

Office of the Nevada Attorney General Programs to Address Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking



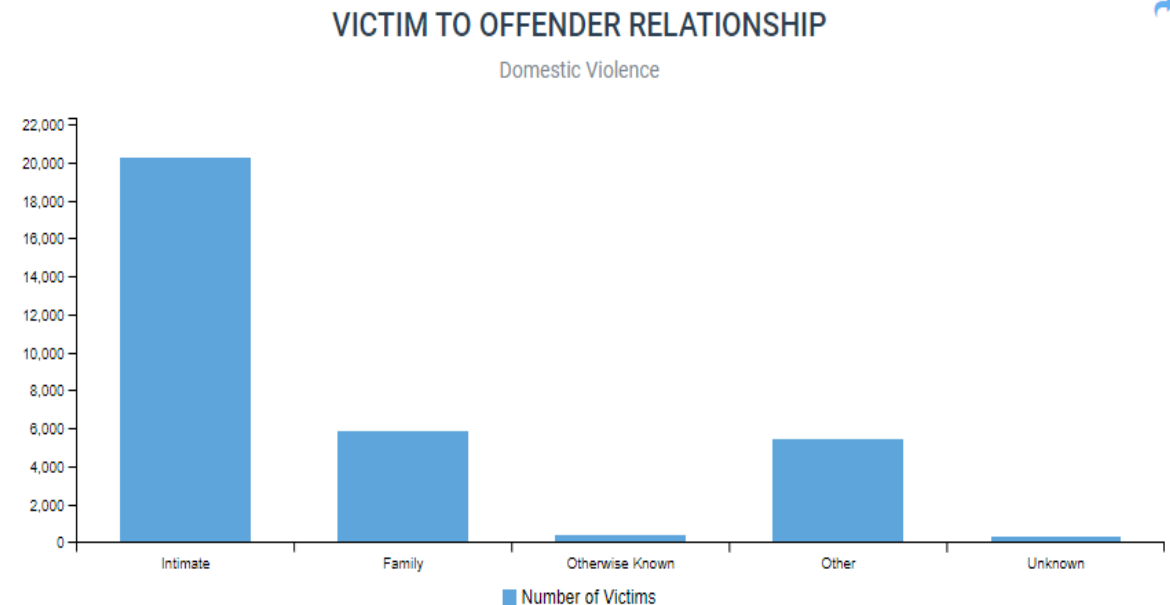
Presentation to the Interim Judiciary Committee
of the Nevada State Legislature
February 9, 2022



