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# S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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**Sara Barber, SCCADVSA Executive Director, Vice Chair**

PRESENTED TO:

**Governor Henry McMaster**

**S.C. General Assembly**



## S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee

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## Introduction

The alarm has been sounding for decades: South Carolina consistently ranks among the 10 worst U.S. states in terms of the rate of women murdered by men. This ignominious distinction has spurred many attempts at solutions, including the creation of the S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee. This multidisciplinary board was formed by the S.C. Domestic Violence Act of 2015 to decrease the incidences of domestic violence by:

- Developing an understanding of the causes and incidences of domestic violence;
- Developing plans for and implementing changes within the agencies represented on the Committee that will prevent domestic violence; and;
- Advising the Governor and the General Assembly on statutory, policy, and practice changes which will prevent domestic violence.

From its inception through 2018, much of the Domestic Violence Advisory Committee's work focused on gauging the progress of, and suggesting improvements to, recommendations of the Domestic Violence Task Force, formed by then-Governor Nikki Haley in 2015. An accounting of the progress in meeting these recommendations formed the basis of the Committee's annual report to the legislature in March 2019. In the months that followed, the Committee scheduled presentations from the state's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees to potentially identify patterns and gaps that might explain why domestic-violence homicides continue in South Carolina at a rate higher than the national average. These 16 committees – one from each of South Carolina's judicial circuits – reviews a settled criminal case that entailed at least one death and some element of domestic violence. Members of the fatality review committees represent an array of fields, including law enforcement, coroners, prosecutors, the defense bar, community-based victim services, social services and medicine. These committees are required to select only cases in which any charges have been fully disposed and all appeals exhausted.

The review committees' goals, per the state law that created them, include developing protocols to assist coroners and medical examiners in determining whether domestic violence contributed to a death. Additionally, committees are charged with advising the Domestic Violence Advisory Committee regarding:

- Training, including cross-agency training, consultation, technical assistance needs, and service gaps that would decrease the likelihood of domestic violence;
- The need for changes to any statute, regulation, policy, or procedure to decrease the incidences of domestic violence and include proposals for changes to statutes, regulations, policies, and procedures in the Committee's annual report;
- Education of the public regarding the incidences and causes of domestic violence, specific steps the public can undertake to prevent domestic violence, and the support that civic, philanthropic, and public service organizations can provide in assisting the committee to educate the public;

By state law, government agencies are required to provide requested documents to Fatality Review Committees, which are bound to guard these materials from disclosure. Agencies that receive funding from Violence Against Women Act are required to adhere to strict confidentiality regulations as part of



their grant conditions. However, grantees and subgrantees may share information with fatality reviews, albeit only in the following circumstances:

- Information is only shared to the extent permitted by the jurisdiction's law;
- The underlying objectives of the fatality review are to prevent future deaths, enhance victim safety, and increase offender accountability;
- The fatality review includes policies and protocols to protect identifying information, including information about the victim's children, from further release outside the fatality review team;
- The grantee or subgrantee makes a reasonable effort to get a release from the victim's personal representative (if one has been appointed) and from any surviving minor children or the guardian of such children (but not if the guardian is the abuser of the deceased parent), if the children are capable of knowingly consenting, and;
- The information is limited to that which is necessary for the purposes of the fatality review.

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees are required to report their activities in annual reports to the S.C. Commission on Prosecution Coordination. A copy of the most recent filings by these committees are included in the Appendix of this report. Additionally, the S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee received in-person presentations from five of these review committees in 2019. In addition, other stakeholders in the effort to stem domestic violence presented to the Committee. Each of these presentations is summarized herein. The Committee appreciates the time and effort put into these presentations and relied heavily upon their findings in formulating its recommendations to the General Assembly and Governor's Office, which also are included in this report.

## A statistical overview and the S.C. Violent Death reporting system

**The S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee is commanded by state law to “undertake annual statistical studies of the incidences and causes of domestic violence in this State.” Toward that end, the Committee received a statistical overview at its October 7, 2019, meeting, presented by Brittney White, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, S.C. Violent Death Reporting System; Susan L. Jackson, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, S.C. Violent Death Reporting System; Marlene Al-Barwani, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, S.C. Violent Death Reporting System. (PowerPoint from presentation available in Appendix of this report.) The presentation provided an in-depth overview of the most recent statistics available regarding domestic violence-related deaths, as well as a status report on the S.C. Violent Death Reporting system. As will be noted, this reporting system is not without its limitations, but it stands as the most comprehensive of sources available to the Committee in pursuance of its mandated reporting obligation.**

Established in 2002, the South Carolina Violent Death Reporting System produces an incident-based compilation that describes the circumstances associated with violent deaths in South Carolina.

SCVDRS staff abstracts data from three required data sources — death certificates, coroner reports, law enforcement records — and other official records, such as toxicology reports, to identify events surrounding every suicide, homicide, accidental firearm death or death of undetermined intent that occurs within South Carolina. SCVDRS then merges related deaths into a single incident, removes all personally identifiable information, and enters into an electronic web-based system maintained by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. Related deaths are defined as two or more deaths that occur within 24 hours of each other and may be categorized as multiple homicides, multiple suicides, murder-suicides, multiple undetermined intent deaths, or other multi-death combinations (e.g., homicide-undetermined intent death). Narratives of each incident are prepared to summarize the information provided by law enforcement and coroner investigations, respectively.

Within this system, Intimate Partner Violence incidents, or “IPVs,” are defined as incidents involving at least one death, in which violence is threatened or committed by one person against his or her current or former intimate partner. Most typically, it includes the killing of an intimate partner by the aggressor, however, it can also include instances of self-defense, murder-suicides or events that end in the death of a third part, for instance, the child or friend of a victim who is killed when they try to intervene. Another example are deaths that occur due to the relationship between intimate partners even when no violence exists within that intimate relationship — as when a husband kills a neighbor for making sexual advances toward the wife, or when two teens kill their parents because the parents will not allow the teenagers to date each other. Among the information that can be captured by the module are notations regarding whether an argument precipitated the event, if one or both participants had a mental-health problem, whether a weapon was involved and, if so, what kind.

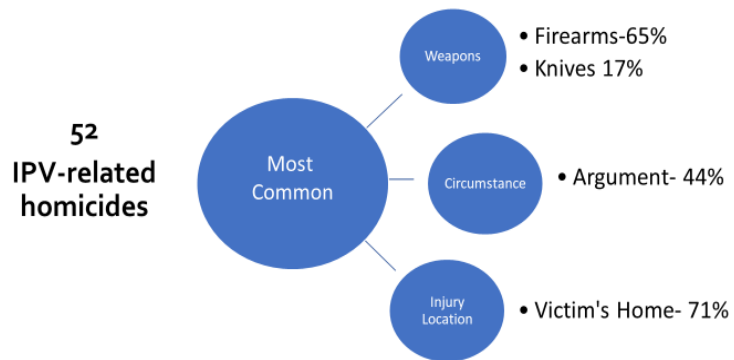
By capturing data on all IPV-related homicide types, SCVDRS provides a rich data source for the broad range of people impacted by relationship violence and conflicts resulting from intimate relationships. Through this reporting, SCVDRS supports development of resources designed to reduce the occurrence of preventable deaths resulting from violence, self-harm, or accidental firearm injury. Once used in full, this tool has the potential to put a wealth of information at the fingertips of users and policymakers. It would include data from police reports, court or prosecutor records, restraining orders and the like.

However, this is true only if the module is used to its fullest extent. Currently, for example, agencies such as county sheriff's departments can participate but are not compelled to do so, which may account for any differences in data reporting from the SCVDRS in comparison with other data sources. Additionally, uniformity in the entry protocols can result in missing or incomplete information. Proper recording of restraining-order variables, for example, is a common problem.

[A statistical look at those affected by IPVs](#)

It is also widely known that 92% of female homicide victims nationally are murdered by someone they knew – more than half by a current or former intimate partner. In 2017, 52 people died by homicide during an incident related to violence or conflict between intimate partners. What follows is a statistical breakdown of what SCVDRS can tell us about these incidents:

IPV-Related Homicides, SCVDRS 2017



- 12.0% of homicides in South Carolina in 2017 were IPV-related (52 out of 433);
- Of the 140 non-Hispanic White homicide victims, 18.6% died during an IPV-related incident;
- Of the 272 non-Hispanic Black homicide victims, 8.8% died during an IPV-related incident;
- 71.2% of IPV-related homicide victims were injured at their home;
- 76.9% of IPV-related homicide victims were killed by an intimate partner;
- 23.1% were killed by a family member, other known person, or details about the relationship between victim and suspect were unknown;
- Of the 433 homicides in 2017, 32.9% of female homicides were IPV-related (27 out of 82 deaths) compared to 7.1% of male homicides (25 out of 351 deaths).

Victims included:

- current and former spouses, girlfriends, or boyfriends of the suspect;
- children of intimate partners ;
- other family members;
- other people who knew the suspect;
- others who knew the victim but may not have known the suspect.

IPV-RELATED HOMICIDE VICTIMS (N=52)



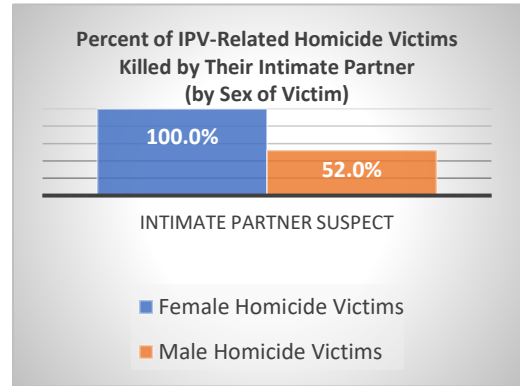
Homicide victims may be killed as part of a single homicide incident, a multiple homicide incident, or a

murder-suicide where the suspect kills him or herself after killing the homicide victim. Among the 52 IPV-related homicides in 2017:

- 40 people died during single-homicide incidents;
- 12 died during a multiple-homicide or murder-suicide incidents.

Among the 27 female IPV-related homicide victims:

- All 27 were killed by their male intimate partners;
- 51.8% were non-Hispanic White, while 44.4% were non-Hispanic Black;
- 8 females were killed during a murder-suicide incident (29.6%);
- None were killed during a multiple-homicide incident.

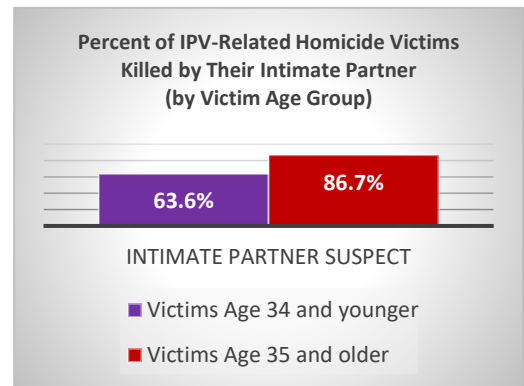


Among the 25 male IPV-related homicide victims:

- 52.0 % were killed by male suspects whereas 48.0% were killed by female suspects;
- 52.0% were killed by a current or former intimate partner;
- 16.0% of males were killed during a murder-suicide or multiple homicide incident;

In terms of age:

- Of the 433 homicides in 2017, 15.8% of homicides among victims ages 35 and older were IPV-related (30 out of 190 deaths) compared to 9.1% of victims ages 34 and younger (22 out of 243 deaths);
- Of the IPV-related homicide victims, more than half were 35 years old or older (57.7%);
- 86.7% of IPV-related homicide victims age 35 years or older were killed by their intimate partner compared to 63.6% of victims ages 34 and younger;
- All youth younger than 18 years old were the child or other family member of the suspect.



In terms of circumstances and primary weapons used:

- Nearly 1 in 3 IPV-related homicides occurred during an argument (32.7%);
- An argument contributed to the death of 44.0% of males and 40.7% of female homicide victims;
- Firearms (65.4%) and knives or other sharp instruments (17.3%) were the primary weapons used in IPV-related incidents;
- 70% female IPV-related homicide victims were killed by firearm compared to 60% of males;
- Of those killed by firearm, 55.8% were female.

#### Additional observations by the S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee

- There is a two-year lag in the reporting data collected by DHEC – in other words, the 2019 report would be based upon data collected in 2017.
- With regard to transgender suspects, reported gender corresponds to whatever appears on coroner or law-enforcement reports, which typically corresponds to the biological sex. To this point, the proper categorization of transgender people has not arisen as an issue. However, a 2018 Richland County case that presumably will be included in DHEC's numbers for 2020 could pose a challenge.
- DHEC's system can only report back the data that has been entered into it. White and her colleagues expressed confidence that the system accurately compiles and computes figures based on entries, but its ultimate veracity depends upon those providing the data. White reported that coroners have been particularly cooperative in entering data, but unevenness in the overall consistency and accuracy of the reporting persists. Coroners are not required to report to system, so participation is good but not uniform.
- As of now, criminal histories of subjects listed in the system include only official interventions/diversionary programs and might exclude offenses that have been expunged from a defendant's record.
- Jackson and Al-Barwani added that there is no funding in place from the state to make use of this module uniform; funding currently available comes from federal sources. Jackson and Al-Barwani indicate that, anecdotally at least, other states have provided funding to ensure proper training and use of the module.

## Fatality Review Committee case synopses

*[Editor's note: To preserve the privacy and rights of crime victims and their household members, guardians or caretakers, much of the information collected by both the S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee and Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees is confidential, exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, and subject to disclosure only as necessary to carry out the committees' duties. In keeping with these provisions of state law, names in these synopses have been changed whenever necessary to protect the identities of innocents.]*

### Second Circuit

**Presented March 25, 2019, by Jack W. Hammack Jr., 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit Solicitor's Office.**

**Narrative:** The Second Circuit Fatality Review Committee in 2018 examined a murder/suicide case that occurred in March 2016 in the New Holland area of Aiken County. The Aiken County Sheriff's Office received a 9-1-1 call from Roberta Turner, a friend of both the victim and perpetrator. She received a telephone call from the perpetrator, William Bodie, stating that he had just killed the victim, Wendy Kelly, and was going to kill himself. When officers arrived, they found Kelly's body at the rear of a white GMC pickup truck and found Bodie's body sitting in the vehicle. Both were killed by gunshot wounds. Kelly was shot in the chest and back, and Bodie had one gunshot wound to the head. The .38-caliber revolver used to kill both was in Bodie's hand, in his lap. Officer's also located on Bodie's person the telephone used to call Turner.

Investigators discovered that Kelly had filed a civil action to evict Bodie from her residence approximately five months before the incident. During the hearing before the magistrate, Kelly alleged physical abuse as the reason for evicting Bodie. Bodie had no serious criminal record, and there were no reports of abuse to the Cumbee Center, or to hospitals, shelters or law enforcement in Aiken County or in Lexington County, where the couple once lived. Domestic violence is one of the most underreported crimes, so a lack of documentation is not uncommon. However, the committee did find that Kelly was enrolled in a pretrial intervention program, stemming from a criminal domestic violence arrest. Bodie was the reported victim in that incident.

The committee spoke with Kelly's daughter, who characterized Bodie as controlling. She suspected that he abused her mother and sometimes saw evidence of bruising on her body. However, she never saw any actual violence between them and never thought Bodie would kill her mother.

The committee also interviewed Turner. She reported that the CDV charge against Kelly was the result of her hitting Bodie with a back-scratcher while trying to protect herself from him during an argument. Turner says Bodie was on pain pills and was drunk every afternoon. After many years of abuse from Bodie, Kelly decided to evict him, and he exploded when he was removed from her house. To her knowledge, the abuse was never reported to law enforcement. There was minimal contact between Kelly and Bodie between the eviction and her murder, and Bodie did not take up residency again in the home.

### **Observations of the Fatality Review and Domestic Violence Advisory committees.**

- Kelly had completed her PTI program at the time of her death. Consistent with what Turner told Committee members, Kelly apparently told the magistrate in her domestic-violence case that she struck Bodie in self-defense.



- It does not appear that law enforcement or PTI performed a primary-aggressor evaluation when the victim was arrested and referred into the diversion program.
- The Committee believed Kelly had been referred to a batterer's intervention program as part of her enrollment in PTI, as is required by state law.
- The magistrate who heard the domestic violence case also presided over the eviction hearing. There was no apparent discussion of a restraining order during the eviction proceedings. It might have been difficult or improper for a restraining order to be issued during the eviction proceeding, particularly if neither side was represented by counsel, since the magistrate should not give one party legal advice from the bench.
- There is no evidence of subsequent violence between the domestic violence charge against Kelly and the fatal shootings. That does not mean violence did not occur, however. Kelly might have been hesitant to call police after she had been arrested and charged, for fear she wouldn't be believed and experience further legal consequences.

## 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit

**Presented July 1, 2019, by Kate Usry, 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Solicitor's Office; Nicole Howland, General Council, Lexington County Sheriff's Office; Detective Steven Gamble, Lexington County Sheriff's Office.**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Fatality Review Committee case was an opportunity to examine two relationships over the course of almost 10 years and the death of Lara Andersen.

