



## Network News

November 2025

# 2025 was the most lethal year for DV homicides in Ohio, according to 10th annual fatality count

Ohio suffered 157 domestic violence fatalities in the year ending June 30, 2025. The total is a dramatic increase over the previous 12-month period and the highest number of lives lost since ODVN began compiling its annual fatality report.

ODVN released its [10th Annual Fatality Report](#) on Oct. 7 at the annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month event in the Statehouse Atrium. More than 180 people attended the event, where ODVN honored three individuals who made Ohio a better place for survivors of domestic violence.

Survivor and advocate Kar'mell Triplett received the Croucher Family Award for Outstanding Leadership for her advocacy in the passage of S.B. 100, a new law that prohibits the installation of tracking devices without consent. Also honored were Ohio Senators Theresa Gavarone and Paula Hicks-Hudson for their legislative and professional work on behalf of survivors.



Award recipients from left: Sen. Theresa Gavarone, Kar'mell Triplett, and Senator Paula Hicks-Hudson with Sen. Minority Leader Nickie Antonio, who gave Kar'mell a Senate commendation during the event.

The count of intimate partner fatalities in Ohio between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025 is compiled from media reports, police and court records, and information provided by ODVN's 76 member programs.

The number of domestic violence fatalities rose 37% over the previous year in Ohio—from [114 fatalities in 2023-2024](#) to 157 fatalities in 2024-2025.

"This was a tremendously lethal year for domestic violence in Ohio—with both the number of fatalities from intimate partner violence and the number of fatal IPV cases rising dramatically," said Lisa DeGeeter, Senior Director of Policy and Prevention at the Ohio Domestic Violence Network.

The data shows that the combination of anger and access to guns is proving deadly—guns were used to kill in 144 of the 157 fatalities, or 84%. Other primary victims died from stabbing, beatings and strangulation. In more than two thirds of the cases (69%), victims had been involved with the criminal or civil justice systems, including divorce or custody proceedings, and 55% of the killers had prior contact with the criminal justice system. Custody disputes were occurring in 38% of the cases that involved minor children. In one case, a victim was killed nearly two weeks to the day after filing for divorce with custody. Her husband then killed himself.

Another trend: 40 of the cases, or over one-third, involved murder-suicides. And there were an additional four incidents of attempted murder-suicides.

Six perpetrators were killed by law enforcement, and one officer— Sheriff Deputy Daniel "Weston" Sherrer, 31—was shot to death responding to a domestic violence incident in Morrow County in May 2025. The [man charged with Sherrer's murder](#), Brian Michael Wilson, had a criminal history including prior charges for domestic violence, assault and a firearms violation.

Of primary victims killed, 61 were women and 13 men. Of the perpetrators who died—usually by suicide or being killed by law enforcement—56 were men and six were women. More than half (56%) of the primary victims were people of color.

## Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2025



Kar'mell Triplett with members of the Croucher Family and Board Member Bridget Mahoney



Members of the ODVN Board of Directors



Members of the Ohio Hispanic Coalition



Close to 200 hundred people attended ODVN's 10th annual Press Conference