

# Law Enforcement and Trauma Informed Care

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# Law Enforcement Impacts

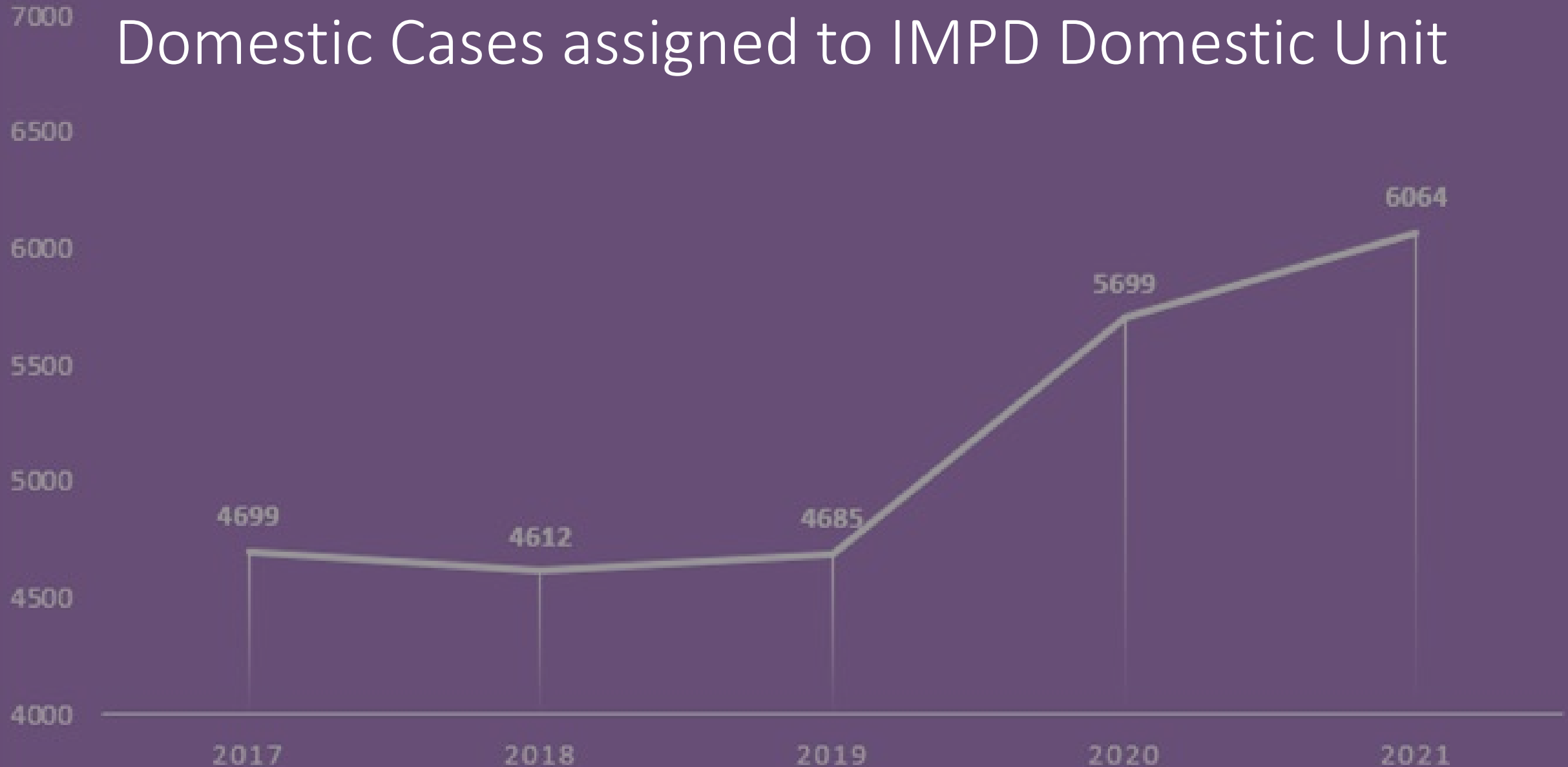
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# Law Enforcement Officers Killed

- 2019 – 2021
  - 12% of suspects had prior domestic violence arrests
- 2016 - 2021
  - 11% of line of duty deaths were responding to domestic disturbance calls

## DV UNIT CASES BY YEAR

Domestic Cases assigned to IMPD Domestic Unit



# Law Enforcement Role

Protection of Life

Civil Calls

# Responding to the Domestic Violence Call

- 80% - 85% of IPV is not physical
- Stop additional harm – “make the scene safe”
- Attend to any injuries and request medical resources as needed
- Separate the involved parties before discussing what occurred
- Determine any criminal actions, relationship of parties, and any injuries that occurred
- Collect physical evidence
  - Photos of injuries, destroyed/overturned furniture, signs of struggle
  - Seize any weapons, recover any other physical evidence
- Any visible firearms during investigation where force used, may be seized.

# Investigating the Call

- Officers Responding to incidents related to domestic violence will:
  - Conduct a thorough primary investigation.
  - Arrest the predominant aggressor when probable cause exists.
    - It is neither necessary nor appropriate for the officer to ask the victim(s) if they wish to prosecute or want the offender arrested or request the victim(s) to execute an affidavit.
    - Dual arrests in domestic violence situations are strongly discouraged, unless there is no other alternative.

# Provide Victim with Transportation and Rights

- Even if no arrest, officers may facilitate transportation to a shelter or other location
- Officers are required by law to make a reasonable effort to inform victims of their rights – often on a printed card
- Department of Child Services notification
  - DCS notification required by LEO if child is injured in the domestic
  - LEO may notify DCS if no injury to the child occurred, but they believe the home to be dangerous



## Civil Issues – Trespass

Abuser not on lease and not willing to leave

Victim not on lease and abuser uses LEOs as a weapon

- Contractual interest is the LE concern
- If contractual interest is present, LE CANNOT evict

# Civil Issues – Child Custody

## Children born out of wedlock

- Biological mother has sole legal custody
- IC 16-37-2-2.1

## Children born in wedlock and/or custody established

- Primary role is safety of the children and parents
- LEOs are not allowed to convene “roadside court” to determine better legal claim

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# Questions?

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