Andersen and George Robertson were in a relationship from a young age. Police reports show Robertson was involved with drugs and disruptive behavior starting in high school. The couple's relationship was abusive – Robertson was arrested multiple times for assaulting Andersen. Andersen was also charged twice with criminal domestic violence, in 2000 and 2001, with Robertson listed as the victim. When Andersen was arrested, Robertson was on bond, with a no-contact order, for multiple criminal domestic violence charges with Andersen listed as the victim. However, the bond violation was not addressed. These two arrests, as well as the failure to enforce the no-contact order, caused Andersen to lose confidence in law enforcement. Subsequently, she was unwilling to call for help when Robertson was released from prison and continued to abuse her. The couple had one child together.

Andersen's charges were ultimately dismissed, after she attended counseling with Sistercare. She earned a nursing degree, ended the relationship with Robertson, and became gainfully employed at Lexington Medical Center. Robertson died of a drug overdose in 2011 or 2012.

Subsequently, Andersen became involved with another abusive partner, Edward Gilmore. Andersen was found dead on in 2009 of what appeared to be a drug overdose. However, there had been a prior domestic violence incident between her and Gilmore several hours beforehand, at another location. No arrest was made in that incident, and the officer did not generate an incident report. When Andersen's death was investigated by law enforcement, the ongoing domestic violence in the relationship did not appear to raise suspicion or even be considered. The cause of death was ruled an accidental overdose, although the medical examiner considered suicide. Through its review process, the committee identified several factors that create uncertainty about the circumstances of the death.

### **Observations of the Fatality Review and Domestic Violence Advisory committees:**

- Thorough interviews and background checks of people at the scene of a domestic incident might have led to a different outcome in this case, or at least a more complete investigation. At minimum, it would seem to mandate a written incident report, which did not happen in this case. The Lexington Sheriff's Department instituted a policy requiring a written incident report for all domestic violence responses in 2007, according to Howland. This predates – and is in keeping with – a 2015 recommendation by then-Gov. Nikki Haley's S.C. Domestic Violence Task Force that law enforcement agencies adopt a policy whereby officers file official incident reports on every case of alleged or substantiated domestic violence.
- It appears from this case that the S.C. Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services does not check criminal history when an offender reports in or perform checks at regular intervals while an offender is on probation. (Or, at least, it did not at the time of this case);
- Had the coroner had any knowledge of the domestic incident that had taken place just hours earlier, it might have significantly affected the ruling of cause of death. Presently, there is a practice, but not a policy, that there must be a meaningful discussion between the coroner and law enforcement to make sure the coroner has the information needed to make a decision. This practice was a result of the Fatality Review Committee's recommendation, Howland said.

### **13<sup>th</sup> Circuit**

**Presented July 1, 2019, by Derek Polsinello, 13th Circuit Solicitor's Office.**

Poole's previous criminal record included 1996 charges of murder, receiving stolen property and carrying a pistol without a license in Georgia. His South Carolina charges included various assault, drug-possession, gun-violation and armed robbery. Poole and Sweeney were never married, but were in an on-and-off relationship for at least eight years, beginning in 2000, and periodically lived together. They had no children in common although Sweeney had a minor female daughter, whom both Poole and Sweeney thought was Poole's daughter. However, a genetic test of the child was done by the victim's family and it was determined that the defendant is not the biological father.

From early 2000 until 2006, there were unreported incidents of domestic violence between the defendant and victim. The Fatality Review Committee met with Allman and her two living daughters – Sweeney's sisters – and the family gave insight into a number of unreported incidents of violence between Poole and the victim. The first reported incident occurred in 2006. In 2006, Poole barged into the home of Sweeney's mother, Gladys Allman, who spoke to this Review Committee as it prepared its report. She said Poole was hostile in confronting Allman and her daughter, who was at her home at the time. Poole pointed and presented a handgun at Allman, threatened to kill her, and also struck the victim in the face multiple times with his fists. In 2007, Poole pleaded guilty to first-offense criminal domestic violence, and pointing and presenting a firearm at a person. He was sentenced to seven months' probation and was required to attend domestic violence intervention classes. It is unclear if Poole completed those classes.

This appears to be the only time the defendant was involved with the the criminal justice system for exhibiting violence toward Sweeney, until he pleaded guilty to her involuntary manslaughter in January 2012. Poole also pleaded guilty to possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime. He was sentenced to 35 years in prison, and his expected release date is 2034.

Sweeney's family describes Poole as a master manipulator who tried to isolate her from her family. He would provide her drugs, and even go as far as making her sell drugs for his own person gain. Sweeney once told her mother that the only time she felt safe was when Poole was in prison or in jail. When he was released however, she would "give him another chance." It is unknown whether he would threaten her to ensure her return to the relationship. At one point, Sweeney had a prestigious job at a bank, managing as many as 20 people and making a significant income for her and her daughter. He would show up at her job and act in an irate manner, requesting to speak with Sweeney, as he was always suspicious that she was cheating on him with another individual. Ultimately the victim was fired from her banking job due to the defendant constantly showing up at her work and creating a disturbance. None of this pattern of abuse was reported to law enforcement by the victim's employer. ,

Poole frequently assaulted Sweeney with his fists. These incidents weren't reported, either, aside from the 2006 incident. Family knew of the assaults but did not report them because Sweeney begged them not to – she feared reprisal. The medical examiner indicated Sweeney had suffered superficial gunshot wounds a few days before her death. However, no incident reporting such a shooting was ever reported to law enforcement.

Asked if anything might have saved her daughter from Poole, Allman responded, "Death." Allman said that as a result of this case, she became close friends with Poole's mother and learned that at a young age, Poole witnessed domestic violence in his own household – his father beat his mother. This would tend to support the notion that those who witness and/or who are subjected to domestic violence within their own home at a young age are more likely, themselves, to commit acts of domestic violence or become victims of domestic violence in the future.

#### **Observations of the Fatality Review and Domestic Violence Advisory committees:**

- The offender's record was one of a career-criminal with mostly "non-violent" offenses, until he killed the victim. Research shows that criminals do not tend to specialize in a particular type of offense.
- Although the violence was ongoing in this relationship, an official report was only made one time.
- Issues of workplaces being willing or able to support victims/survivors experiencing violence or harassment/stalking while they are at work
- Records of the offender's participation in batterer intervention were not received by the committee. It is important to ensure that communication between batterer intervention programs and the courts/prosecutors are strong to ensure accountability for offenders.

#### **14<sup>th</sup> Circuit**

**Presented March 25, 2019, by Mary Jordan Lempesis, 14<sup>th</sup> Circuit Solicitor's Office; David Wilkinson, Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.**

On September 16, 2007, Annie Torres was shot in the back of the head by her husband, Jose Angel Herrera. She was shot while sitting on the toilet in the bathroom of the home she shared with her husband and 11-year-old daughter, who was home at the time of the murder. Herrera made the initial call to 911 reporting that his wife had been shot in the head with a small-caliber handgun by an unknown person.

Herrera's story changed multiple times after his initial statement to police. Ultimately, after being confronted by investigators with his inconsistencies, he admitted to the killing. He told police that the two were arguing that day and that Annie was angry that he was leaving the house that afternoon. She pushed him on her way to the bathroom, Herrera claimed. Herrera said he became enraged and grabbed a .22-caliber handgun from their bedroom. He told investigators that he intended to put the gun to Annie's head to scare her and to get her to shut up. He said that he tripped on the way to the bathroom and the gun accidentally fired, hitting his wife in the head.

Annie was 45 years old when she died. Jose Herrera was 25. The couple had been married less than a year at the time of Annie's murder. The two met in October of 2006 through a mutual friend and began dating. They were married in April of 2007. The marriage was Herrera's first. Annie's daughter, Patricia, was the product of Annie's previous marriage. The couple had just picked her up for her visitation at a local Walmart, where the child's father – Annie's first husband – had dropped her off. The daughter reported that she sensed tension between her mother and Herrera, who she thinks might have been drinking.

According to several of Annie's friends, she began using cocaine frequently and drinking heavily after she met Jose. Neighbors reported hearing the couple argue daily. In one incident, about a month before the murder, neighbors witnessed Jose fire several shots into his car in a fit of anger. Afterwards, Jose told the neighbor that it was better than him shooting Annie. This incident was never reported to police.

Jose Herrera was originally from California and served time there for first-degree burglary. He also had previous convictions for inflicting corporal injury on a spouse/cohabitant. At the time of his arrest in South Carolina for murder, he had an active parole violation warrant for his arrest in California.

Herrera was charged with murder and possession of a weapon during commission of a violent crime. Solicitor Duffie Stone tried the case for the State in March of 2009. The jury returned a verdict of guilty on both counts, and Judge G. Thomas Cooper sentenced Herrera to life without parole.

In reviewing this case, members of the victim's siblings discussed her history with Jose Herrera, her previous marriage and her upbringing in a northeastern state. They said Annie grew up in a home with an alcoholic mother and a demurring father. The committee also heard from the lead investigator and another responding officer, both with the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office. The committee reviewed crime scene photos and heard from Solicitor Stone who provided details on the prosecution of the case. Additionally, the committee heard from 14th Circuit Solicitor's Office Investigator Dylan Hightower, who provided information about Jose Herrera's possible gang affiliations.

#### **Observations of the Fatality Review and Domestic Violence Advisory committees:**

- Investigators collect a box of knives, switch blades and other weapons from the couple's bedroom and find holes punched in their mobile home's walls. The home is disheveled.
- The victim's family tells investigators that Herrera frequently brought weapons to family functions and on at least one occasion nearly came to blows with a family member.
- The couple struggled financially. Police find pawn shop receipts in the home. Annie's family showed much concern for her daughter and wondered if she might have recognized the signs of an abusive relationship. In 2014, several years after this crime was committed, the S.C. General Assembly added to the law language requiring students in grades 5 through 8 to be taught about "healthy families." The General Assembly shied away from calling

it “domestic violence education,” although that was its intent. The S.C. Department of Education now puts out several curriculum resources that would assist school districts in such instruction. Additionally, school resource officers are given teaching time in some schools, and this might be appropriate subject matter for them.

## 15<sup>th</sup> Circuit

**Presented October 1, 2019, by Lauree Richardson, 15th Circuit Solicitor’s Office; Sherri Smith, Horry County Sheriff’s Office; Alma D. Seerra, Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office.**

In May of 2004, Edwin Cornelius dropped Demi Burgess off for school at an Horry County high school. As she was exiting his vehicle, he stabbed her. She ran for her life, only to be chased down and stabbed at least 15 more times with a hunting knife. There were several witnesses as all of the events took place in the school’s drop offline. Most witnesses were in shock and some even tried to help, but without success.

Demi was 18 years old and a senior at the school. She had moved to South Carolina from California approximately one year before. She was well-liked and seemed to be adjusting, although she was having a hard time with what her aunt called the “culture shock” of moving from California. According to school counselors, she seemed to be adjusting socially. She was close with her guidance counselor and would meet with her often regarding colleges and testing.

In the weeks before her murder, Demi had become upset when a funding source she thought she would be able to use for college fell through – she didn’t qualify for the program. Fearful she couldn’t be able to afford college, she was struggling with the thought of not “getting out of here.” Demi did not have much money. Her mom died of cancer when she was very small, and her aunt had promised her mom that she would raise her, although she never wanted any kids of her own. Demi’s dad was from another country. It is not clear whether he did not know about her or chose not to be part of her life. Her aunt told the Fatality Review Committee that Demi’s mom didn’t tell her dad about her because she was afraid that he would take her back to his country once she passed away, and she did not want that. When they lived in California, neither of Demi nor her aunt had a job. They lived with friends and men who could provide for them. Demi generally wore designer clothes, despite having no apparent source of revenue, and was very interested in fashion.

When Demi and her aunt moved to Myrtle Beach, they lived with one of her aunt’s friends, who was married with two children. However, this friend was compelled to ask them to leave because they were not contributing to the bills, and she had noticed some behavior issues with Demi – she seemed promiscuous – that she didn’t want around her children.

From there, Demi and her aunt moved into a hotel that was well-known to local police as a location where prostitution frequently occurs. Shortly after moving to the hotel, Demi met Cornelius on a dating website. He presented himself as a real estate broker who had just sold a lot of land. He bought her nice gifts and offered grandiose talk about their future together. At first, it seemed that Demi was in love and had possibly found an answer to her money problems; however, things quickly went awry. Cornelius wasn’t at all who he claimed to be. In fact, he was unemployed. He was possessive and constantly demanded to know her whereabouts. He called her often and would randomly show up when she was out with her friends. He was insistent that he would not allow “anyone else to have her.”

Cornelius was 24 years old. He was from Aynor, S.C., and was on disability for mental-health problems. He was kicked out of school at a young age, sent to an alternative school, and eventually dropped out. He had been in mental-health counseling at several junctures. At his plea, his attorney talked about Cornelius' childhood pointing to sexual abuse by a babysitter, drug use and mental illness. He had several prior run-ins with the police. In 1997 – when he was 15 – he killed his grandmother's cat and left it on her doorsteps because he didn't want to go to school. In 2000, he was charged with kidnapping and grand larceny. And in 2003, he was charged with voluntary manslaughter, when he killed his mother's boyfriend during a domestic dispute. All prior charges had been dismissed, either for legal purposes or at the request of the victim. None of Cornelius' family would agree to speak with committee members, so little more is known about his history than what can be gleaned from official records.

In 2006, Cornelius pleaded guilty to the murder of Demi Burgess and was sentenced to life in prison.

#### **Observations of the Fatality Review and Domestic Violence Advisory committees:**

- The victim probably didn't realize relationship she was in was abusive. Friends say Cornelius seemed more a nag and pest than a physical threat. Many stated flatly that Demi was not afraid of him. Friends said Demi would have liked help but didn't know where to turn.
- A see-something, say-something text line, much like those to report bullying, might have been useful in this case. Friends clearly noticed Demi's odd living arrangement, nice clothes and relationship with an older man. But they probably don't consider that an immediate threat, like a robbery in progress or a structure fire – in other words, it's not something they would call 911- to address. That said, if it's difficult to get information about a hotline into the hands of victims, it's probably even harder to make witnesses aware of it.
- An education program that teaches what a healthy relationship is might have given the victim ideas about where to turn or at least helped her realize the dysfunction in her relationship with the defendant. This education could be incorporated into health education instruction in the public schools.
- School personnel cooperated freely with the Fatality Review Committee and gave valuable insight into Demi's circumstances. Educators are part of children's lives. They can intervene and identify high-risk kids, but they need to be trained to see the warning signs and what to do about them. A "teach-the-teachers" approach might prove more effective than developing a curriculum for students.
- It is possible that the defendant, who had bipolar disorder, might not have been compliant with his prescribed medication. A defendant-focused mental health unit could have potentially addressed the problem by offering him access to mental-health counselors and a structure that kept him on his medications. Such an approach isn't unheard of in South Carolina. Charleston often gets the Medical University of South Carolina involved; instead of taking to jail cell or hospital, taken to a treatment center and put on mental-health caseload instead of a criminal caseload. This approach has helped reduce the jail population with benefit to the patient and no apparent threat to public safety.



## Synopses of other S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee guest presenters

### Paperless Victim Forms

**Presented July 1, 2019, by Chief Deputy Todd Johnson, Newberry County Sheriff's Office; Connie Johnson, victim advocate, Newberry County Sheriff's Office; Chief of Police Terrence Green, Lexington Police Department.**

Salient CRGT is a company that has developed a paperless victim form. It gives deputies access to forms through their phones and laptops, and allows victims to sign with a finger or with a cursor. Once a victim form is completed, it is sent simultaneously to victim's phone by text and/or e-mail. The Newberry Sheriff's Department began testing in October 2018 and officially launched the tool January 1, 2019. Officer feedback indicates the electronic form is far more efficient than the paper forms.

The tool utilizes online login access to a victim notification form. It auto fills the city and state. Officers are using the tool in the field on their phones. The tool is not an app, rather it is a website that can be bookmarked on officers' phones.

The system has several case-management features. Juvenile forms can be linked to victim forms. Court dates can be added. Any and all additions or changes on a case are sent as notifications to the victims. Emails, important website/phone number links, a list of victims' rights, contact information for the case's victim advocate are all included in the information sent to the victim. The department is currently working with the vendor to add a reminder section so that reminders for court dates and other action dates can be sent to the victim.

On the administrative side, the tool keeps a log of all contact with victim and all victim forms.

#### **Additional observations:**

- Newberry officers have not encountered a problem with victims not having a cellphone or email address, however, they still keep a paper form on hand, just in case.
- Officer Johnson shared a success story related to the electronic victim notification form and tool. A domestic violence victim was getting spoof phone calls from defendant, so the victim stopped answering calls. That meant the case's investigator and victim advocate were unable to get through to her. However, the portal has a feature that allowed them to send her a text message. Because the portal is accessible only to administrators and the victim, the victim could trust that the message was from law enforcement. The victim said that without this system in place, she never would have answered her phone.

