OHIO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITIES

JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019



In an attempt to better understand the prevalence and circumstances of domestic violence fatalities in Ohio, the Ohio Domestic Violence Network reviewed media reports identified by staff members or local member programs. Fatalities included targeted victims, perpetrators, and others at incidents involving intimate partner relationships.

OF CASES INVOLVED A SUICIDE

IN 51 CASES, THE PERPETRATOR WAS MALE; IN 9 CASES, THE PERPETRATOR WAS FEMALE

IN 83% OF CASES WHERE WOMEN KILLED MEN, THERE WAS A HISTORY OF THE WOMAN HAVING BEEN ABUSED BY THE MAN

COMPLETED HOMICIDE/SUICIDES (12 PERPETRATED BY MALES AGAINST FEMALES, AND 2 PERPETRATED BY FEMALES AGAINST MALES)

81 FATALITIES IN 60 CASES

53 DECEASED VICTIMS (41 FEMALE VICTIMS; 12 MALE VICTIMS); 28 DECEASED PERPETRATORS

5 CASES
INVOLVED CUSTODY DISPUTES OR OCCURRED DURING A SCHEDULED VISITATION/EXCHANGE

25% **OF CASES INVOLVED CHILDREN** AT THE SCENE

IN 73% OF FATALITIES KILLED BY GUNS

IN AT LEAST 32% OF CASES THE PERPETRATOR HAD PREVIOUS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CHARGES **OR CONVICTIONS**

IN AT LEAST

OF FATALITY CASES, THE VICTIM OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE HAD **ENDED THE RELATIONSHIP** OR WAS IN THE PROCESS OF **ENDING THE RELATIONSHIP**

15%

OF CASES INVOLVED SWAT RESPONSE; NO LAW **ENFORCEMENT WERE KILLED IN** FATAL DV INCIDENTS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FOUR YEARS

3 CASES

HAD RESULTING AMBER ALERTS DURING OR PRIOR TO THE FATAL **INCIDENT**











60 CASES REVIEWED

MULTIPLE FATALITIES



1 incident involved 4 fatalities

SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIP



1 case involved a same-sex relationship

3RD PARTY FATALITIES



9 people died who were 3rd parties to the incident

KILLED BY 3RD PARTY



5 attackers were killed by an intervening 3rd party, 4 of those attackers were killed by law enforcement

CHILDREN AND TEENS

- A perpetrator shot and killed his ex-girlfriend while her two-year-old child was in bed with her.
- A perpetrator shot and killed two of his girlfriend's children because he was angry that she had received texts from an old boyfriend.
- An uncle of a victim, stabbed to death by her ex-husband, recounted "...As she was taking the children out of the car, he attacked, traumatizing [the children] for the rest of their lives."
- The youngest dating partner killed was 12 years old; the youngest perpetrator, who killed the 12-year-old, was 18 years old.



FAMILY SPEAKS

"She just wanted to be free of him, but she didn't know how."

— Sister-in-law of victim. Victim and victim's daughter were shot and killed by victim's ex-boyfriend.

"For anybody—if they see red flags... try to get out and tell somebody. Don't wait until it's too late."

- Father of fatality victim

CUSTODY/VISITATION

In at least 5 cases involving custody disputes or occurring during a scheduled visitation/exchange, the father had a history of past incidents of domestic violence and/or child physical or sexual abuse.

These cases demonstrate that, even after survivors leave their abuser, they, and their children, are often still in danger due to exposure from custody/ visitation arrangements.

In one domestic violence call by a victim, who was eventually stabbed to death by her ex-boyfriend, an officer counted **40** calls from him, just while the officer was present.



Remember these losses, strive to understand the issue, and support advances toward long-term solutions.

ODVN will be working with legislators, domestic violence programs, public officials and others to design more effective responses that can prevent these tragedies.