

# Domestic Violence Annual Report - 2022

NOPD agrees to track dispositions of domestic violence investigations, including arrests and acceptance or refusal by the DA. NOPD further agrees to make a reasonable effort to enter into Memoranda of Understanding with appropriate agencies to track information related to the outcomes of domestic violence cases, including whether the case was ultimately dismissed, resulted in a plea agreement, or tried, and the final verdict or outcome of the trial. NOPD agrees to track dual arrests and domestic violence arrests by gender. NOPD agrees to publicly report this data on at least an annual basis [Consent Decree ¶222].

## Key definitions

**Dual arrest** – An incident resulting in two or more people arrested for a domestic charge with at least one of the arrestees documented as a victim of a domestic charge.

**Domestic violence signals** – This report includes the following classifications which could entail domestic violence:

- Domestic aggravated battery
- Simple battery, domestic
- Aggravated assault, domestic
- Simple assault, domestic
- Attempted homicide, domestic
- Domestic criminal damage
- Simple burglary, domestic
- Domestic threats
- Disturbance, domestic

## Findings

### **Incidents and Arrests**

NOPD responded to 9,389 calls for service classified under a domestic signal in 2022, and 1,657 of these incidents resulted in an arrest.<sup>1</sup> Dual arrests occurred in 14 (0.15%) of all domestic incidents in 2022. Four dual arrests in 2022 involved a same sex domestic dispute.

Overall, these incidents resulted in 1,894 individual arrests. Of these arrests, 1,373 (72%) were male and 521 (28%) were female.

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<sup>1</sup> 6,071 (65%) of the calls for service are classified as “Domestic Disturbance,” which may not involve a crime.

**Arrested Offender Demographics**

In 2022, 43% of all people arrested as a result of a domestic dispute were non-Hispanic, black or African American males.

Sex	Ethnicity	Race					
		Black	White	Asian	Amer. Indian or Alaskan Native	Nat. Hawaiian or Other Pac. Islander	Unknown
Male	Hispanic	0.9%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%
	Not Hispanic	42.5%	5.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
	Unknown	17.7%	2.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Female	Hispanic	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
	Not Hispanic	16.8%	2.4%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
	Unknown	5.9%	1.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%

**All Victim Demographics (whether arrest occurred or no arrest occurred)**

In 2022, 24% of all victims of domestic disputes were non-Hispanic, black or African American males.

Sex	Ethnicity	Race					
		Black	White	Asian	Amer. Indian or Alaskan Native	Native Hawaiian or Other Pac. Islander	Unknown
Male	Hispanic	0.2%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
	Not Hispanic	23.9%	3.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
	Unknown	5.5%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
Female	Hispanic	0.4%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%
	Not Hispanic	42.1%	5.6%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
	Unknown	10.2%	1.8%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%

## Charge Outcomes

In 2022, the District Attorney (DA) resolved domestic violence charges against 167 people, of whom 104 were convicted of at least one such charge. As of March 10, 2023, 597 of the domestic violence charges screened in 2022 by the DA were not yet resolved.

Of the 266 domestic violence charges resolved by the DA, defendants were convicted of 153 (58%). Defendants plead to 152 (57%) charges, 2 (0.8%) were handled through a trial, the DA decided to no longer prosecute (nolle prosequi) 112 (42%), none (0%) were quashed as prescribed by the court, none (0%) were dismissed as moot, and none (0%) were referred to another court.

## *Plea Outcomes*

The 152 domestic violence charges resulting in plea agreements included 54 (36%) pleas of guilty as charged, no pleas of nolo contendere (no contest) (0%), and 98 (64%) pleas of guilty to a lesser offense.

## *Trial Outcomes*

Of the 2 charges decided by trial:

- 1 was found not guilty by a judge (50%)
- 1 was found guilty of a lesser offense by a judge (50%)