### Coordinated Community Response Teams

**Presented Oct. 7, 2019, by Scott Beard, director of the Attorney General's Office Department of Crime Victim Compensation; Jerome Kurent, S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee member and physician at Medical University of South Carolina; and Patricia Kurent, Tri-County Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee.**

Beard is the S.C. Attorney General's Office Crime Victim Compensation Director but spoke primarily on his experiences with the state's Domestic Violence Coordinating Councils. State law charges each of the state's 16 solicitors to develop these councils to:

- Increase the awareness and understanding of domestic violence and its consequences;
- Reduce the incidence of domestic violence in the county or area served;
- Enhance and ensure the safety of battered individuals and their children.

The councils can fulfill this mission by, among other things, establishing interdisciplinary and interagency protocol with domestic-violence survivors; monitoring, evaluating, and improving the quality and effectiveness of domestic violence services and protections in the community; and educating the public.

Beard noted that he worked with 9th Circuit Solicitor Scarlett Wilson to create precursor of coordinating council back in 2010-2012, with the help of grant funding. Typically, the first councils formed have been among the most effective – Spartanburg formed one with an Office of Violence Against Women grant in 2001, and Charleston had a similar organization in 2007. Both yielded partnerships that brought change, Beard said. That change could be new and more sophisticated law-enforcement protocols – the North Charleston Police Department, for example, changed the way it responded to domestic-violence calls.

Beard said circuits need to perform regular, substantive fatality assessment programs, which are proven to reduce homicides in communities that use them. For example, in Beard's home state of Maryland, fatalities have been reduced wherever law-enforcement officers follow prescribed protocols after identifying tell-tale signs of domestic violence. The same has been true in South Carolina cities, such as North Charleston, Charleston and Spartanburg.

Among the useful services of the Tri-County Coordinating Council are meetings with family court judges to demonstrate to them the harm in mutual orders of protection – and to demonstrate that even judges who say they never use them in fact issue them with regularity. Moreover, whenever judges are trained to understand what victims go through to leave a potentially lethal situation, most describe it as a revelation, Beard said.

However, even though a multidisciplinary teams are now mandated by law in every circuit statewide, they either are not fully functioning are not having enough impact, Beard asserts. He cited a recent meeting of an unnamed council that he attended, in which everyone introduced themselves but followed with no discussion of how to improve the system. No meetings of this council have been announced since, Beard said.

Patricia Kurent, director of the Tri-County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council and wife of Dr. Jerome Kurent, a sitting member of the S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee, also addressed the Committee. She said that when the grant used to start the Charleston-area council ended, Zonta, and other local civic groups formed the Tri-County Coordinating Council on the old group's foundation. The group currently sports about 250 members. The organization's initial goal was educating and raising awareness of domestic violence.

The focus now is on more action – primarily supporting the needs of prosecutors and law enforcement..

North Charleston Police Detective Chris Ross, who accompanied Kurent and Beard to the meeting, said he is happy to go to other communities to assist them in setting up a coordinated community response committee.

## Committee recommendations

If South Carolina is to see a reduction in the prevalence of domestic violence, it will be critical to advocate for and implement policies and approaches to response and prevention that will lead to significant change in systems of response and across communities. Specific recommendations that were developed from the fatality review committee presentations are included in the summaries and were considered in the development of the four immediate recommendations made here. During 2020, the Committee will continue to identify patterns that arise from these reviews of lethal domestic violence and develop further recommendations for the state to consider.

### **Themes that were identified within the reviews heard this year include:**

- Reinforcement of Primary Aggressor training for law enforcement
- Closer coordination between Fatality Review Committees and Domestic Violence Coordinating Committees to increase the efficacy of a coordinated community response.
- Further training of School Resource Officers in the dynamics of domestic violence, with an emphasis on how it impacts children and the role SRO's can play in increasing safety for students and their families.
- Develop a list of witnesses who have been qualified as experts in domestic violence, a list of the judges who have qualified them and allowed them to testify, and those who did not.
- The SC Commission on Prosecution Coordination should develop a standardized data sheet for the Fatality Review Committees.
- Increased education on healthy relationships in schools to include processes to provide safety and support to students and the non-offending parent if they disclose violence in their homes.
- Examination and evaluation of judicial training at all levels.
- Bystander education in responding to domestic violence

The S.C Domestic Violence Advisory Committee recommendations for 2019 repeat and expand the recommendations from 2018 that remain unfulfilled. Additional recommendations support current legislative efforts at increasing safety for survivors and identify the necessity of uniform policies governing law enforcement responses to incidents.

### **1. Expand primary domestic-violence prevention education in schools and communities**

The Domestic Violence Reform Act of 2015 amended Section 59-32-30 to require that beginning in the 2016-2017 school year “instruction in comprehensive health education also must include the subject of domestic violence” for grades six through eight. The 2017 South Carolina Academic Standards for Health and Safety Education outline grade-level performance indicators including:

- Describing situations involving bullying, cyberbullying, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, sexual assault, rape, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- Demonstrating ways to communicate with safe adults about bullying, cyberbullying, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, sexual assault, rape, domestic violence, and dating violence;  
Accessing valid resources on bullying, cyberbullying, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, sexual assault, rape, domestic violence, and dating violence;  
Providing support to victims of bullying, cyberbullying, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, sexual assault, rape, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- Managing conflict in healthy ways.

The South Carolina Department of Education, through the Office of Standards and Learning, has also issued guidance that identifies age-appropriate instruction, providers and programs related to the requirement in Section 59-32-30 (B) that school districts work with their community partners and local health advisory committees in the selection of instructional material. This guidance was released in the form of a memorandum supporting districts in the implementation of Erin's Law, which requires age-appropriate instruction in sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention to all students in four-year-old kindergarten, where offered, through twelfth grade. The dynamics of sexual abuse and domestic/dating violence are similar, and many of the programs identified on this list include instructional information that fulfills the indicators for both issues.

The Committee recognizes that schools cannot be responsible for all prevention efforts aimed at reducing domestic and dating violence. A public health problem of this magnitude requires a multi-pronged approach that focuses on each level of the socioecological model identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a framework for prevention. This four-level model allows us to better understand how individual, relationship, community and societal factors interact and influence each other in either putting people at risk for, or protecting them from, experiencing or perpetrating violence. By acting across multiple levels of the model, we can increase the possibility of success and potentially sustain prevention efforts over time to create the long-term change we seek in South Carolina's relationship with domestic violence.

The Committee also recognizes the link between intimate partner violence and child abuse. Children who are exposed to IPV are at greater risk for substance abuse, teen pregnancy and criminal behavior than those raised in homes without IPV. Research has also identified that children from violent homes exhibit signs of more aggressive behavior, bullying, and are up to three times more likely to be involved in fighting. There is evidence that prevention and early intervention efforts are effective in reducing intimate partner violence and child abuse behavior and provide hope for breaking this destructive intergenerational cycle.

**Recommendations:**

- The Committee recommends that the state budget contain a line item of an equal or greater amount to the federal investment in prevention work through the Rape Prevention Funds administered by DHEC, with an allowance for reasonable DHEC administrative costs.
- The Committee recommends that the S.C Department of Education be given the authority to create accountability mechanisms that evaluate school district compliance with requirements already in law regarding the provision of domestic violence and healthy relationships education.

## 2. Improvements in Data Collection & Case Management systems in Prosecution

One of the greatest challenges faced by the Domestic Violence Task Force established by former Governor Haley was in identifying valid and reliable data that demonstrated the scope of the problem and the efficacy of intervention programs. Problems with data were common across all systems. Since then, improvements have been made, primarily through the implementation of new databases or the addition of data fields to existing forms.

Nonetheless, information gaps remain, as does the wherewithal for deep data analysis. The Committee renews the call made in the original Task Force report and its own recommendations last year to increase our knowledge of the full picture of domestic violence through a research partnership with the University of South Carolina. The two projects recommended by USC are:

- A domestic-violence pipeline and recidivism study primarily focused on South Carolina's 14th Judicial Circuit;
- A 27-year domestic violence homicide study covering the entire state. The pipeline and recidivism study will be designed to examine how domestic violence cases are typically processed and resolved in a single South Carolina judicial circuit. The study's focus will be on understanding the different types of domestic violence cases that are processed, pretrial decisions and proceedings, failure to appear rates, bond violations, pleadings, case dispositions, the prevalence and effectiveness of pretrial interventions and programs, domestic violence recidivism, and associated demographic patterns and domestic violence case attributes. The objective of this study is to develop the tools that will be required for future statewide research efforts. The domestic violence homicide study is focused on studying the incidence, trends, and characteristics of domestic violence homicides throughout South Carolina.

A major premise of this work is that domestic violence is a difficult crime to measure systematically and that domestic violence cases that result in homicide (which is well measured) is a reasonable place to begin such efforts. In both studies, it will be necessary for the research team to access and rely on a wide range of records and data pertaining to domestic violence cases. A budget and budget justification for this research is included in the appendix of this report.

**Recommendations:**

- The Committee recommends the establishment and funding of IT infrastructure and funding to the S.C Commission on Prosecution Coordination and to the 16 Solicitors' Offices for integrated case-management systems that will allow collection of information necessary for the University of South Carolina to conduct a pipeline study and homicide survey of incidents related to domestic violence. Further, the Committee recommends making this information available to the USC research team and providing an additional \$500,000 to support this research.

### 3. Law Enforcement Response

The Committee believes a uniform policy for law-enforcement response to domestic violence calls is critical to ensuring victims are properly informed of the services available to support their safety, and that a thorough documentation of incidents takes place. Although some smaller departments might struggle to implement the policies, consistent responses are critical to building confidence that law enforcement can react to the complex dynamics of domestic violence incidents and the safety of victims/survivors. (By way of example, Domestic Violence Investigation checklists used by the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office is contained in the Appendix of this report. It includes a form initially used by investigators and a more practical, shortened form later adopted.)

**Recommendation:**

- The Committee recommends that the Sheriffs, Police Chiefs and Law Enforcement Officers Associations, as well as accreditation organizations, work together to create a uniform policy governing law enforcement agencies' response to domestic violence calls. Further, such a policy

should consider the inclusion of lethality assessments, support for under-resources agencies, and provide for training in the implementation of a policy.

#### 4. Legislative Actions

Expand the definition of “household member” to better protect victims of dating violence.

South Carolina’s domestic violence laws currently limit the definition of “household member” to (a) a spouse; (b) a former spouse; (c) persons who have a child in common; or (d) a male and female who are cohabiting or formerly have cohabited.

*Doe v. State*, 421 S.C. 490, 808 S.E.2d 807 (2017), granted (Nov. 17, 2017) held that this definition was unconstitutional as applied, and requires that same-sex couples who meet the criteria “cohabiting or formerly have cohabited” be afforded protections under § 16-25-20 and § 20-4-20 (Protection from Abuse Act).

Intimate partner violence is not limited to the relationships identified in our current statutes. Persons who experience domestic violence within a dating relationship in which there is no cohabitation are unable to access an order of protection and the criminal charges that can be applied do not carry the collateral consequences of domestic violence convictions.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Survey other states’ laws to examine how these jurisdictions provide protection orders to individuals in dating relationships, and how dating relationships are codified.
- Utilize the information collected to support legislative measures that expand the definition of household member to protect victims of intimate partner violence who cannot currently access legal remedies and assistance.

#### Allow for creation of address confidentiality

South Carolina does not currently have an address confidentiality program that enables victims/survivors of domestic violence seeking to establish safety in their new homes after fleeing violence. S. 193 and H. 3468 are companion bills currently residing in committee that address this issue.

#### **Recommendation:**

- The Committee endorses passage of legislation by the General Assembly that would allow for the creation of an Address Confidentiality program housed at the Office of the Attorney General whereby victims of domestic violence can continue to receive mail without revealing their new place of residence on publicly accessible lists



## The year ahead

The S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee has plotted its course for 2020 and has identified three points of emphasis for its work.

- 1. The Advisory Committee will continue to invite presentations from Fatality Review Committees to glean possible recommendations and to help ensure the committees themselves continue to function.**

Fatality Review Committee presentations to the S.C. Domestic Violence Advisory Committee have been useful in several respects. They provide accountability and positive motivation for the committees by making it clear to Fatality Review Committee members that others beyond their immediate jurisdictions take interest in their work and that its influence extends beyond their immediate circles. Additionally, the interaction between the Fatality Review presenters and others in attendance at the Domestic Violence Advisory Committee meetings is an opportunity to exchange ideas and put fresh eyes on cases. And, of course, reports from the field help ensure the Advisory Committee is considering input from many disciplines and geographic locations in formulating its recommendations.

- 2. The Advisory Committee will research effects of strangulation laws throughout the nation, with an eye toward a possible recommendation in its 2021 report.**

Non-fatal strangulation – usually defined as impeding the airway or blood circulation – has long been recognized as an important risk factor for homicide of women.<sup>1</sup> Indeed, the pressure applied to the throat of a victim can cause loss of consciousness in five to 10 seconds and death within a few minutes. Recognition of its seriousness has spread across the country, resulting in criminal laws specific to strangulation in at least 45 states since 2010, the Family Justice Center Alliance reported in 2019. Typically, this entails prosecuting strangulation as a more serious offense than a misdemeanor simple assault.

South Carolina does not have a law that specifically addresses strangulation, however, in its 2015 revision of domestic-violence law, strangulation became an enhancement that elevates an offense that would otherwise be considered third-degree criminal domestic violence to second-degree criminal domestic violence.

While the correlation between strangulation incidents and homicide of women in domestic disputes is by now well established, it is not clear the same can be said for the efficacy of anti-strangulation laws. The Committee will seek to study the effect of such laws where they have been adopted, to determine if similar legislation is appropriate for South Carolina.

- 3. The Advisory Committee will assess training for judges, including, but not limited to, magistrates.**

In the past several years, the Advisory Committee has been presented anecdotal evidence from many sources suggesting that the benefits of changes to the law, improvements in law-enforcement policies

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<sup>1</sup> Glass, Nancy, PhD; Kathryn Loughton, PhD; Jacquelyn Campbell, PhD; Anna D. Wolf; Carolyn Rebecca Block; Ginger Hanson, MS; Phyllis W. Sharps, PhD, RN; and Ellen Taliaferro, MD. “Non-fatal strangulation is an important risk factor for homicide of women,” U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, Oct. 25, 2007, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2573025/>.

and enhanced victim services are diminished when judges' decisions are not adequately informed. This might take the form of confusion about the intent of South Carolina's domestic violence law, underestimation of the threat posed to a victim by a cohabitating partner when considering bond terms, or failing to dig deeper into a case history in criminal offenses that, on the surface, seem to have little to do with domestic violence.

However, this evidence is indeed anecdotal. The Committee intends to make a more thorough examination of these issues and the training provided to judges to ensure they are equipped with the information they need to rule lawfully and in a manner most conducive to public safety.

## Appendix



# SC Violent Death Reporting System (SCVDRS): Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Module

Brittney White  
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Healthy People. **Healthy Communities.**



# What is Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)?

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV):  
physical, sexual, or psychological  
harm by a current or  
former partner or  
spouse<sup>1</sup>

**1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men** have  
experienced IPV in  
their lifetime.<sup>1</sup>

This type of violence  
can occur among  
heterosexual or  
same-sex couples  
and does not require  
sexual intimacy.<sup>1</sup>

Includes **physical  
violence, sexual  
violence, stalking,  
and psychological  
aggression**<sup>1</sup>



## IPV Module Overview

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The NVDRS allows states to capture data on homicides and legal interventions classified as IPV incidents.

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IPV incidents are defined as incidents in which violence or the threat of violence by a person against his or her current or former intimate partner results in the violent death of one or more people.

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It also captures the death of a third party that is directly linked to the intimate partner (ex. child, friend of the victim, bystander) or killed due to the conflict between the partners (ex. law enforcement officer).

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Funding: CDC 19-1905 for NVDRS; none specific to this module





South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Healthy People. Healthy Communities.

## Key Stakeholders

SC Coalition  
Against Domestic  
Violence  
and Sexual Assault

Data Partners:  
DHEC Vital Records  
Coroners, Sheriffs,  
Police Departments

USC Dept of  
Criminology and  
Criminal Justice

SC Suicide  
Prevention  
Coalition

American  
Foundation for  
Suicide Prevention

SLED Assistance  
Program

SC State Child  
Fatality Advisory  
Committee

DHEC Divisions  
and Programs

National Guard

CDC



# NVDRS Data Abstraction Process

Death Certificate

Coroner Report

Law Enforcement  
Report

Supplemental  
Reports  
(toxicology,  
official press  
release)

Standard  
Modules:  
Demographics,  
Injury and Death,  
Circumstances,  
Weapons,  
Suspects



What data can the module capture?

