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**FAMILY VIOLENCE ANNUAL REPORT  
FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION UNITS  
SUPERIOR COURT, FAMILY DIVISION  
JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988**

**NCJRS**  
MAY 8 1989  
**ACQUISITIONS**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE  
FAMILY VIOLENCE REPORTING  
PROGRAM  
MARCH 1989**

# Introduction

The Family Violence Prevention and Response Act of 1986 created Family Violence Intervention Units within the Family Division of the Superior Court. These units accept referrals of family violence cases from judges or prosecutors. The Intervention Units are responsible for: preparation of reports for presentation by the next court date; provision or arrangement of services to victims and offenders; administration of service contracts; and provision of a monitoring system for all restraining and protective orders.

The 1986 Act requires that monthly statistical summaries of Intervention Unit activity be submitted to the Crimes Analysis Unit of the Department of Public Safety which compiles annual reports. The following is the 1988 Annual Report for the Family Division.

The reader should note that not all family violence cases are referred to the Family Violence Intervention Units. More serious cases are handled by Part "A" of the Superior Court.

This report includes a summary of Intervention Unit activity for 1988, giving the total number of Cases Referred, Cases Disposed and Cases Open. The yearly summary is followed by information concerning the Nature of Charges, Nature of Violence, Relationship of Parties Involved and Type of Final Disposition Given.

# 1988 Statistical Summary

- ✓ A total of 26,561 cases were referred to the Family Violence Intervention Units during 1988. This represents a 7.0% increase in the total cases referred during 1987 (24,831).
- ✓ 15,239 cases were Disposed Of.
- ✓ 23,179 cases were pending at the end of 1988. 11,857 cases remained open at the end of 1987. Some of the cases Disposed Of during 1988 were undoubtedly cases which were pending at the end of 1987. However, there is no way to determine how many of the 23,179 open cases are still open from 1987 and how many were 1988 cases.
- ✓ Most cases (79.7%) referred to the Intervention Units involved: Unmarried Couples/Live-ins (46.7%); Spouses (30.4%); or Former Spouses (2.5%).
- ✓ Two-thirds of the Cases Referred (66.7%) involved Physical Violence.
- ✓ 38.7% of Charges Filed were for Assault. One-quarter (23.3%) of Charges Filed were for Breach of Peace and 19.7% were for Disorderly Conduct.
- ✓ In three-quarters of the Cases Disposed Of (74.7%) the final Type of Disposition was Nolle Prosequi.
- ✓ 8.6% of the Cases Disposed Of involved the Rearrest of the defendant on another charge.
- ✓ 8.4% of the defendants in the Cases Disposed Of were Fined (4.2%) or received a Suspended Sentence with Probation.

# Definitions

**ACCELERATED REHABILITATION:** The court may use its discretion to invoke accelerated rehabilitation on motion by the defendant or prosecutor if they have good cause to believe the defendant will not offend again; and has no previous record of conviction of a crime.

When granted, the defendant is released to the custody of the office of adult probation, under whatever conditions the judge requires, for a period of up to two years. If the defendant violates any of the conditions of the probation, s/he is brought to trial.

Upon successful completion of probation, the defendant or the court may apply for dismissal of the charges against him/her, which is granted if the judge deems the probation successful. Upon dismissal, all records of the charges are erased.

**CASES DISPOSED OF:** Cases closed by a judge rendering a decision or prosecutor's Nolle Prosequi.

**CASES OPEN:** Cases pending adjudication. This category includes cases disposed of in which the disposition has yet to be recorded.

**DISPOSITION GIVEN:** Most serious consequence given to the defendant.

**FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION UNITS:** The Family Violence Intervention Units were formed by the Family Violence Prevention and Response Act of 1986. Intervention Units accept referrals of less serious offenders from state's attorneys and judges. Intervention Unit staff must prepare reports on each case by the next court date, provide or arrange for services to victims and offenders, administer service contracts and provide a monitoring system for protective and restraining orders. They are also charged with establishing centralized reporting procedures.