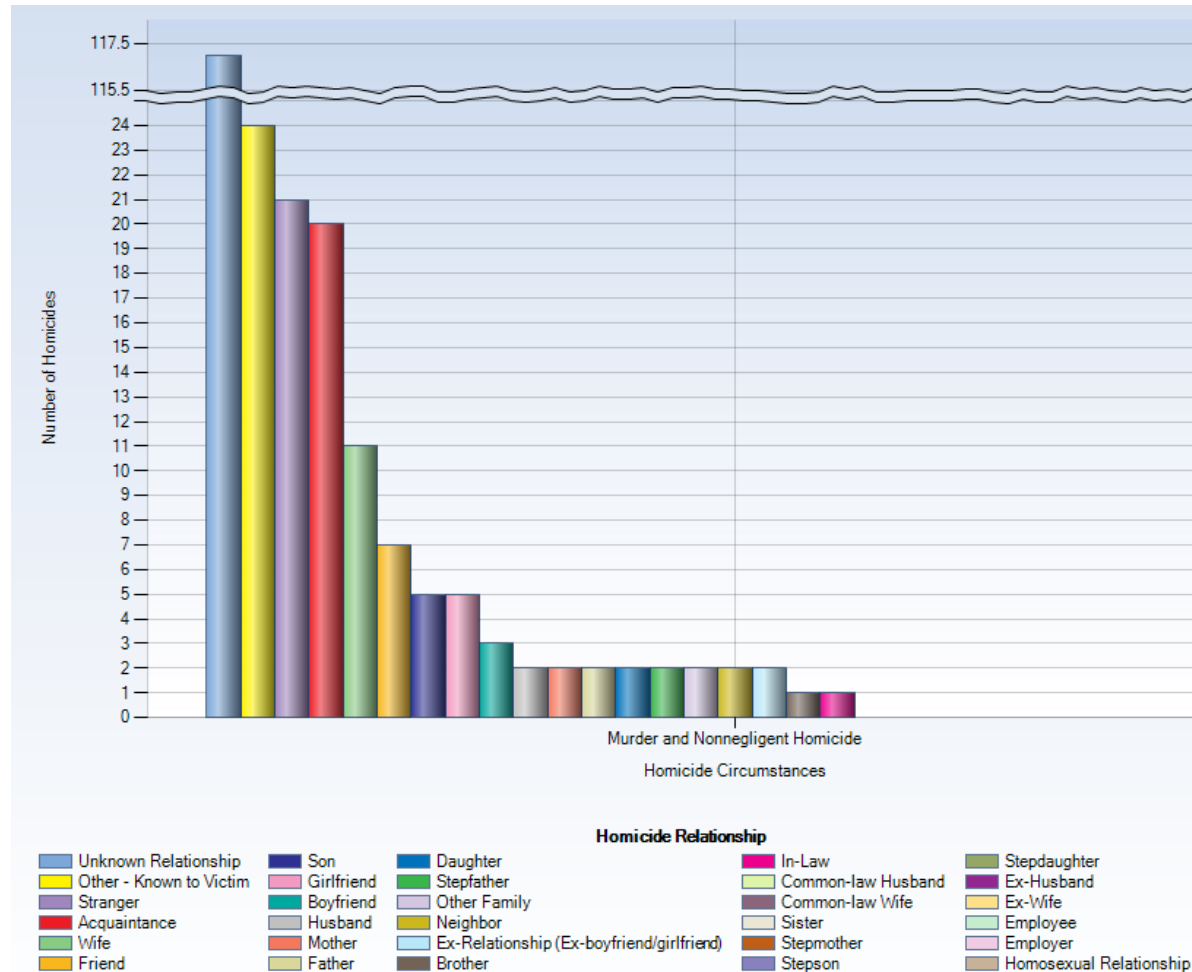
Domestic Violence in Nevada

- Total number of **reported** cases: 29,589
- Cases in which medical attention was needed: 4,829
- Cases in which Protection Order was in effect: 562
- Number of children present: 15,429

Source: 2021 statewide data from Nevada Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Reporting available at <https://nevadacrimestats.nv.gov/>



Domestic Violence in Nevada



- Total murder/nonnegligent homicide cases: 220
- Cases in which relationship not determined: 117
- Of those determined, 40% were domestic violence

Source: 2021 statewide data from Nevada Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Reporting available at <https://nevadacrimestats.nv.gov/>

Senate Bill 45 (2021 Legislative Session)



- SB 45: Revises the name, qualifications and duties of the Ombudsman to include the crimes of sexual assault and human trafficking.
- Domestic violence services: Professional staff for Committee on Domestic Violence; VOCA and STOP grants recipient; provide direct victim assistance
- Human trafficking services: Member of Northern Nevada Human Trafficking Taskforce, Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Taskforce, CSEC Coalition, and Human Trafficking Policy Council; assist with grant writing for local partners; coordinate with Administrator of Human Trafficking Contingency Account; provide direct victim assistance
- Sexual Assault services: Professional staff for Advisory Committee on Rights of Survivors of Sexual Assault; provide direct victim assistance
- Additional Victim Services:
 - Administrator of VINE (statewide victim notification program)
 - Child Abuse Prevention Month Planning Committee
 - Assisting with implementation of SC 108 (juvenile justice project)





Committee on Domestic Violence

- NRS 228.470 establishes the Committee on Domestic Violence (CDV), membership roles, and statutory duties.
- CDV must meet at least three times per year, with one meeting occurring in a rural or frontier area.
- AG Ford established three subcommittees: Services and Training Subcommittee, Justice Partners Subcommittee, Fatality Review Subcommittee.