## *Refused charges*

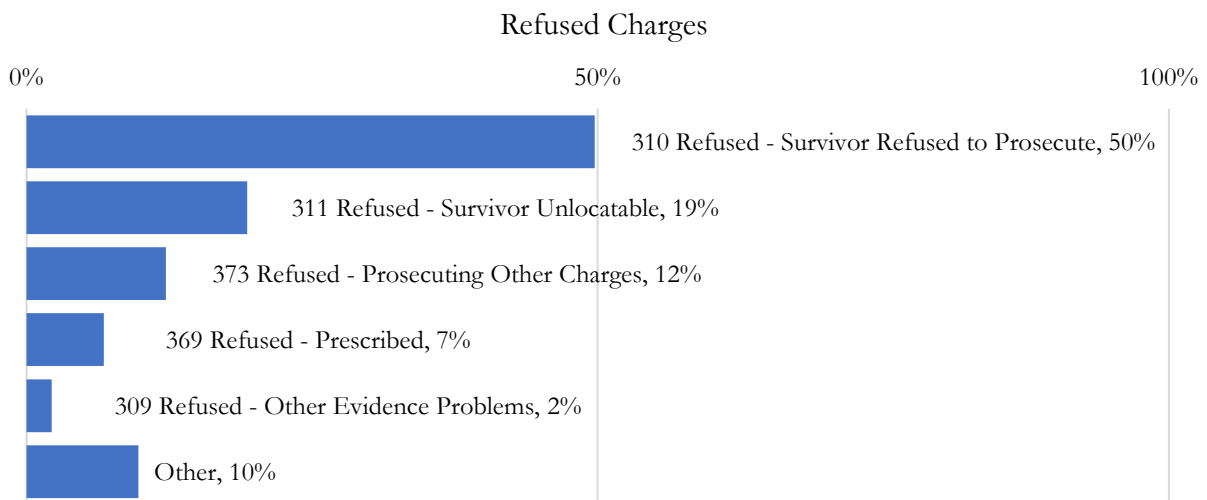
The District Attorney refused 1,860 domestic violence related charges in 2022, none of which were law enforcement-based refusals.<sup>2</sup> The reasons for the refusals are as follows:

310 Refused - Survivor Refused to Prosecute	925	49.7%
311 Refused - Survivor Unlocatable	359	19.3%
373 Refused - Prosecuting Other Charges	227	12.2%
369 Refused - Prescribed	126	6.8%
309 Refused - Other Evidence Problems	41	2.2%
334 Refused - Not Suitable for Prosecution	39	2.1%
384 Refused - Duplicative Charge	33	1.8%

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<sup>2</sup> The district attorney uses the following refusal reasons for law enforcement-based refusals: “No probable cause for arrest,” “Unlawful search no warrant,” “Unlawful search with warrant,” “Incomplete police investigation,” and “Law enforcement issues.”

338 Refused - Good Defense	31	1.7%
306 Refused - Testimony Insufficient to Prove Crime	14	0.8%
322 Refused - Witness Unbelievable	12	0.6%
321 Refused - Witness Refuses to Cooperate	8	0.4%
305 Refused - No Corroboration of Offense	8	0.4%
383 Refused - Duplication	8	0.4%
356 Refused - Missing Element of Crime	5	0.3%
Refused	5	0.3%
315 Refused - Witness Unavailable	5	0.3%
365 Refused - Referral to Juvenile Court	5	0.3%
368 Refused - Referral to FINS	2	0.1%
304 Refused - Physical Evidence Insufficient	2	0.1%
370 Refused - DA Diversion/Other Diversion	2	0.1%
314 Refused - Witness/Survivor No Show	2	0.1%
340 Refused - Case Moot	1	0.1%



## **Training**

### *Courses*

Recruits receive 40 hours domestic violence training before they enter the field, which consists of Problem Based Learning Exercises after in class courses for Case Law, Interview Techniques, Policy, Domestic Violence Dynamics, Determining the Predominant Aggressor, Blueprint for Safety Program, and Reviewing Protective and Restraining Orders. Officers and supervisors received a two-hour course during annual In-Service in 2022 titled Domestic Violence/Child Abuse. The course used a problem-based learning exercise to examine an officer’s ability to complete an accurate Risk Assessment to identify the “predominant aggressor” in a domestic violence incident. And the

Louisiana Police Officer Standards and Training Council required officers and supervisors to take the following computer-based training in 2022: “Dynamics of Domestic Violence 2022” and “Elder Abuse.”

### *Roll Call*

Supervisors have a meeting at the beginning of every shift with the officers in their platoon. This meeting is called “Roll Call.” The Academy requires supervisors to cover certain topics during roll call each week. The Academy required supervisors to discuss Chapter 42.4.1 – Domestic Disturbance during the week of August 13-17 and Chapter 42.4 – Domestic Violence during the week of December 11-17 with the officers in their platoon.

### *Email Blasts*

The Domestic Violence Unit sends educational email blasts to the entire Department. On 2/11/2022, the DV Unit sent an email to the Department explaining what is and is not domestic or dating violence. The email also covered the minimum threshold to charge someone with strangulation. On 8/18/2022, the DV Unit sent an email to the Department covering the proper service and documentation of a civil Temporary Restraining Order. The email also covered who to notify at the Orleans Parish Civil District Court about such service. On 9/29/2022, the DV Unit sent an email to the Department with all updated domestic violence patrol forms including the DV Patrol Report Checklist and the Official Notice to Adult Victims of Family Violence Form in three languages—English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.