- Identification of the IPV Incident Type, IPV Victim, and IPV Perpetrator
- Incident Characteristics
- System Response
- Criminal History of Victim and Perpetrator
- Health and Substance Abuse of Victim and Perpetrator
- Relationship Characteristics
- Restraining Order Information

What can be abstracted from our current data sources?

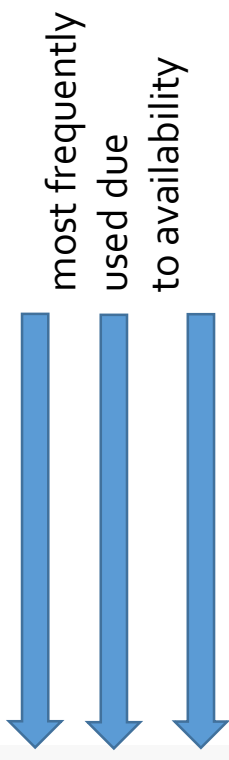
- It varies per case depending on the amount of data given on the death certificate, CME, and/or police report.



# IPV Data Abstraction Process: Data Sources Used

**Data Sources**

- Death Certificate
- Coroner/Medical Examiner report
- Police report
- SHR or NIBRS data
- Crime lab report
- Gun trace report
- Hospital/ED reports
- Court or prosecutor records
- Restraining order records
- Criminal history database
- DVFRT report
- Newspaper reports
- Other data sources



Secondary Sources:  
Official press releases  
and  
Hospital/ED reports

# Data being captured in the IPV Module

**Identification**

IPV Incident Type

IPV Victim

IPV Perpetrator

## IPV Incident Type

- Type 1: Individual killed by a current or former intimate partner
- Type 2: Homicide that is directly related to a current or former IP relationship
- Type 3: IP-Associated, no evidence of violence in the intimate partner relationship itself, but homicide is directly related to an IP relationship

**Incident Characteristics**

Evidence of premeditation

Homicide during argument

During child drop-off/pick-up



# Data being captured in IPV Module

Restraining Order	Criminal History	Victim	Perpetrator	System Response
Restraining order ever Q Type here to search	Prior arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Prior arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Prior arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Warrant issued for the suspect Q Type here to search
Restraining order at time of incident Q Type here to search	Type of arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Type of arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Type of arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Suspect arrested in this incident Q Type here to search
Restraining order type Q Type here to search	Type if other	Type if other	Type if other	Suspect arrested but fled Q Type here to search
Restraining order issue date Month Day Year MM DD YYYY	Prior conviction(s) Q Type here to search	Prior conviction(s) Q Type here to search	Prior conviction(s) Q Type here to search	Suspect charged as perpetrator in this death Q Type here to search
Restraining order served Q Type here to search	Type of conviction(s) Q Type here to search	Type of conviction(s) Q Type here to search	Type of conviction(s) Q Type here to search	Suspect convicted Q Type here to search
Person(s) protected by restraining Q Type here to search	Type if other	Type if other	Type if other	Suspect convicted of original charge Q Type here to search
	Prior IPV arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Prior IPV arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Prior IPV arrest(s) Q Type here to search	Suspect died following the incident Q Type here to search





# Data being captured in IPV Module

Health/Substance Abuse	Relationship
<b>Victim</b>	<b>Relationship Characteristics</b>
Physical illness Q Type here to search	Cohabitation status Q Type here to search
Diagnosis of physical illness	Relationship length number of units ###
Disability Q Type here to search	Unit of time used in relationship IPV Q Type here to search
Disability was physical Q Type here to search	Breakup or breakup in progress Q Type here to search
Disability was developmental Q Type here to search	Length of breakup in specified units ##
Disability was sensory Q Type here to search	Breakup length unit Q Type here to search
Alcohol use suspected Q Type here to search	Children under 18 living at home Q Type here to search
Drug use suspected Q Type here to search	# of children under 18 living at home ##
	Any children not offspring of IPV Perpetrator Q Type here to search
	Any children not offspring of IPV Victim Q Type here to search
	Number of children exposed to homicide ##
	Number of children 5 or younger exposed to homicide ##
	Use of child as shield during incident Q Type here to search
	Child intervened during the incident Q Type here to search



# Observations from IPV Module

## Other sources

- Restraining order records
- Court records
- Criminal history database
- Hospital/ED records



## Missing Data

- Restraining order variables
- System response variables
- Criminal history variables
- Disability variables





# National Statistics on IPV Related Circumstances

## MOST COMMON:

- Weapon = firearm<sup>7</sup>
- Place of injury/death = home/residence<sup>7</sup>
- Circumstances = argument and jealousy<sup>7</sup>
- 54.4% of incidents involved another crime in progress at time of the incident (e.g., assault/homicide, rape/sexual assault).<sup>7</sup>
- Previous IPV = strongest predictor for IP homicide.<sup>6</sup>
- Other risk factors include:
  - unemployment
  - access to firearms
  - estrangement
  - a stepchild in the home
  - previous mental health problems of the perpetrator.<sup>6</sup>

• NVDRS also captures the intimate partner problem variable for suicides due to divorce, breakup, jealousy, conflict or other problem with a current or former intimate partner.<sup>3</sup>



# IPV-related female homicide victims



92% of female homicide victims are murdered by someone they knew. More than half are killed by a current or former intimate partner.<sup>3,7</sup>

1 out of 10 IPV-related female homicide victims experienced some form of violence in the month preceding their death.<sup>3,7</sup>

About 54.3% of pregnancy-associated suicides involved IP problems and 45.3% of pregnancy-associated homicides involved IP violence.<sup>3</sup>

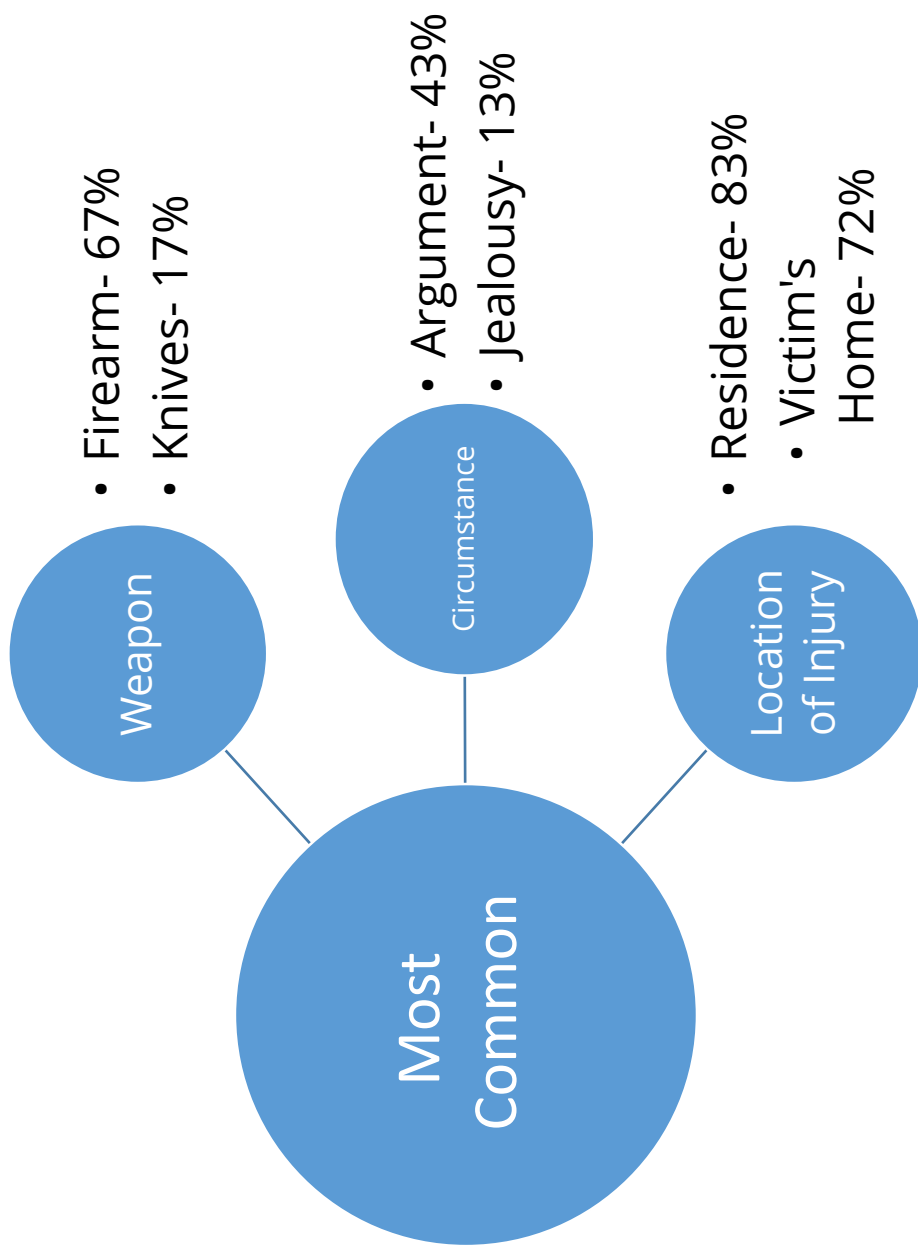
# IPV homicides involving children

- Adhia et al (2019) shows how IPV extends beyond the intimate partners involved through a study that provides data involving deaths of children and how they are currently underreported in NVDRS.<sup>5</sup>
- About 1 in 5 homicides of children 2 to 14 years of age is related to intimate partner violence.<sup>5</sup>
- IPV-related child homicide cases were most commonly triggered by separations, divorce proceedings, and custody issues.<sup>5</sup>
- Compared with other perpetrators of child homicides, IPV-related perpetrators were more likely to be a white male using a firearm, who then died by suicide.<sup>5</sup>
- Nearly half of victims who were family members of the suspect were minors, and more than one third were elementary school aged or younger.<sup>6</sup>



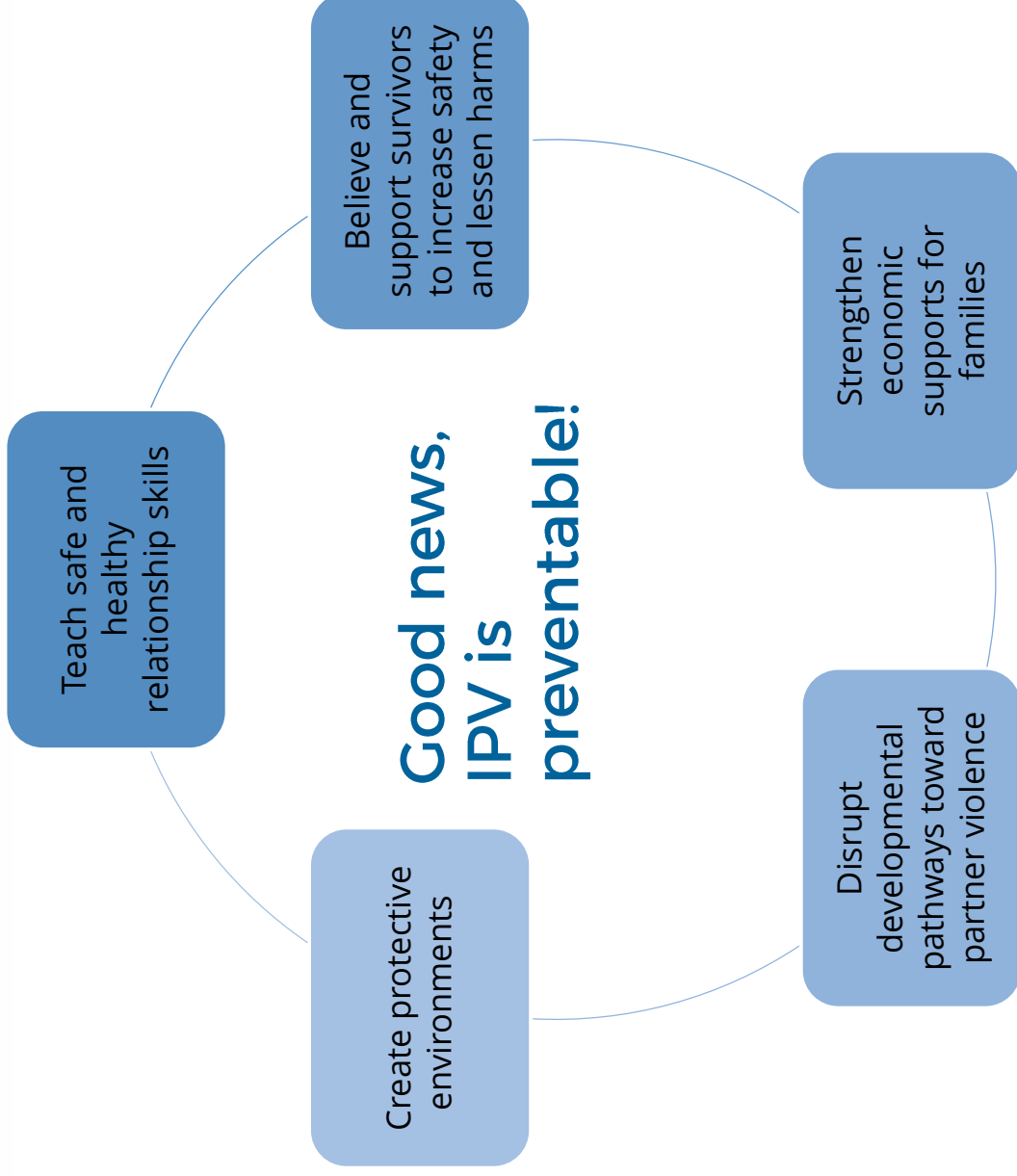
# IPV-Related Incidents, SCVDRS 2017<sup>2</sup>

**54 violent deaths were coded as IPV incidents**





Variable	Female Homicide Victims (N=27)	Male Homicide Victims (N=27)
Murder-Suicide	11 incidents	0 incidents
Race of Victim	14 white females 12 African American females 1 Hispanic female	14 white males 12 African American males 1 Hispanic male
Age of Victim	Less than 18: 0 18 to 34 years: 11 35 to 64 years: 12 65 and older: 4	Less than 18: 2 18 to 34 years: 9 35 to 64 years: 15 65 and older: 1
Sex of Suspect	27 male suspects	13 male suspects 12 female suspects 2 unknown sex
Victim-Suspect Relationship	100% were current/former intimate IP	48% were current/former intimate IP 22% were other family member or person known to victim 30% unknown relationship







South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control  
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## Resources



Visit [www.sccadvasa.org](http://www.sccadvasa.org) to find intervention services for victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in your county.

The advocates at the Hotline are available 24/7/365 to take your calls at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

They also offer live chat services via the website 24/7/365: [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org).

The National Domestic Violence  
**HOTLINE**  
1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)



## Sources

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S.C. Department of Health  
and Environmental Control

## **Budget Justification**

### **Personnel**

Christi Metcalfe, principal investigator, will oversee the project and lead the domestic violence pipeline and recidivism study in South Carolina's 14<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. Dr. Mancik, co-principal investigator, will oversee the statewide study of domestic violence related homicides covering 1992 through 2018. Dr. Brame will donate time to help with the planning and execution of both studies. Together, the PI and co-PI will supervise 3 graduate research assistants (GRAs).

We are requesting total salary and fringes of \$95,488.69 for Dr. Metcalfe and \$66,638.70 for Dr. Mancik covering academic years 2020-21 and 2021-22, as well as summers 2020, 2021, and 2022. A 3% cost of living adjustment has been assumed.

Three graduate assistants (to be appointed) will devote 20 hours per week to the project throughout the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years, as well as 20 hours per week during summers 2020 and 2021. These students will be responsible for supporting the efforts of Drs. Metcalfe and Mancik on the project. Responsibilities will include: (1) receiving training and certification in human subjects research; (2) assisting with data collection; (3) securely maintaining databases following the protocols for data collection and storage implemented by Drs. Metcalfe and Mancik; (4) preparing data for archival at the project's conclusion; and (5) assisting with data analysis.

The starting salary for a graduate research assistant in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice is \$18,000/academic year and \$5,940 for the summer term. We are, therefore, requesting total salary and fringes of \$146,596.47 for 3 students. A 3% cost of living adjustment has been assumed for the graduate students.

The pipeline and recidivism study involve collecting court and pretrial intervention data for domestic violence cases. The staff person from the 14<sup>th</sup> Circuit Solicitor's office (to be appointed) is expected to help in this process, including the de-identification of case information. In support of this work, we request a total salary stipend of \$6,000 for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 calendar years.

### **Fringe Benefits**

Fringe benefits have been estimated based on full benefits being paid to all. The current total rate for faculty is 30.09% and the current total rate for Graduate Research Assistants is .55%. The breakdown of faculty fringe benefits includes:

State Retirement: 21.81%

FICA (Social Security): 7.65%

Unemployment Compensation: .03%

Worker's Compensation: .60%

## **Travel**

For the pipeline and recidivism study, travel is expected to the 14<sup>th</sup> Circuit for data collection purposes. For the statewide study of domestic violence related homicides, travel is expected throughout the state for data collection purposes.

