

History of The New Jersey Domestic Violence Fatality & Near Fatality Review Board

The New Jersey Domestic Violence Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board (DVFNFRB) was created by individuals who were concerned about domestic violence related deaths in the state. A genesis group was formed in 1998, which coincided with the national effort to establish fatality review as an innovative method of addressing the problem of domestic violence and identifying its risk factors. An Executive Order signed in March 2000 established the New Jersey Fatality Review Board. The work began by reviewing homicide-suicides that occurred between 1994 and 1999 totaling 125 fatalities. The NJDVFNFRB evolved out of this original endeavor in 2003 and is currently focused on homicides and near death fatalities.

Mission of the DVFNFRB

The mission of the New Jersey Domestic Violence Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board is to understand, intervene, and prevent domestic violence related homicides, suicides and near fatalities in the state. The Board conducts multidisciplinary in-depth reviews of domestic violence fatalities and near fatalities to prevent future deaths. It also reports on all domestic violence related deaths in the state. The Board attempts to make sense of each death in its cultural context to promote effective and sustainable safety for victims of domestic violence.

Reports and Resources

The Board has published a number of reports regarding domestic violence deaths in New Jersey, allowing us to further examine specific populations affected by Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), including IPV among African Americans, teens and immigrants.

To find out more about New Jersey Domestic Violence Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board, visit the following webpages along with other resources that provide helpful information.

New Jersey Fatality Near Fatality Review Board:

www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/boards/dvfnfrb

New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence:

www.njcedv.org

National DV Fatality Review Initiative:

<https://ndvfri.org>

Special thanks to the National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative for providing a grant to further our mission.

New Jersey Domestic Violence Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board

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NJ Domestic Violence Fatality & Near Fatality

REVIEW BOARD

*Focusing on Helping Our Communities
Understand, Prevent and Intervene*



LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT



- Intimate partner violence affects individuals of all races, ethnicities, genders, religions, and sexual identities
- Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all murders in the United States.*
- Half of all female homicide victims are killed by intimate partners.***
- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have been victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.*
- The New Jersey homicide rate is 1.08 per 1,000 while the national rate is 1.09 per 1,000.
- Black women are especially at risk and are murdered at a rate 2.5 times greater than white women. The exception is victims over the age of 65 are more likely to be white women.**
- A total of 1,616 women were killed by intimate partners nationally in 2013.**

* National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

** Violence Policy Center, 2015

*** Center for Disease Control 2017

Objectives of the Review

- Prevent future domestic violence and homicides.
- Provide safer provisions for battered women.
- Hold accountable both the perpetrators of domestic violence and organizations that come into contact with the involved parties.
- Identify trends in domestic violence deaths and integrate an understanding of possible risk factors into the various service systems functioning.
- Develop policy and system change recommendations from the review of facts and circumstances of domestic violence deaths.

The NJ DVFNFRB is authorized under the statute N.J.S.A. 52-27D-43.17d and is housed in the Department of Children and Families.



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REVIEW BOARD

What is Fatality Review?

The review process is an opportunity for multidisciplinary stakeholders to come together to review cases of fatal and fatal domestic violence and provide enhanced awareness and understanding of and why it occurs. The case reviews will be used to collaborate with our communities, with the ultimate goal of reducing and preventing domestic violence.

Board Members

Government Representatives

- Office of the Attorney General
- Department of Health
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Community Affairs
- Office of the Public Defender
- State of NJ Medical Examiner
- Department of Children and Families
- New Jersey State Police
- Division on Women
- State of NJ Probation Department

Public Members

- NJ Coalition to End Domestic Violence
- NJ County Prosecutor's Association
- Batterer's Intervention Program
- Health Care Professional
- Psychologist
- Municipal Law Enforcement