CDV 2021 rural meeting in Mesquite

Committee on Domestic Violence



- Programs include:
 - High Risk Team Model pilot program with UNR
 - Batterer's Treatment Efficacy Project
 - Child Welfare Project with DHHS Division of Child and Family Services
 - Services and Training Subcommittee Programs
 - Justice Partners Subcommittee Programs
 - Statewide Fatality Review Team



CDV: High Risk Team Model Program



- The Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) Model was created by the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center in 2005. This organization gave a presentation to the Nevada CDV.
- Specific goal is to prevent domestic violence homicides. Research shows the escalation of domestic violence to lethal levels often follows predictable patterns. The DVHRT Model incorporates evidence-based risk assessment into a community's domestic violence response system to identify and intervene in the most dangerous cases.
- Four central strategies: early identification of high-risk cases through risk assessment, engagement of a multi-disciplinary team, ongoing monitoring and management of offenders, and the connection of victims to domestic violence services.
- DVHRT Model recognized as a "leading promising practice" in intimate partner homicide prevention by USDOJ Office on Violence Against Women.

CDV: High Risk Team Model Program



- Nevada's Domestic Violence High Risk Teams:
 - Southern Nevada: 2 coordinators in North Las Vegas, UNR, Safe Nest
 - Elko: 1 coordinator, Committee Against Domestic Violence, Elko PD, Elko Sheriff's Office, Elko District Attorney
- Process:
 - DVHRT meets to identify cases when lethality more likely to occur
 - Multidisciplinary team creates individualized intervention plan for each case
 - Cases monitored through criminal justice process
 - Team members connect victims to services



Human Trafficking in Nevada

- 211 **reported** offenses
- 32 arrests

Group A Offenses	Offenses (*)		Arrests (**)	
	Reported	Cleared	Adult	Juvenile
Crimes Against Persons				
Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	211	134	31	1
Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	3	1	0	0
Prostitution	1,477	1,464	1,549	36
Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	383	356	347	6
Purchasing Prostitution	44	39	43	0

Source: 2021 statewide data from Nevada Department of Public Safety, NIBRS Agency Crime Overview available at <https://nevadacrimestats.nv.gov/>

Assembly Bill 64 (2021 Legislative Session)



- AB 64: Expands the Attorney General's concurrent jurisdiction with the district attorneys for additional sex trafficking crimes and related crimes committed during the same course of conduct. Also clarifies that it is unlawful to solicit a peace officer posing as a child or person posing as a child in order to assist a peace officer in an investigation.
- This bill has allowed AGO to charge additional crimes committed during sex trafficking offenses.
- This bill has also allowed all law enforcement agencies, including AGO, to conduct internet sting operations for those seeking to sexually exploit children.

Fighting Human Trafficking



Human trafficking takes center stage at Las Vegas summit

LAS VEGAS (KLAS) — Human trafficking is the fastest growing crime in the world. As the problem gets bigger, so do the efforts to stop it.

The first of two summits hosted by Nevada's attorney general takes place in Las Vegas Monday. It brings together federal and state lawmakers as well as prosecutors and law enforcement and representatives from groups fighting trafficking.

Attendees learned about Child Safe AI which is a way to reduce exploitation on the web. It's a robot that uses the worst of the internet to protect the innocent.

The second summit is Tuesday in Carson City





Attorney General Investigations

- The AGO Investigations Division has three investigators funded for trafficking investigations: one in southern Nevada, one embedded in Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce, one embedded in northern Nevada Trafficking Taskforce
 - An additional investigator position was requested by AG Ford in 2019 session and approved by the legislature.
- AGO conducts monthly online child sexual predator sting operations. Operations focus attention on individuals seeking to sexually exploit 15 year children.