We are requesting total travel funds of \$7,000 for Drs. Metcalfe and Mancik to cover the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years, as well as the summers of 2020, 2021, and 2022. We are also requesting total travel funds of \$18,000 for the graduate research assistants for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years, as well as the summers of 2020 and 2021.

## **Tuition Stipend and Health Insurance**

The graduate student tuition stipend is provided in addition to the salary for graduate students, including 15 credits for the academic year and 3 credits for the summer. A health insurance stipend of \$1,000 is also provided. The current tuition rate is \$572.25 per credit hour. It is assumed that the tuition rate will increase by 3% each academic year.

We request tuition and health insurance funds of \$68,730.05 for the graduate research assistants to cover the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years and the summers of 2020 and 2021.

## **Indirect Costs**

Indirect costs are calculated at \$34,050 at an anticipated rate of 10%. Indirect costs include all non-tuition direct costs. Non-tuition direct costs exclude tuition stipends, health insurance stipends, and salary stipend for the staff person from the 14<sup>th</sup> Circuit Solicitor's office.

<b>University of South Carolina Domestic Violence Research project budget</b>										
Total duration of project: 2 1/3 years										
Start date - 07/01/2020    End date - 08/15/2022										
							<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>		<b>Appt</b>	<b>Effort</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Fringe</b>				
Christi Metcalfe	PI	9	20%	79,454	15,891	4,910	\$20,801.06	\$21,425.09		\$42,226.15
Christi Metcalfe	PI	3	16.5%	79,454	13,110	4,051	\$17,160.87	\$17,675.70	\$18,205.97	\$53,042.54
Ashley Mancik	Co-PI	9	10%	71,400	7,140	2,206	\$9,346.26	\$9,626.65		\$18,972.91
Ashley Mancik	Co-PI	9	16.5%	71,400	11,781	3,640	\$15,421.33	\$15,883.97	\$16,360.49	\$47,665.79
TBA	Grad Asst 1	9	100%	18,000	18,000	99	\$18,099.00	\$18,641.97		\$36,740.97
TBA	Grad Asst 1	3	33%	18,000	5,940	33	\$5,972.67	\$6,151.85		\$12,124.52
TBA	Grad Asst 2	9	100%	18,000	18,000	99	\$18,099.00	\$18,641.97		\$36,740.97
TBA	Grad Asst 2	3	33%	18,000	5,940	33	\$5,972.67	\$6,151.85		\$12,124.52
TBA	Grad Asst 3	9	100%	18,000	18,000	99	\$18,099.00	\$18,641.97		\$36,740.97
TBA	Grad Asst 3	3	33%	18,000	5,940	33	\$5,972.67	\$6,151.85		\$12,124.52
TBA	Staff (14th Circuit Solicitor)	9	100%	6,000	6,000		\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00		\$12,000.00
<b>Total Personnel</b>					<b>125,742</b>	<b>15,203</b>	<b>\$140,944.53</b>	<b>\$144,992.86</b>	<b>\$34,566.46</b>	<b>\$320,503.85</b>
<b>Travel</b>										
Christi Metcalfe	PI						3,000	3,000	1,000	
Ashley Mancik	Co-PI						3,000	3,000	1,000	
TBA	Grad Asst 1						3,000	3,000		
TBA	Grad Asst 2						3,000	3,000		
TBA	Grad Asst 3						3,000	3,000		
<b>Total Travel Costs</b>							<b>15,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>\$32,000.00</b>
<b>Tuition Stipend and Health Insurance Stipend</b>										
TBA	Grad Asst 1						11,301	11,610		
TBA	Grad Asst 2						11,301	11,610		
TBA	Grad Asst 3						11,301	11,610		
<b>Total Tuition</b>							<b>33,902</b>	<b>34,829</b>		<b>\$68,730.05</b>
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>							<b>189,846</b>	<b>194,821</b>	<b>36,566</b>	<b>421,234</b>
<b>F&amp;A Costs (10%)</b>							<b>14,994</b>	<b>15,399</b>	<b>3,657</b>	<b>34,050</b>
<b>Total Project Costs</b>							<b>204,840</b>	<b>210,221</b>	<b>40,223</b>	<b>455,284</b>



# Lancaster County Sheriff's Office

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INVESTIGATION CHECKLIST



Case#: \_\_\_\_\_ Reporting Deputy: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Incident report and supplements attached

\_\_\_ NCIC check conducted. Results: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ DV case investigation form:

- \_\_\_ The Scene, \_\_\_ Risk Assessment, \_\_\_ Victim Information
- \_\_\_ Suspect Information, \_\_\_ Prior DV Behaviors, \_\_\_ Stalking
- \_\_\_ Strangulation, \_\_\_ Victim Sheet, \_\_\_ Victim Statement

\_\_\_ Exceptions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Additional Forms: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Body Camera Video tagged with case number

\_\_\_ Pictures attached or forwarded to records

\_\_\_ Evidence sent for processing

Deputy: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### DV Investigator Review:

\_\_\_ 911 Call Requested, \_\_\_ Report Reviewed, \_\_\_ Forensic Interview Request

\_\_\_ Additional Forms Completed and Included, \_\_\_ Medical Records

\_\_\_ Arrest Made/Warrant issued, \_\_\_ Jail Warning Issued

Packet Status:

\_\_\_ Corrections needed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Approved: \_\_\_\_\_



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE INVESTIGATION FORM**

Officer Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Officer #: \_\_\_\_\_ Officer Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ CR: \_\_\_\_\_

Suspect name and DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Victim name and DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE SCENE**

**EVIDENCE**

Physical evidence collected: (ex: torn clothing, broken objects)  Yes  No  
Location collected:  Crime Scene  Hospital  Other  
Photos taken:  Victim  Suspect  Crime Scene  Physical Evidence  
 Witness  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Property damage present?  Yes  No  
If yes, what is the approximate value: \_\_\_\_\_  
Witnesses present during incident:  Yes  No  
Witness statements taken:  Yes  No  
All witness identifying info in report:  Yes  No  
Suspect identified by:  Victim  Witness  
 Suspect on scene  Photo ID completed/collected

**CHILDREN**

Were children present?  Yes  No  
How many? \_\_\_\_\_  
Child: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location during incident: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emotional demeanor: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Child: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location during incident: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emotional demeanor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Use separate sheet for additional children

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

PTS use on!

**OFFICER INSTRUCTIONS:** Please ask the following questions about the current assault. If this incident was not an assault but the suspect has been physically violent toward the victim in the past, answer the questions based upon the last time the suspect was violent towards the victim.

Does the suspect have a prior **domestic** assault that was reported to police (against a partner or the children)?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Does the suspect have a prior **non domestic** assault that was reported to police (against any person other than a partner or the children)?  Yes  No  Unknown

Has the suspect ever been sentenced to 30 days or more of incarceration (full 30 days need not have been served)?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Has the suspect violated a prior or current protection order, bond, parole, or probation?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Did the suspect threaten to physically harm or kill you or anyone else during this incident?  Yes  No  Unknown

What was the threat? \_\_\_\_\_  
Did the suspect do anything to prevent you from leaving during this incident?  Yes  No  Unknown

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you concerned the suspect will assault you or the children in the future?  Yes  No  Unknown

Total number of biological and adopted children (including adult children or children living out of the home):  
Together \_\_\_\_\_  
Suspect \_\_\_\_\_ NOT including shared children  Unknown  
Victim \_\_\_\_\_ NOT including shared children  
(If more than 1 mark "yes")  Yes  No

Do you have a biological child from another relationship?  Yes  No  
Is the suspect violent to people other than you and/or the children?  Yes  No  Unknown

Did the suspect drink **alcohol** just before or during this assault?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Did the suspect use **drugs** just before or during this assault?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Did the suspect abuse alcohol or drugs in the few days or weeks before this assault?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Did the suspect abuse alcohol or drugs more than usual in the few days or weeks before the assault?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Is the suspect more angry or violent when using drugs or alcohol?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Has the suspect ever been charged for something s/he did when drinking or using drugs?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Has the suspect had an **alcohol** problem at any time since s/he was 18 that resulted in problems in his/her life?  
(ex: legal, financial, work, relationships, health)  Yes  No  Unknown  
Has the suspect had a **drug** problem at any time since s/he was 18 that resulted in problems in his/her life?  
(ex: legal, financial, work, relationships, health)  Yes  No  Unknown

Were you pregnant at the time of the incident?  Yes  No  Unknown  
If yes, did the suspect know/have reason to know?  Yes  No  Unknown  
Did the suspect ever assault you when you were pregnant?  Yes  No

Do you have any children at home ages 18 or younger?  Yes  No  
Do you **lack** access to a telephone?  Yes  No  
Do you **lack** access to transportation?  Yes  No  
Do you **lack** neighbors nearby?  Yes  No  
Were you using alcohol or drugs when this incident occurred?  Yes  No  
Have alcohol or drugs ever caused any problems in your life?  Yes  No

Suspect possesses or has access to weapons  
 Guns  Knives  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Weapon used during incident  
Describe Weapon: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Threats with weapons  
Describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suspect has threatened or attempted suicide  
If so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suspect has made death threats in the past  
 Victim  Pets  Others  
When? \_\_\_\_\_

Separation (recent or past)  
If yes, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suspect is jealous or obsessive about victim  
 Suspect states he will not let victim go  
 Suspect has in the past been restrained from contacting victim or children  
 Suspect is enraged or feels betrayed by victim efforts to leave  
 Abuse has become more frequent  
 Suspect controls victim's daily activities  
 Victim broken bones (prior)  
 Victim hospitalization/ER (prior)  
 Pet Abuse (prior)  
 Child Abuse (prior)

Suspect not:  Sleeping  Eating  Working  
Suspect loss of:  Housing  Job  Loved one  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suspect suffers from mental/emotional conditions (ex: depression)  
 Is taking medication  
 Has taken medication  
 Compliant with prescription  
Diagnosis: \_\_\_\_\_

SCORE

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R  
A



<b>Suspect:</b>	<b>Victim:</b>	<b>CR:</b>	<b>Agency:</b>
<b>VICTIM INFORMATION</b>			
<b>VICTIM BEHAVIOR (as witnessed by officer):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Calm <input type="checkbox"/> Crying <input type="checkbox"/> Minimizing <input type="checkbox"/> Agitated <input type="checkbox"/> Numb <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous <input type="checkbox"/> Afraid <input type="checkbox"/> Angry <input type="checkbox"/> Apologetic <input type="checkbox"/> Distraught <input type="checkbox"/> Reluctant <input type="checkbox"/> Flat affect <input type="checkbox"/> Threatening <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  Involved? <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs		<b>VICTIM INJURIES?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <b>SBI Form?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, <input type="checkbox"/> Complaint of Pain <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Cuts <input type="checkbox"/> Fractures <input type="checkbox"/> Bruise(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Lacerations <input type="checkbox"/> Concussion <input type="checkbox"/> Abrasions <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ Medical Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> EMS <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Release signed by victim <input type="checkbox"/> Medical witness info in report	
<b>RELATIONSHIP TO SUSPECT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Former cohabitants <input type="checkbox"/> Same sex partner <input type="checkbox"/> Former spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Dating/Engaged <input type="checkbox"/> Emancipated minor <input type="checkbox"/> Cohabitants <input type="checkbox"/> Former dating <input type="checkbox"/> Child in common  Length of Relationship: _____ Years _____ Months If applicable, date relationship ended: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Victim has pets: _____		<b>DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Kicking <input type="checkbox"/> Slapping-open hand <input type="checkbox"/> Throwing objects <input type="checkbox"/> Pushing <input type="checkbox"/> Grabbing <input type="checkbox"/> Hitting-closed fist <input type="checkbox"/> Violation of PO <input type="checkbox"/> Biting <input type="checkbox"/> Strangulation <input type="checkbox"/> Suffocation/Restricted Breathing <input type="checkbox"/> Stalking <input type="checkbox"/> Non consent sex <input type="checkbox"/> Fear for Life <input type="checkbox"/> Weapons <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ Suspect Demeanor: _____	
<b>EMERGENCY CONTACT: Tell victim info NOT confidential</b> Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____		<b>AT RISK ADULTS: (18-6.5-102)</b> Is the victim 70 years or older? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Does the victim have a disability? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, describe: _____	

<b>SUSPECT INFORMATION</b>			
<b>Suspect Behavior (as witnessed by officer)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Calm <input type="checkbox"/> Crying <input type="checkbox"/> Minimizing <input type="checkbox"/> Agitated <input type="checkbox"/> Numb <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous <input type="checkbox"/> Afraid <input type="checkbox"/> Angry <input type="checkbox"/> Apologetic <input type="checkbox"/> Distraught <input type="checkbox"/> Reluctant <input type="checkbox"/> Flat affect <input type="checkbox"/> Threatening <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  Involved? <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs		<b>SUSPECT INJURIES?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, <input type="checkbox"/> Complaint of Pain <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Cuts <input type="checkbox"/> Fractures <input type="checkbox"/> Bruise(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Lacerations <input type="checkbox"/> Concussion <input type="checkbox"/> Abrasions <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ Medical Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> EMS <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Declined	

<b>SUSPECT PRIOR DV BEHAVIORS</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Isolation	<input type="checkbox"/> Coercion	<input type="checkbox"/> Threatens to take children	<input type="checkbox"/> Controls money
<input type="checkbox"/> Throwing things	<input type="checkbox"/> Hitting	<input type="checkbox"/> Damage property	<input type="checkbox"/> Biting
<input type="checkbox"/> Strangulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Stalking	<input type="checkbox"/> Non Consent Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Violation of PO
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			<input type="checkbox"/> Name calling
			<input type="checkbox"/> Kicking
			<input type="checkbox"/> Prior DV witnessed by children
			<input type="checkbox"/> Intimidation
			<input type="checkbox"/> Pushing/grabbing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Prevented report
Approximate number of prior incidents (reported and unreported) _____		Number of prior incidents reported to Law Enforcement: _____	

<b>STALKING</b>			
Is there a current Protection Order protecting victim from suspect: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No      If yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Civil <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal			
<input type="checkbox"/> Repeated communication, repeatedly following, approaching, contacting or surveying <b>plus</b> at least one of the following:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Resulting in serious emotional distress <b>and/or</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Credible threat (credible threat = threat, physical action or repeated conduct causing fear)			
The victim has changed his/her phone, address, job, normal routine, etc.: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			

<b>STRANGULATION/SUFFOCATION</b>			
<b>STRANGULATION METHOD:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> One hand: Circle Right or Left	<input type="checkbox"/> Both Hands	<input type="checkbox"/> Forearm	<input type="checkbox"/> Knee/Foot
<input type="checkbox"/> Suffocation/Restricted Breathing using: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Choke-hold	<input type="checkbox"/> Object: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
Did the suspect put anything on your face, neck or chest to prevent your breathing? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown Describe: _____			
How many times do you remember being strangled (this incident only)? _____			
Pressure of strangulation (on a scale of 1-10, 10 being the most pressure, how hard was the suspect's grip?): _____			
Approximate length of strangulation: _____ What did you think was going to happen? _____			
What caused the suspect to stop? _____			
Position of the suspect in relation to the victim (ex: face to face, from behind, on the ground, sat on chest, etc.): _____			
Position of the victim during the strangulation (ex: on the ground, standing up, against a wall, etc.): _____			
Words spoken by suspect <b>before</b> strangulation: _____			
Words spoken by suspect <b>during</b> strangulation: _____			
Words spoken by suspect <b>after</b> strangulation: _____			
Suspect facial expression and demeanor during strangulation: _____			
What else did the suspect do while strangling you? _____			
Were you able to speak during the strangulation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No      If yes, what did you say? _____			
Were you able to do anything physical to stop the strangulation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No      If yes, what? _____			

