Direct M/A filings
- Improved case preparations with the aid of technology
- More victims participating in available resources due to LAP
- A more educated and informed community

Early Results Indicators

- Improved detective morale and their eagerness to reach out to the community.
- District Attorney feedback on better prosecution reports being prepared resulting in successful prosecutions.
- Positive feedback from our advocates and partners.

Summary

- The FV Unit has:
 - created two data tracking systems to streamline paperwork and assure accountability
 - implemented procedures for Officer and community training and education
 - invested additional personnel and technology resources
 - recommitted to use community partners to help educate the public to reduce the number of domestic violence incidents
- All which should reduce family violence incidents

QUESTIONS?