Attorney General Investigations



- Also participate in quarterly joint operations conducted with LVMPD's Nevada Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, Federal Bureau of Investigation's Child Exploitation Task Force, and Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force
- Additional law enforcement partners include Clark County School District Police Department, US Dept. of Homeland Security's Investigation Division, and Nevada State Police.

Las Vegas police make 15 arrests in online sex sting operation

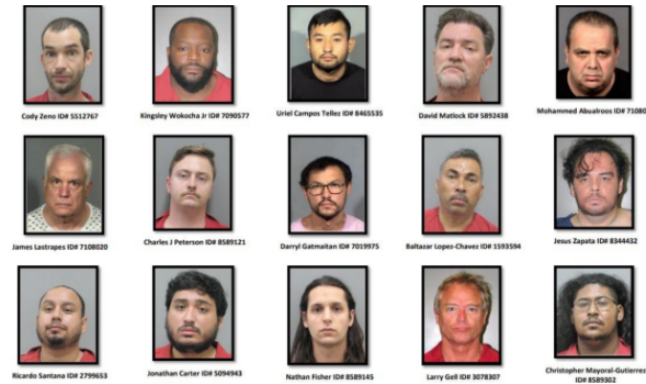


Photo by: LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Posted at 4:22 PM, Jul 30, 2021 and last updated 4:22 PM, Jul 30, 2021

LAS VEGAS (KTNV) — A multi-agency operation targeting online child sex predators led to 15 arrests on July 28 and 29, 2021, according to a press release from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.



Attorney General Advocate for Missing and Exploited Children



**LAS VEGAS
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Federal grants to help fight human trafficking in Southern Nevada



Law enforcement and local advocacy groups gathered at the Southern Nevada Family Justice Center on Wednesday to discuss a new approach to preventing human trafficking. (Alexis Egeland/Las Vegas Review-Journal)

Local law enforcement and advocacy groups on Wednesday announced new human trafficking prevention initiatives in Southern Nevada.

Representatives from the Nevada attorney general's office, the Metropolitan Police Department, the Rape Crisis Center and the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force were all present at the Southern Nevada Family Justice Center to support the new initiatives, which are funded by grants from the U.S. Department of Justice.

The initiative is called the Resources and Integration for Survivor Empowerment, or RISE.

- The AGO has one prosecutor dedicated to cases related to trafficking and exploited children: Senior Deputy Attorney General Alissa Engler.
- SDAG Engler also serves as the Advocate for Missing and Exploited Children created by NRS 432.157 and represents the AGO on Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Taskforce.



Attorney General Prosecutions

- Prosecutions from 2021 AGO John Sting Operations:
 - 3 defendants plead guilty to Attempt Child Abuse, Neglect or Endangerment – Sexual Exploitation “C” Felony
 - 1 defendant plead guilty to Solicitation of a Minor for Prostitution (NRS 201.354)
 - 1 defendant plead guilty to Open and Gross Lewdness (NRS 201.210)
 - 3 cases still moving through the court system
- Referrals from FBI Taskforce in Reno:
 - 3 Defendants convicted of Child Abuse Neglect or Endangerment – Sexual Exploitation (NRS 200.508) and Attempt Sex Trafficking (NRS 201.300 and NRS 193.330)
 - 1 Defendant convicted of Pandering (NRS 201.300) and Coercion (NRS 207.190)
 - 1 Defendants convicted of Attempt Kidnapping 2nd Degree (NRS 200.310 & NRS 193.330)
 - 1 Defendant convicted of Child Endangerment (NRS 200.508) and Living from the Earnings of a Prostitute (NRS 201.320)
 - 1 Defendant convicted of Pandering (NRS 201.300)



Future Topics for Discussion

- Advisory Committee on the Rights of Survivors of Sexual Assault
- Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights
- Need for additional advocates and wrap around services for survivors of sexual assault