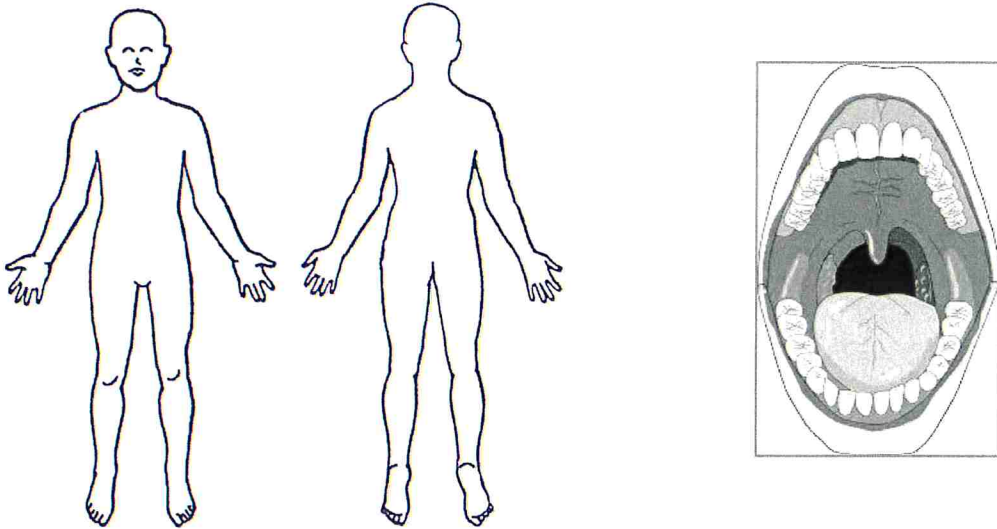
<b>LOCATION OF INJURIES:</b>		<b>DESCRIPTION OF INJURIES:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scalp	<input type="checkbox"/> Behind ears	<input type="checkbox"/> Jaw	<input type="checkbox"/> Face
<input type="checkbox"/> Eyelids	<input type="checkbox"/> Eyes	<input type="checkbox"/> Nose	<input type="checkbox"/> Lips
<input type="checkbox"/> In mouth/throat	<input type="checkbox"/> Chin	<input type="checkbox"/> Under Chin	<input type="checkbox"/> Neck
<input type="checkbox"/> Shoulder	<input type="checkbox"/> Chest	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Redness	<input type="checkbox"/> Swelling on neck
		<input type="checkbox"/> Finger/hand marks	<input type="checkbox"/> Lumps on neck
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ligature marks	<input type="checkbox"/> Bruising
		<input type="checkbox"/> Blood in eyeball	<input type="checkbox"/> Eyelid droop
		<input type="checkbox"/> Tiny red marks (petechiae) Where? _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Scrapes
			<input type="checkbox"/> Scratch marks
			<input type="checkbox"/> Hair missing
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

<b>THE VICTIM EXPERIENCED:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Thrown against the wall/floor/etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Hyperventilation	<input type="checkbox"/> Dizziness	<input type="checkbox"/> Numbness
<input type="checkbox"/> Shaken by suspect	<input type="checkbox"/> Need to clear throat	<input type="checkbox"/> Faintness	<input type="checkbox"/> Tingling in lips, arms or legs
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Changing pitch of voice	<input type="checkbox"/> Blurry vision	<input type="checkbox"/> Nausea
<input type="checkbox"/> Pain/tender throat/neck	<input type="checkbox"/> Raspy voice	<input type="checkbox"/> Balance/coordination changes	<input type="checkbox"/> Vomiting/dry heaving
<input type="checkbox"/> Headache/head throb	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoarseness	<input type="checkbox"/> Memory Loss	<input type="checkbox"/> Involuntary urination
<input type="checkbox"/> Pain/trouble when swallowing	<input type="checkbox"/> Coughing	<input type="checkbox"/> Felt limp	<input type="checkbox"/> Involuntary defecation
<input type="checkbox"/> Trouble breathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of consciousness/blackout	<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing changes	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Trouble catching breath	<input type="checkbox"/> "Saw Stars"	<input type="checkbox"/> Disoriented	

**INJURIES – THIS PAGE TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VICTIM**

1. I have physically pointed out to the officer where I was injured
2. I have also indicated on the diagram where I was injured
3. I was able to physically point out to the officer who injured me
  - a. If no, I have shown a photo of the suspect to the officer
4. I have physically pointed out to the officer the object used to injure me
5. Do you understand all of the questions?

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |



BODY DIAGRAMS <i>Draw all injuries observed</i>		
<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Top of Head</p>	<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Front</p>	<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Neck &amp; Chin</p>
<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Left Side</p>	<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Right Side</p>	<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Back of Head</p>

Victim Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Officer indicated victim's responses because victim unable to mark this portion







# **Lancaster County Sheriff's Office**

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE and Other Victims Medical Release Statement**



**Victim:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Victim Advocate:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Case No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Having been advised of my right to refuse, I hereby consent to the release of my medical records limited to the date(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ for law enforcement, the Solicitor's Office, or city/county/state attorney working on behalf or in the capacity of law enforcement.

**Victim Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Disclosure of protected health information to law enforcement is authorized under certain conditions as specified in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996. Authorized disclosures are found in Code §§164.512(a), 164.512(c), 164.512(e), 164.512(f)(2-5), 164.512(j) and (j)(6), and 164.512(k)(5).**

# **SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON PROSECUTION COORDINATION**

## **Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Protocol<sup>1</sup>**

### **I. Authority and Purpose**

In 2016, the South Carolina General Assembly enacted 2016 S.C. Act 147 (R151, H4666), requiring each of South Carolina's 16 Judicial Circuit Solicitors to establish an interagency circuit-wide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee. The mandate of the Committees is to assist local agencies in identifying and reviewing domestic violence deaths, including homicides and suicides, and to facilitate communication among the various agencies involved in domestic violence cases pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 25 of Title 16 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, and any other relevant provision of law.

### **II. Mission**

The mission of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees is to improve the coordinated statewide response to and prevention of domestic violence and domestic violence related fatalities in South Carolina through public education and training of those involved in identifying and responding to domestic violence. The Committees will identify and review domestic violence-related deaths to recommend changes to laws, policies, and procedures, and to improve communication, coordination, and collaboration among state agencies to improve the statewide response to domestic violence.

### **II. Judicial Circuit Committee Membership and Structure**

- A. Committee members are appointed by and may be removed, with or without cause, by the Judicial Circuit Solicitor. Committee members serve either for a fixed term set by the Circuit Solicitor or at the will of the Solicitor. While cause is not necessary for removal of a Committee member, one example of cause warranting removal is failure to attend meetings or contribute to the work of the Committee in a meaningful way.
- B. Committees shall consist of no more than 30 members and no less than six members.
- C. The Circuit Solicitor shall make Committee appointments in an effort to not only include necessary expertise, but also to be representative of the communities they serve, and Committee membership should represent professional, geographic, age, and racial and ethnic diversity.
- D. The Committee may be comprised of, but is not limited to, the following:
  1. experts in the field of forensic pathology;

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<sup>1</sup> The development of this protocol, under which the Solicitors' interagency circuit-wide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committees must operate in the review of domestic violence fatalities, by the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination is legislatively mandated. See S.C. Code Section 16-25-720(B) (2016). The Commission plans to review and, as necessary, update the protocol on a biennial basis. The protocol were last reaffirmed and approved by the Commission on September 24, 2019.

2. medical personnel with expertise in domestic violence;
  3. coroners and medical examiners;
  4. criminologists;
  5. assistant solicitors;
  6. domestic violence abuse organization staff;
  7. legal aid attorneys who represent victims of abuse;
  8. a representative of the local bar association(s);
  9. local and state law enforcement personnel;
  10. representatives of local agencies that are involved with domestic violence abuse reporting;
  11. county health department staff who deal with domestic violence victims' health issues;
  12. representatives of local child abuse agencies; and
  13. local professional associations of persons described in this subsection.
- E. The Circuit Solicitor may appoint, upon request of the Committee, *ad hoc* members with special knowledge relevant to a case under review, to the Committee for the purpose of a specific case.
- F. Committee appointments are specific and personal, and a Committee member shall not send a substitute to a meeting of or case review conducted by the Committee.
- G. Each Committee member shall sign and comply with the Committee confidentiality agreement (which shall include a duty to report any breaches of confidentiality to the Circuit Solicitor within 24 hours), the requirements of S.C. Code Ann. Section 16-25-740, and any other requirements imposed by law. Committee members shall recuse themselves when they identify a personal conflict of interest.
- H. Additional expectations of Committee members include, but are not limited to, the following:
- 1) Members will attend all committee activities and perform assignments as given or assumed;
  - 2) Members will be courteous and respectful at all times during Committee activities and communicate in a constructive and civil manner;
  - 3) Members will, in good faith, attempt, to complete all tasks assigned to them and, if unable to do so, they will communicate such to the Chair and Coordinator of the committee;
  - 4) Members will come to all meetings with an open mind and adhere to the Mission Statement; and

- 5) Members will strive to reach a consensus on all actions.
- I. Each Committee shall have a Coordinator, who shall be a member of the Circuit Solicitor's Office or designated by the Circuit Solicitor's Office. The Coordinator shall be responsible for taking minutes of the meetings and coordinating and/or drafting reports and other documents produced by the Committee.
  - J. Each Committee shall have a Chair selected by the Circuit Solicitor or, if the Solicitor so chooses, the Committee.
- III. Committee Operation and Product
- A. Committees shall meet at least twice per calendar year, and shall conduct at least one review per calendar year.
  - B. Only deaths in which a criminal investigation is closed and there is not a pending prosecution may be reviewed by a Committee. Deaths that resulted in a criminal prosecution and conviction may not be reviewed until all direct appeals are concluded. For purposes of the work of the committees, "domestic violence related deaths" are not limited to deaths of persons who meet the definition of "household members" as defined in S.C. Code Ann. Section 16-25-20.
  - C. Each Committee and Circuit Solicitor will establish a process to determine which cases are to be reviewed.
  - D. Each Committee and Circuit Solicitor shall establish guidelines for the operation of the Committee that are not inconsistent with either this Protocol or any provision of law.
  - E. The Circuit Solicitor shall educate the Committee members regarding confidentiality requirements and the Committee's mission, duties, and process.
  - F. Meetings of the Committee are closed to the public.
  - G. Committee case reviews and other meetings shall be scheduled sufficiently in advance to allow for Committee members to arrange their schedules.
  - H. If a Committee member is not able to attend during the course of an active review, he or she may not send a substitute.
  - I. A quorum for purposes of the Committee shall be simple majority of all members of the Committee.
  - J. All guest presenters at a Committee meeting shall be required to sign a confidentiality agreement (to include acknowledgement of violation of confidentiality requirement). A guest presenter is someone, with specialized knowledge or experience, who comes to a meeting long enough to provide information on their area of expertise.
  - K. Committee meetings and case reviews shall be facilitated by the Circuit

Solicitor's designee.

- L. Voting by Committee members shall not be by proxy unless approved in writing in advance by the Circuit Solicitor.
- M. During the review process, no Committee member shall be required to violate his or her professional code of ethics or statutory requirements as they apply to confidentiality.
- N. The Committee Chair and/or any other member of the Committee shall report a violation of the confidentiality requirement, either their own or another person's, to the Circuit Solicitor.
- O. The Circuit Solicitor's Office shall maintain all Committee records.
- P. Committees may communicate electronically, provided that all Committee members take appropriate steps to ensure the confidentiality of such information. At the conclusion of a case review, committee members shall delete any material or information maintained on a computer, email system, or by any other electronic means. Upon the completion of an investigation, any printed copies of information transmitted or shared electronically with Committee members shall be delivered to the Circuit Solicitor's Office and retained pursuant to that office's policies. Committee members shall be reminded that retention of such information and documents is a crime under S.C. Code Ann. Section 16-25-740, and any violator is subject to a fine and/or imprisonment.
- Q. Except as necessary to carry out the committee's purposes and duties, members of the Committee shall not have or keep copies of information, documents, and records subpoenaed or otherwise obtained by or created by the Committee. Upon the conclusion of a case review, any information, documents, and records in the possession of a Committee member shall be delivered to the Circuit Solicitor's Office and retained pursuant to that office's policies. Committee members shall be reminded that retention of such information and documents is a crime under S.C. Code Ann. Section 16-25-740, and any violator is subject to a fine and/or imprisonment.
- R. When appropriate, the Committee may make recommendations, through a majority vote of the members. regarding:
  - 1. training, including cross-agency training, consultation, technical assistance needs, and service gaps that would decrease the likelihood of domestic violence;
  - 2. the need for changes to any statute, regulation, policy, or procedure to decrease the incidences of domestic violence and include proposals for changes to statutes, regulations, policies, and procedures in the committee's annual report;
  - 3. education of the public regarding the incidences and causes of domestic violence, specific steps the public can undertake to prevent domestic

violence, and the support that civic, philanthropic, and public service organizations can provide in assisting the committee to educate the public;

4. training of medical examiners, coroners, law enforcement, and other emergency responders on the causes and identification of domestic violence incidents, indicators, and injuries; and
5. development and implementation of policies and procedures for its own governance and operation.

Any recommendations approved by the Committee shall be submitted, through the Circuit Solicitor's Office, to the South Carolina Domestic Violence Advisory Committee and the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination.

- S. The Committee shall submit an annual report that includes:
1. Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for that calendar year, to be listed by County;
  2. Number of fatality reviews conducted by the Committee that calendar year, indicating the number completed and the number ongoing;
  3. Updates on prior recommendations, tracking results/outcomes;
  4. Any new recommendations the Committee, by majority vote, makes, along with any suggestions or efforts to implement the recommendations;
  5. Efforts by the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence;
  6. Domestic violence services, for both victims and offenders, available in the Judicial Circuit (with contact information);
  7. Any other information requested in the Annual Report form created by the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination.

The Committee's annual report shall be submitted by December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, through the Circuit Solicitor's Office, to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination. The Commission shall create a document containing the annual reports of all 16 Committees and forward to the South Carolina Domestic Violence Advisory Committee and other appropriate entities. The combined annual report shall also be posted on the Commission's website.

- T. The South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination shall develop standard confidentiality, correspondence, and annual report forms for use by the Committees. If necessary and appropriate, the Commission shall work with Supreme Court of South Carolina on the creation of an order or subpoena that can be used to satisfy HIPAA and any other state or federal laws requiring a court order or subpoena for disclosure.

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> First	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases**

List Each County in Circuit	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).
Dorchester	0
Orangeburg	0
Calhoun	0

**B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews**

1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0
2. How many committee meetings were held?	1
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	all
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	no
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	none
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	no
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	none
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	yes
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	yes
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	no
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	n/a


**C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations**

Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.

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**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	First	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>		
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.		
More of a direct response to services available to DV victims (especially financial resources)		
<b>E. Public Education</b>		
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.		
Getting info out through law enforcement re: safe houses and resources		
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.		
My Sister's House 843-744-3242 tonya@mysistershouse.com		
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.		
Domestic Abuse Hotline - 800-799-7233; Citizens Opposed to DV 843-770-1070 (all provide counseling and transportation to safe house)		
<b>H. Other Information</b>		
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.		
<b>SUBMISSION</b>		
Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to aclifford@cpc.sc.gov.		
Prepared by:		
Sheila Mims		Assistant Solicitor
		1/6/2019

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> First	<b>Year: 2018</b>
140 N. Main St. Summerville, SC 29483	

## Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	Second	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
Aiken	3	
Barnwell	1	
Bamberg	0	
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1	
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0	
2. How many committee meetings were held?	4	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	No	
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	No	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	0	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	No	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	0	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	Yes	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	Yes	
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	No	
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	No	
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	No	
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
None Prior		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Second	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**D. New Recommendations**

Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.

Develop a Form for the Magistrate's Court, Law Enforcement and/or Providers to share information about potential DV signs; Make information about Domestic Abuse Centers more widely available and have a dedicated Domestic Violence Investigator at all law enforcement agencies.

**E. Public Education**

Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.

None

**F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office**

Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.

CASA in Orangeburg County, 658 John C. Calhoun Drive, Orangeburg, SC, for Bamberg County DV cases. Axis I in Barnwell, 1644 Jackson Street, Barnwell, SC, for Barnwell County DV cases. DAC in Cayce, 989 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce, SC, for all Aiken County DV cases.

**G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims**

Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.

Cumbee Center in Aiken, 254 Beaufort Street NE, Aiken, SC, for all Barnwell and Aiken County DV cases. CASA in Orangeburg , 658 John C. Calhoun Drive, Orangeburg, SC, for all Bamberg County cases.


**H. Other Information**

Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.

**SUBMISSION**  
**Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to [aclifford@cpc.sc.gov](mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov).**

Prepared by:

Jack W. Hammack, Jr.	Assistant Solicitor
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Signature: 	Date: 12/28/2018
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## Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Second	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Second Circuit Solicitor's Office, PO Drawer 3368, Aiken, SC 29802 (803) 642-1512 211 York Street NE, Suite 6, Aiken, SC 29802	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases**

List Each County in Circuit	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).
SUMTER	1
CLARENDON	0
LEE	0
WILLIAMSBURG	3

**B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews**

1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0
2. How many committee meetings were held?	2
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	No
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	yes
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	1
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	NA
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	NA
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	no
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	yes
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	no
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	NA

**C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations**

Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.