**NOLLE PROSEQUI:** A case is "Nolled" when a prosecutor decides not to pursue prosecution. Although counted as a final disposition, the case may be reopened at any time during the following thirteen months for prosecution.

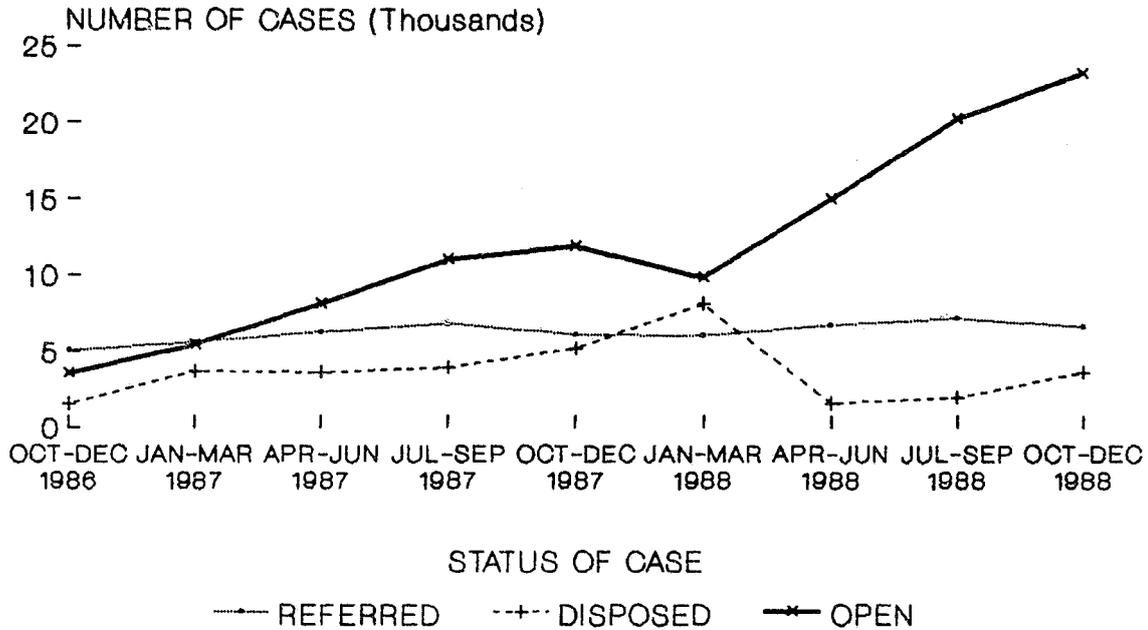
**OTHER CHARGES:** Other charges include Burglary; Robbery and Arson.

**RELATIVE:** Includes brothers; sisters; aunts; uncles; in-laws; cousins; etc.

**UNMARRIED COUPLE/LIVE-IN:** Persons presently residing together; or who have resided together in the recent past; and persons who share a child in common.