NA

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>	
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.	
Law Enforcement should be meticulous in retaining video recordings. Community reporting of domestic violence incidents should be encouraged.	
<b>E. Public Education</b>	
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.	
None	
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>	
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.	
YWCA 803-773-7158 246 Church Street Sumter SC 29150 Yolanda Debra Wilson, Director LRC H.P.McFadden, Counselor 803-740-9298 Rast Street Sumter SC	
<b>H. Other Information</b>	
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.	
It is difficult to overcome busy schedules and geographic distances so that all members may participate in review sessions. Perhaps a statewide day of review for all circuits with break out sessions would ensure at least one review session per circuit could be completed each year	
<b>SUBMISSION</b>	
<b>Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov">aclifford@cpc.sc.gov</a>.</b>	
Margaret McClurkin Held	
Name:	Title:
Signature:	Date:

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>Address and contact information:</b>	



**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: Fourth</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases**

<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	<b>Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).</b>
Chesterfield	2
Darlington	2
Dillon	4
Marlboro	2

**B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews**

1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	0
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	1
2. How many committee meetings were held?	1
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	No
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	No
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	No
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	

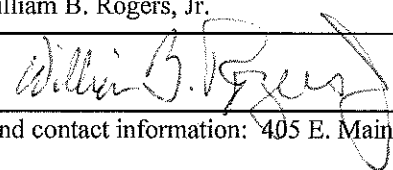
**C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations**

Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.

A complete review was not completed due to unforeseen circumstances; Hurricane Florence. The main office in Bennettsville had to be relocated due to the damage caused by Hurricane Florence. For close to two months, during the clean-up, renovating, and relocating we were operating out of make-shift offices and from other office locations. We were unable to complete a review or add/change committee members.

**D. New Recommendations**

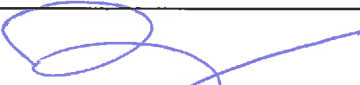
**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: Fourth</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.	
Make changes to the committee by adding/changing members.	
<b>E. Public Education</b>	
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.	
Participated in and co-hosted trainings and events with Pee Dee Coalition. Quarterly meetings were conducted with Pee Dee Coalition. Implemented a victim assistance section on our website. In the process of updating our website to include DV information for the Fourth Circuit.	
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>	
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.	
List attached.	
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>	
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.	
List attached.	
<b>H. Other Information</b>	
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.	
<b>SUBMISSION</b>	
Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:acifford@cpc.sc.gov">acifford@cpc.sc.gov</a> .	
Prepared by: Jessica M. Hammonds	
Name: William B. Rogers, Jr.	Title: Solicitor
Signature: 	Date: 1/7/19
Address and contact information: 405 E. Main Street, PO Box 616, Bennettsville, SC 29512	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: 5th</b>		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
Richland	n/a	
Kershaw	n/a	
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	0	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	0	
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0	
2. How many committee meetings were held?	0	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	n/a	
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	n/a	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	n/a	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	n/a	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	n/a	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	n/a	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	n/a	
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	n/a	
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	n/a	
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	n/a	
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
n/a		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: 5th</b>		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>		
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.		
n/a		
<b>E. Public Education</b>		
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.		
n/a		
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.		
Domestic Abuse Center, 989 Knox Abbott Dr, Cayce, SC 29033, 803-791-1322		
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.		
Sistercare, 1820 Morlaine Rd, Cayce, SC 29033 803-765-9428		
<b>H. Other Information</b>		
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.		
For reasons that go beyond the scope of this review, this Committee regrettably did not meet in 2018. With a new Solicitor coming into office in just a few days, I would anticipate a fully functional committee in 2019.		
<b>SUBMISSION</b>		
Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov">aclifford@cpc.sc.gov</a> .		
Prepared by:		
Name: Dan Goldberg		Title: Deputy Solicitor
Signature: 		Date: 1/7/19

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

**Judicial Circuit: 5th**

**Year: 2018**

Address and contact information:

1701 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201, 803-576-1800, goldbergd@rcgov.us


**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> SIXTH		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
CHESTER	0	
FAIRFIELD	0	
LANCASTER	1 (Suicide and attempted double-suicide.)	
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1.Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	0	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?		
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?		
2. How many committee meetings were held?	0	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?		
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	n/a	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?		
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?		
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?		
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	n/a	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?		
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?		
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	n/a	
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?		
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
None.		
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	SIXTH	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.		
None.		
<b>E. Public Education</b>		
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.		
None.		
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.		
<p>Three Trees Center for Change, Rock Hill, SC – provides classes for offenders throughout the week 1705 Cherry Road, Rock Hill, SC 803-207-0558 <a href="https://stopdroptink.com">https://stopdroptink.com</a></p> <p>Domestic Abuse Center, Cayce, SC – provides classes for offenders in Lancaster one day a week. 989 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce, SC 29033 803-791-1322 <a href="http://www.domesticabusecenter.net">www.domesticabusecenter.net</a></p>		
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.		
<p>All via the 6th Circuit Solicitor's Office:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Victim Advocacy Services., ie., courtroom accompaniment, Assistance in completion of Victim Impact Statement.</li> <li>2. Assistance In completion of application to State office of Victim Assistance and SC Victim Assistance Network Emergency Funds.</li> <li>3. Referral to domestic violence shelters</li> <li>4. Referral to Family Court services for Order of Protections and Restraining Order</li> <li>5. Transportation to court hearings and relocation to shelters.</li> </ol> <p>Safe Passage, Rock Hill, SC – Shelter and counseling services for DV victims 104 Oakland Ave, Rock Hill, SC 29730 803-329-3336 <a href="http://www.safepassagesc.org">www.safepassagesc.org</a></p> <p>Palmetto Citizens Against Sexual Assault, Lancaster, SC – counseling services 106 N. York St, Lancaster, SC 29720 803-286-5232 <a href="http://www.palmettocasa.org">www.palmettocasa.org</a></p>		
<b>H. Other Information</b>		
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.		
Lancaster Sheriff sends Deputy Black to Crime Watch meetings to discuss DV.		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> SIXTH	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>SUBMISSION</b> Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov">aclifford@cpc.sc.gov</a> .	
Prepared by: Ashley A. McMahan	
Name: Ashley A. McMahan	Title: Asst. Solicitor
Signature: 	Date: January 8, 2019
Address and contact information: PO Box 607, Lancaster, SC 29721 803-416-9434 <a href="mailto:ashley.mcmahan@scsolicitor6.org">ashley.mcmahan@scsolicitor6.org</a>	



**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Seventh		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
Spartanburg	7	
Cherokee	3	
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1.Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	0	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	0	
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0	
2. How many committee meetings were held?	0	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	NA	
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	NA	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	NA	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	NA	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	NA	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	NA	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	NA	
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	NA	
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	NA	
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	NA	
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
No updates to report.		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	Seventh	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>		
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.		
<b>E. Public Education</b>		
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.		
The committee supports the HomeFront initiative, a joint state-federal taskforce in the 7th Circuit that uses the focused deterrence model to combat domestic violence. That initiative functions as the public face for most domestic violence work in the Circuit.		
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.		
See attached. To long for this space.		
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.		
SafeHomes/Rape Crisis Counsel – Lynn Hawkins – lynn.hawkins@shrcc.org. SafeHomes offers victims and families services in the Circuit, to include shelter, financial assistance, counseling (group and individual), and legal advocacy. The Child Advocacy Center – Suzy Cole – The CAC offers counseling for abused children. The CAC has multi-disciplinary team meeting where cases are assessed and discussed. The CAC conducts forensic interviews of children to assist with fact-finding.		
<b>H. Other Information</b>		
Please provide any other information the Solicitor’s Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.		
This was a major transition year for us. We are already scheduling our review for 2019 with much more input and participation from Cherokee County.		
<b>SUBMISSION</b>		
<b>Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to aclifford@cpc.sc.gov.</b>		
Prepared by: Jennifer E. Wells		
Name: Jennifer E. Wells	Title: Assistant Solicitor	
Signature: //Jennifer E. Wells	Date: 1/7/2019	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Seventh	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Address and contact information: 180 Magnolia Street, Spartanburg, SC 29306 864-596-2575	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: 8</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases**

<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	<b>Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).</b>
Abbeville	1
Greenwood	3
Laurens	1
Newberry	1

**B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews**

1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0
2. How many committee meetings were held?	1
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	no
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	no
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	none
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	no
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	no
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	all signed their own document
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	at each review meeting
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	no
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	n/a

**C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations**

Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.

no prior recommendations

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: 8</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**D. New Recommendations**

Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.

LE training on best investigation practices and how to approach DV cases: scheduled for mid-March; training for teachers and school guidance counselors to recognize signs of trouble with children in their care.

**E. Public Education**

Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.

n/a

**F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office**

Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.

Cherry McTaggart, Uptown Counseling Professionals, 327 Main St. #500, Greenwood SC 29646; Working Toward Change, Dr. Sue Nickerson, 343 Cambridge Ave W, Greenwood SC 29646; Kervin Searles, Synergy Counseling Group, 210a Birchtree Drive, Greenwood SC 29649; Angela Pruitt, First Steps Greenwood, 1402C Hwy 72 W, Greenwood SC 29649; the Domestic Abuse Center (any location in SC); Barbara Robinson, Cornerstone, 1612 Rivers Street, Greenwood SC 29649; Angela Johanson, Compass of Carolina, 1100 Rutherford Road, Greenville SC 29609; Samuel Etheredge, Samuel Etheredge and Associates, 350 Bryant Road, Spartanburg SC 29303; Sharon Chafin.

**G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims**

Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.

Samantha Black, Beyond Abuse, 115 East Alexander Ave, Greenwood, SC 29646. Individual services for victims and family members.

**H. Other Information**

Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.

**SUBMISSION**


Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to [aclifford@cpc.sc.gov](mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov).

Prepared by:

Name: Carson Penney

Title: Assistant Solicitor

Signature:



Date: 1.6.19

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: 8</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Address and contact information:	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Ninth		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
Charleston		
Berkeley		
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1.Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1	
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0	
2. How many committee meetings were held?	3	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	No	
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	Yes	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	1	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	No	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	N/A	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	Yes	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	No	
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	Yes	
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	Yes	
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	Yes	
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
1 (b). Attempts have been made to implement DV training with the school districts. However, most districts have been resistant. 1(d). The DVCC continues to reach out to local churches and continues DV education. 3(a). The Berkeley County Sheriff's Office now has a dedicated DV investigator.		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	Ninth	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>		
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide referrals at the local jail for mental health treatment if there is an indication of such issues.</li> <li>2. Work with law enforcement to provide training so that officers can recognize a possible domestic violence situation, even if no domestic violence is alleged at the time. For instance, a situation where a household member is present when</li> </ol>		
<b>E. Public Education</b>		
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.		
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.		
See attached list.		
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.		
<b>H. Other Information</b>		
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.		
<b>SUBMISSION</b>		
<b>Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov">aclifford@cpc.sc.gov</a>.</b>		
Prepared by:		
Name:	Title:	
Signature:	Date:	



**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Ninth	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Address and contact information:	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> 10th	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases**

List Each County in Circuit	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).
Anderson	2
Oconee	2

**B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews**

1.Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0
2. How many committee meetings were held?	2
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	No
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	Yes
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	4
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	No
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	NA
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	Yes
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	Yes
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	No, just one for the year
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	Yes
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	Yes

**C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations**

Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.

Our Committee did not make any prior recommendations.

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> 10th	<b>Year:</b> 2018
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**D. New Recommendations**

Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.

Our Committee plans to select a new case to review. We hope to find one that had some type of prior agency involvement within our Circuit. We also plan to more heavily involve the SC Department of Probation, Pardon and Parole since their agency is currently conducting a pilot program for Domestic Violence in our Circuit.

**E. Public Education**

Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.

On Nov 28, 2018, our Coordinating Council hosted a Community Conversation on DV. We invited members of the Fatality Review as well as the public at large to participate. Our meeting focused on identifying services offered for victims as well as identifying any gaps or barriers in those services. We had an impressive turnout.

**F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office**

Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.

1) Striving to End Abusive Relationships, or STEAR, is a program offered by the Family Counseling Center of Anderson at 410 Shockley Ferry Rd, Anderson, SC 864-225-6266. They offer group counseling for both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. 2) The Restoring Integrity Project, or TRIP, located in Williamston, SC, 864-774-0028, is a program that offers group counseling to perpetrators of domestic violence.

**G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims**

Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.

1) Safe Harbor II in Anderson, SC, 864-261-3633, is a women's shelter for victims of domestic violence that provides temporary housing as well as counseling and other services. 2) Striving to End Abusive Relationships, or STEAR, is a program offered by the Family Counseling Center of Anderson at 410 Shockley Ferry Rd, Anderson, SC, 864-225-6266. They offer group counseling for both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence.

**H. Other Information**

Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.

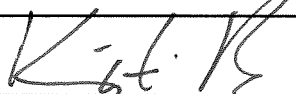
Our Committee hopes to bring about positive change in our community by increasing participation from the SC Dept. of PPP. We also hope to continue our community conversations through our collaboration with the DV Coordinating Council.

**SUBMISSION**

**Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to [aclifford@cpc.sc.gov](mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov).**

Prepared by: Kristin W. Reeves

Name: Kristin W. Reeves	Title: Senior Assistant Solicitor
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Signature: 	Date: Jan 3, 2019
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## Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> 10th	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Address and contact information: 10th Circuit Solicitor's Office, P.O. Box 8002, Anderson, SC 29622, 864-260-1024.	

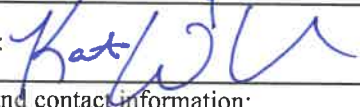
**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Eleventh		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
Lexingotn	2	
Edgefield	0	
Saluda	0	
McCormick	0	
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1	
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0	
2. How many committee meetings were held?	3	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	no	
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	yes	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	1	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	no	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	N/A	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	yes	
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	no	
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	no	
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	N/A	
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
See attached.		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	Eleventh	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>		
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.		
See attached.		
<b>E. Public Education</b>		
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.		
We did not complete any educational efforts during the 2018 year. We have discussed meeting with school representatives to determine what educational materials are available to children and also learning about what programs are already in place. From there we can better assess how these may be improved and perhaps determine a way to encourage children to report when there is violence in the home. Also, we would like to work with the County of Lexington to possibly create a website page with domestic violence information. A minimal goal would be to have a page devoted to all of the county-wide programs that occur during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Once accomplished, we would also like to do this for the other counties within our circuit.		
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.		
See attached.		
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.		
See attached.		
<b>H. Other Information</b>		
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.		
See attached.		

Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report

Judicial Circuit:	Eleventh	Year: 2018
<b>SUBMISSION</b> Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov">aclifford@cpc.sc.gov</a> .		
Prepared by:		
Name:	Nate Usry	Title: Asst. Sol.
Signature:		Date: 1/8/19
Address and contact information: 205 E. Main St. Lexington, SC 29072 803-785-8352		



### **C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations**

**Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results/outcomes**

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**Past Recommendation 1:** Attempt to more accurately address lethality risk factors by first responders, such as health professionals, domestic abuse advocates, law enforcement, and others.

**Updated Response:** This is still a work in progress with regards to the original proposal.

However, our elected Solicitor, Solicitor Hubbard, has been actively working this year to consolidate the prosecution of all summary court level domestic violence offenses. While Lexington County has for many years had the benefit of the Domestic Violence Court under the guidance of Nicole Howland for cases made by the Lexington County Sheriff's Department, all other municipal level domestic violence cases made by other agencies have been prosecuted in various manners and methods with no eye to coordinating efforts. Solicitor Hubbard has taken the initial steps to move the Domestic Violence Court within the Mark H. Westbrook Courthouse with the ultimate goal of consolidating domestic violence prosecution using the model already established by Nicole Howland. Having a coordinated county-wide approach to summary court level domestic violence and bringing all the players to the table – including victim and offender services – will ultimately serve to better address the needs of victims, offenders, law enforcement and affected families while also functioning to reduce recidivism rates. Our office plans to continue this effort into 2019.

**Past Recommendation 2:** Create guidelines for standardized response to domestic violence incidents and/or fatalities.

**Proposed Response:** The steps taken by Solicitor Hubbard to consolidate the prosecution of domestic violence within Lexington County have begun the process of standardizing the prosecution of these offenses. As other law enforcement agencies begin to see how a consolidated effort affects the results of their arrests and as feedback is provided to agencies, we

believe this information and process will aid in further standardizing response to domestic violence incidents and fatalities.

**Past Recommendation 3:** Become more engaged with offenders after an interaction with the legal system.

**Proposed Response:** The South Carolina Department of Probation Pardon and Parole has created specialized domestic violence caseloads with specific supervision conditions for domestic violence offenders (in addition to the standard conditions of probation). The program is only currently active in the following counties: Anderson, Charleston/Dorchester, Greenville, Greenwood/Laurens, Lexington, Orangeburg, Richland, Spartanburg, and York. Presently, Lexington County has 118 offenders in the program. The program allows for the PPP to have a more specialized approach to offenders who have been charged with domestic violence offenses in General Sessions court.

**Past Recommendation 4:** Develop a protocol for the Coroner's Office to follow when responding to any fatality that may have a history of domestic abuse.

**Updated Response:** During the course of our case study, the Lexington County Coroner's office began taking steps to implement a more thorough investigation of any death, including suicides, when domestic issues are noted in the individual's past.

**Past Recommendation 5:** Determine when coordination between schools, law enforcement and other service providers can be achieved to identify the children being exposed to violence, so that steps can be taken to ensure their safety.