# FAMILY VIOLENCE CASELOAD

## 10/1/86 THROUGH 12/31/88

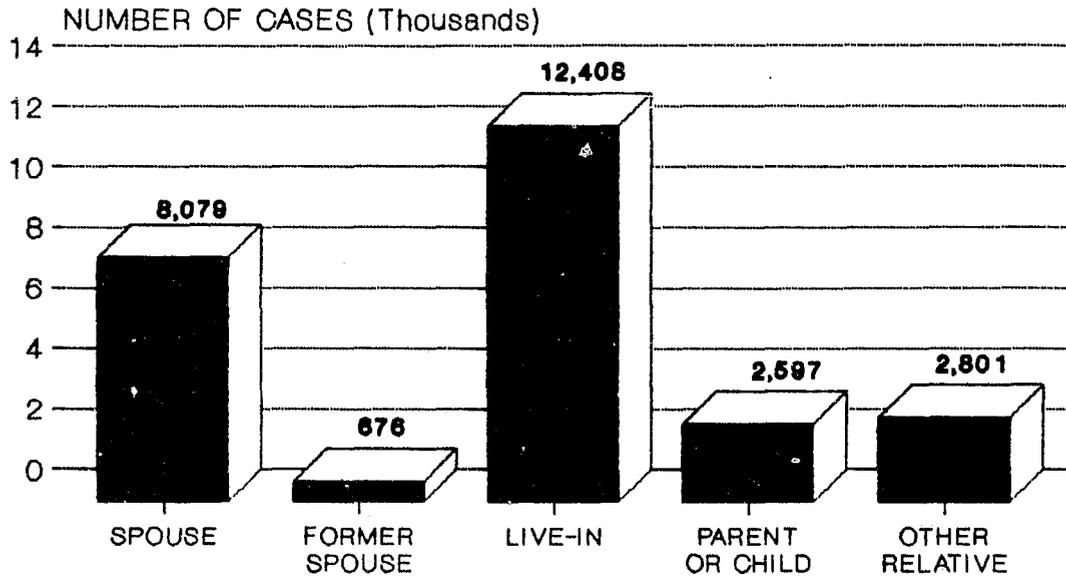


## FAMILY VIOLENCE CASELOAD

### OCTOBER 1, 1986 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988

CASES PENDING AT THE END OF 1986:	3,541
REFERRALS MADE DURING 1987:	<u>+24,831</u>
TOTAL 1987 CASELOAD:	28,372
CASES DISPOSED OF DURING 1987:	<u>-16,515</u>
CASES PENDING AT THE END OF 1987:	11,857
REFERRALS MADE DURING 1988:	<u>+26,561</u>
TOTAL 1988 CASELOAD:	38,418
CASES DISPOSED OF DURING 1988:	<u>-15,239</u>
CASES PENDING AT THE END OF 1988:	<span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">23,179</span>

## RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988

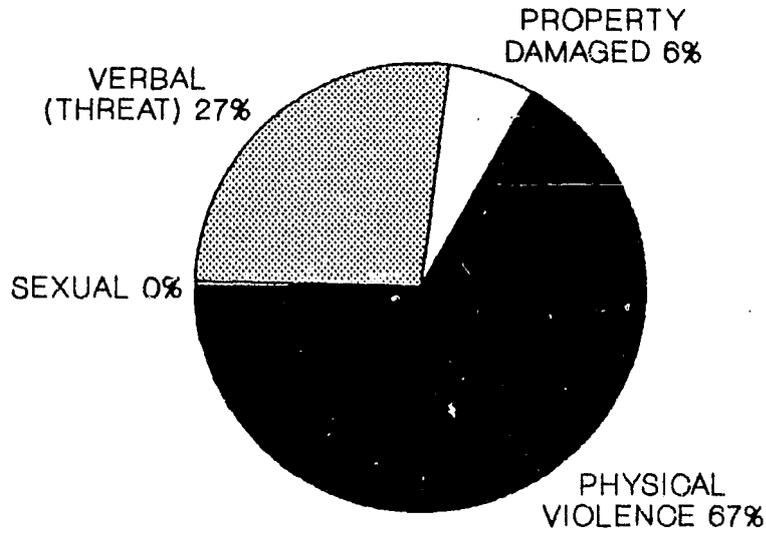


## RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988

RELATIONSHIP	NUMBER OF CASES
SPOUSE	8,079
FORMER SPOUSE	676
UNMARRIED COUPLE/LIVE-IN	12,408
PARENT OR CHILD	2,597
RELATIVE	2,801
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,561</b>

# NATURE OF INCIDENT

## JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988



# NATURE OF INCIDENT

## JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988

NATURE OF INCIDENT	NUMBER OF CASES
PHYSICAL ALTERCATION	17,727
VERBAL CONFLICT (Threat)	7,061
PROPERTY DAMAGE	1,666
SEXUAL VIOLENCE	107
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,561</b>