**Updated Response:** This issue again arose in our 2018 case review. We plan to look further into this issue in the coming case studies as indicated in the response to Section D of this report.

**D: Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations**

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**Issue:** Studies have explored the effects of Intimate Partner Violence on children. These studies enumerate both short and long term effects of Intimate Partner Violence on children. The most obvious and potentially dangerous risk for children who live in homes in which there is Intimate Partner Violence is that they become direct victims of abuse. Children who are exposed to Intimate Partner Violence, particularly chronic episodes of violence, often show symptoms associated with posttraumatic stress disorders.

**Proposed Response:** Create a multi-agency committee to research possible strategies to establish a circuit-wide school response program within the Eleventh Circuit. The goal would be to assist teachers and education administrators to better understand the trauma children experience when exposed to Intimate Partner Violence. Propose an educational and policy agenda that will enable schools to become supportive environments for traumatized children. Specifically, we may explore programs within kindergarten and elementary schools. Our committee may also explore other Continuum of Care agencies to see their methods and indicators of success.

**Issue:** If children are identified as “at-risk” of becoming DV victims or perpetrators, what steps can then be taken to mitigate the damage already done by their exposure to domestic violence and help prevent these children from having further involvement in the system? It's not completely clear what best practices would be for interventions with children who are exposed to domestic and intimate partner violence and related crimes.

**Proposed Response:** Begin researching existing intervention programs locally and nationwide (whether in schools, communities, faith-based organizations, etc.), and review their methods and potential effectiveness, with the goal of implementing an arbitration-type program that operates outside of the solicitor’s office and works to bring everyone to the table to create a holistic approach. Brainstorm ways to improve or implement programs in the Eleventh Circuit. Discuss possible funding sources and any anticipated problems or roadblocks. Consult with psychologists and

social workers who are experts in matching children to appropriate interventions.

**Issue:** In some cases, there is a difficulty identifying incidents as domestic or intimate partner-related based exclusively on the information contained in the incident report.

**Proposed Response:** Move toward a standardized reporting form which includes a box that can be checked to indicate whether the case is connected to an isolated or ongoing domestic violence or intimate partner violence situation.

**Issue:** Based on the incident report form, it is not always clear whether children are witnesses or are present in the home when a case of domestic violence or intimate partner violence or related crime has occurred. Given the overwhelming research showing enduring and damaging effects of childhood exposure to violence, it is necessary to connect children in these situations with appropriate resources and intervention.

**Proposed response:** Adopt a standardized reporting form that provides a box with a brief description of how children may be connected to the case; ensure that these incident reports are properly routed to school resource officers and social services officials so that appropriate follow-up can be initiated.

**F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers – Programs Approved by the Solicitor’s Office**

**Please list and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor’s Office.**

---

**Domestic Abuse Center**

989 Knox Abbott Drive  
Cayce, SC 29033  
803-791-1322

The Domestic Abuse Center (DAC) is a private, non-profit agency serving domestic violence offenders, in operation for over thirty years - accepting referrals from multiple jurisdictions in the state. DAC is also known as a Batterer Intervention Program or BIP.

Aside from an orientation and assessment, the DAC program consists of attendance at ninety minute weekly group sessions for a minimum of six months. Duration of program can be longer if there are extenuating circumstances related to an individual’s specific situation (ex. medical absences, need for substance treatment).

**Sistercare**

1820 Moorelaine Road  
Cayce, SC 29033  
803-765-9428

Sistercare, Inc. offers a 28 week program which meets the “Solicitor Guidelines and Standards for the Approval of Domestic Violence Intervention Programs” for offenders of domestic violence who must satisfy court orders by participating in treatment. Education about individual, cultural, and family dynamics of domestic violence are included in the program.

## **G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims**

**Please list and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.**

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### **Sistercare**

1820 Moorelaine Road  
Cayce, SC 29033  
803-765-9428

Sistercare, Inc. is a nonprofit, United Way partner agency, Sistercare seeks to provide comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence and their children and to advocate on behalf of these survivors, and to help prevent domestic violence through community awareness and education. Sistercare is the only organization that offers specialized shelter and support services for survivors of domestic violence and their children in the Lexington Circuit.

### **Dickerson Children's Advocacy Center**

140 Gibson Road  
Lexington, SC 29072  
803-358-7200

The Dickerson Children's Advocacy Center works with children affected by physical and sexual abuse, drug endangerment, and the witnessing of violence. They provide a safe and caring environment where children and their non-abusive parent(s) or guardians can receive services and emotional support under one roof. They are a child-focused facility that provides forensic interviews, forensic medicals, mental health and victim advocate services to victims of child abuse between the ages of 0 to 18. Providing these services in a single location can help alleviate additional stress and trauma that children can experience by moving between agencies.

## **H: Other Information**

**Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.**

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The Eleventh Circuit Fatality Review Committee had another productive year of meetings. We added two new members to our committee this year, a representative from the Dickerson Center for Children and another private attorney. Our committee members remained committed to thoroughly reviewing the case(s) we select and assessing the issues we identify within each fact pattern.

During the 2018 calendar year we again chose to focus on one case study, however within this specific fact pattern where multiple domestic events that overlapped between family members and more specifically between brothers. What originally drew our attention to this case study was that one brother was involved with a murder-suicide event and then a few years later the other used a particular reference to that event to threaten his girlfriend. This interrelatedness allowed us to look more closely at the role of family and social connections between abusers and victims and their family and friends.

During the course of this calendar year our committee chose to begin focusing more closely on the impact witnessing and experiencing domestic violence has on children. A common theme that arose during our 2017 and 2018 case reviews surrounded the lasting effects of domestic violence on children and what we viewed as a repeated failure of the past system to identify at risk children as well as a lack of follow up engagement with children who were clearly present in a volatile relationship.

The representative working on our Fatality Review Committee from the Domestic Abuse Center, Loann Sandel, provided our group with eye-opening data their agency has collected from the offenders in their program with regards to children and domestic violence. The assessments, which consist of data the agency collects from offenders during the client's initial weeks/introduction into the program, included the years 2014 – 2017.

Some of the highlights included:

- over 80% of their clients report having children in the home (86% in 2017 and this includes children there part time);



- 40% report having themselves been either abused as children, witnessed DV, or both;
- and an average of 12% report having themselves been involved with Juvenile Justice (14% in 2017).

Our responses in the previous Sections of this report with regards to recommendations reflect this committee's focus on children who witness or experience domestic violence.

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Thirteenth		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
Greenville	3	
Pickens	1	
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1.Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1	
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0	
2. How many committee meetings were held?	3	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	Yes	
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	Yes	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	1	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	No	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	none	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	Waiting on two to be returned	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?		
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?		
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?		
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	No, not applicable	
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
See attached report.		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	Thirteenth	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>		
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.		
See attached report.		
<b>E. Public Education</b>		
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.		
See attached report.		
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.		
See attached report.		
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.		
See attached report.		
<b>H. Other Information</b>		
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.		
<b>SUBMISSION</b>		
<b>Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov">aclifford@cpc.sc.gov</a>.</b>		
Prepared by:		
Name: Derek Polsinello	Title: Assistant Solicitor	
Signature:	Date:	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Thirteenth	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Address and contact information: Andrew S. Culbreath Solicitor's Office, 305 E. North Street, Suite 325, Greenville, SC 29601	

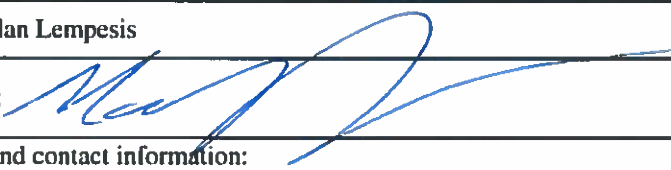
**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: Fourteenth</b>		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
	Beaufort - 1 DV related attempted murder and suicide	
	Colleton -	
	Allendale -	
	Jasper - 1 DV related murder charged, currently pending	
	Hampton - 1 DV related murder charged, currently pending	
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1	
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	none	
2. How many committee meetings were held?	5	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	no	
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	yes	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	2	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	no	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	n/a	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	yes	
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	no	
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	yes	
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes	
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
We didn't make any recommendations in our 2017 annual report.		

## Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report

<b>Judicial Circuit: Fourteenth</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>	
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.	
1. Encourage age-appropriate education and awareness about domestic violence in schools; work with school counselors and others who might be considered "first responders." 2. Create and fund a public service announcement/billboard and social media campaign about domestic violence. 3. Identify experts to testify about domestic violence and victimology, no unlike those used in child criminal sexual conduct cases. 4. Identify and make contact with secondary bystanders who can intervene, to include clergy and others who may come in contact with victims and abusers before law enforcement.	
<b>E. Public Education</b>	
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.	
None as of this date.	
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>	
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.	
1. The Washington Family Center - 843-524-4884. 2. Right Direction - 803-639-7700. 3. Franklin Bolgan, LISW - 843-683-0042	
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>	
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.	
1. Hopeful Horizons - 843-524-2256. 2. Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA) - 843-524-4350.	
<b>H. Other Information</b>	
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.	
<b>SUBMISSION</b>	
Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov">aclifford@cpc.sc.gov</a> .	
Prepared by: Mary Jordan Lempesis	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit: Fourteenth</b>	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Mary Jordan Lempesis	First Assistant Solicitor
Signature: 	1/4/2019
Address and contact information: Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office, PO Box 1880, Bluffton, SC 29910, 843-474-4806	



**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> 15th Judicial Circuit	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases**

<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	<b>Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).</b>
Horry	2 murder/suicide; 1 murder
Georgetown	1 murder

**B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews**

1. Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	0
2. How many committee meetings were held?	5
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	no
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	yes
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	1
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	no
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	n/a
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	yes
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	no
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	yes
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	no- they were fact witnesses. We told them what they told us was confidential

**C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations**

Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.

We may need some clarification with this. It was our understanding that we were making recommendations to Columbia for Columbia to come up with ideas of enforcement. We did not know that we were supposed to be enforcing our recommendations.



**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> 15th Judicial Circuit	<b>Year: 2018</b>
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**D. New Recommendations**

Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.

- 1) See something/Say something text line - much like the bullying situation, we need a line so that school aged victims (and/or their friends) would feel safe to text anonymously reporting abuse or asking for help.
- 2) Education of domestic violence and healthy relationships starting in 5th grade continuing through high school. This could easily be a part of their "coming of age" talk in the 5th grade and continue either through the guidance counselors or health class.
- 3) Education for teachers and extracurricular teachers/coaches for what to look out for as it relates to victims and defendants of domestic violence. Help in identifying the "high risk" kids.
- 4) A Mental Health Unit that would react to the mental health related crimes. The police would initially respond, but when they see it may be mental health related, another unit who has special training in that area would respond and follow up. The follow up would include multiple agencies to include hospitals and mental health counseling. This unit would almost act as an advocate for the mental health offender.

**E. Public Education**

Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.

We have held and conducted in service training for local law enforcement officer as it relates to domestic violence. In addition, we continue to support local organizations in their endeavors to combat domestic violence.

**F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office**

Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.

New Alternative Program - Dr. Nick Spring - 843-742-3153; Domestic Abuse Center 803-791-1322

**G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims**

Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.

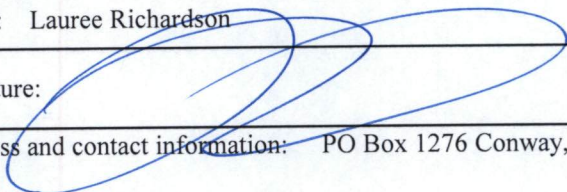
Family Justice Center 843-546-3926 New Directions for Women 843-232-7055  
 New Directions for Families 843-945-4902  
 Helping Hand 843-448-8451  
 New Directions for Men  
 A Father's Place 843-488-2923  
 Batterer's Intervention 843-421-4356

**H. Other Information**

Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.



**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> 15th Judicial Circuit	<b>Year:</b> 2018
<b>SUBMISSION</b> Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to <a href="mailto:aclifford@cpc.sc.gov">aclifford@cpc.sc.gov</a> .	
Prepared by:	
Name: Lauree Richardson	Title: Senior Assistant Solicitor
Signature: 	Date: 12/20/18
Address and contact information: PO Box 1276 Conway, SC 29528	

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Sixteenth (16th) Circuit		<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>A. Information on Domestic Violence Criminal Cases</b>		
<b>List Each County in Circuit</b>	Number of identified domestic violence fatalities for the calendar year by County (including fatalities resulting in criminal charges, such as murder and manslaughter, and those that do not, such as suicides and murder-suicides).	
York	no DV fatalities for 2018 (LE officer was killed responding to DV call, 1/17/18 EOW)	
Union	no DV fatalities for 2018	
<b>B. Information on Work of the Committee during the Calendar Year – Fatality Reviews</b>		
1.Total number of fatality reviews conducted:	1	
1.a. How many of those reviews were completed?	1	
1.b. How many of those reviews are ongoing?	starting a new one this week	
2. How many committee meetings were held?	4	
3. Did all committee members attend meetings?	no	
3.a.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 1 meeting?	yes	
3.a. (ii) How many members missed more than 1 meeting?	13	
3.b.(i) Did any Committee members miss more than 2 meetings?	yes	
3.b. (ii) How many members miss more than 2 meetings?	7	
4. Did all Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes, each meeting	
4.a. Did Committee members sign just one agreement/form?	one per session	
4.b. Did Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement/form at each meeting?	yes	
5. Did you have any non-Committee members attend any meetings to provide factual information or expert input?	yes	
5.a. Did these non-Committee members sign a confidentiality agreement?	yes	
<b>C. Action/Status of Prior Recommendations</b>		
Please provide an update on prior recommendations made by the Committee (included in past annual reports), tracking the results and/or outcomes of such.		
Initial case review indicated a hole in the system when private neighborhood security didn't communicate well with LE, a victim was allowed to remain in the home without assistance for weeks and died as a result. We also discovered that the victim was taken for medical care by the perpetrator but was not interviewed or examined about harm in the home. She was allowed to leave with the perpetrator without concern or follow up procedures. Since that time, we have discussed more in depth DV/IPV questionnaires with our medical liaison to the committee and have pulled examples		

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b>	Sixteenth (16th) Circuit	<b>Year: 2018</b>
<b>D. New Recommendations</b>		
Please list any new recommendations made this year by majority vote of the Committee, along with any suggestions, efforts, or plans to implement the recommendations.		
1. treat the children in foster care as if they are our own by providing mental health assessments and counseling, improve support for children aging out of the foster care system by helping them attend a technical school/college or find a job. 2. provide training for DSS to use at advocacy centers - specifically DV or SA oriented centers. 3. provide		
<b>E. Public Education</b>		
Please list, and fully describe, any efforts of the Committee to educate the public about domestic violence.		
We spoke with the victim's family about increasing awareness of DV. The victim's cousin has started a foundation to educate the public. We also reached out to local shelter advocate and school counselors to combine efforts and initiate school programs for raising awareness of domestic violence (DV)/IPV to children (and teachers).		
<b>F. Domestic Violence Services for Batterers - Programs Approved by Solicitor's Office</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence treatment programs (for batterers/offenders) in the Circuit that have been approved by the Solicitor's Office.		
<b>3Trees for Change</b> --a forensic counseling company dedicated to reducing offender recidivism through evidence based curriculums. 803-207-0558. <b>SCDPPPS/York County</b> (probation)--pilot program for intensive monitoring that includes similar evidence based curriculum.		
<b>G. Domestic Violence Services for Victims</b>		
Please list (with contact information) and fully describe domestic violence services available in the Circuit for victims and family members.		
<b>Safe Passage</b> --free, supportive, trauma-informed services for victims/survivors of DV. 803-329-2800. <b>Tender Hearts Ministries</b> --shelter to address needs of homeless women and children in York county. 9 month shelter program designed to give new perspective on life and job skills that will enable to better enable them to support their families. Services to women and children (girls any age and boys under 10), including food, clothing, GED assistance, financial instruction, job training and biblical counseling. 803-684-3131. 130 Inmans cross rd., York, SC 29745. <b>Pilgrim's Inn</b> --not-for-profit org serving Rock Hill and surrounding communities. Individual and families who are homeless or at		
<b>H. Other Information</b>		
Please provide any other information the Solicitor's Office and/or the Committee would like to share about the fatality review process or work.		
<b>SUBMISSION</b>		
<b>Completed reports are to be submitted to the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination no later than December 31 each year. Please email reports to aclifford@cpc.sc.gov.</b>		
Prepared by:		
Name: Jenny Desch (with assistance from Assistant Solicitor Corissa Golla and Victim Advocate Laura Mackinem)		Title: senior solicitor
Signature: <i>JE Desch</i>		1/16/2019

**Judicial Circuit Solicitor Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report**

<b>Judicial Circuit:</b> Sixteenth (16th) Circuit	<b>Year: 2018</b>
Address and contact information: 16th Judicial Circuit Solicitor's office, 1675-1A York Hwy, York, SC 29745. 803-628-3020.	