# TYPE OF CHARGE FILED

## JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988

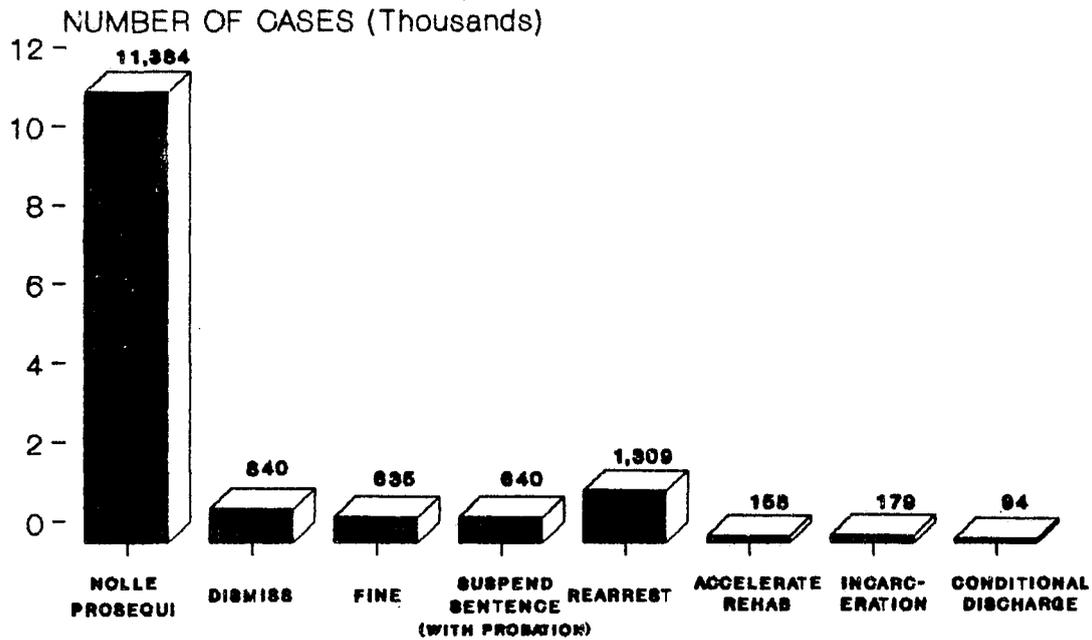
CHARGE	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL	%
<b>ASSAULT</b>		<b>10,269</b>	<b>38.7</b>
1st	68		
2nd	761		
3rd	9,440		
<b>SEXUAL ASSAULT</b>		<b>74</b>	<b>0.3</b>
1st	7		
2nd	8		
3rd	36		
4th	23		
<b>CRIMINAL MISCHIEF</b>		<b>1,455</b>	<b>5.5</b>
1st	93		
2nd	169		
3rd	1,164		
4th	29		
<b>RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT</b>		<b>222</b>	<b>0.8</b>
1st	107		
2nd	115		
<b>KIDNAPPING</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>0.0</b>
1st	0		
2nd	3		
<b>UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>0.2</b>
1st	21		
2nd	37		
<b>CRIMINAL TRESPASS</b>		<b>799</b>	<b>3.0</b>
1st	658		
2nd	25		
3rd	116		
<b>THREATENING</b>		<b>1,684</b>	<b>6.3</b>
<b>RISK OF INJURY</b>		<b>170</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>BREACH OF PEACE</b>		<b>6,189</b>	<b>23.3</b>
<b>DISORDERLY CONDUCT</b>		<b>5,226</b>	<b>19.7</b>
<b>HARASSMENT</b>		<b>193</b>	<b>0.7</b>
<b>VIOLATION</b> (Probation, etc.)		<b>7</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>OTHER</b>		<b>212</b>	<b>0.8</b>

**TOTAL CHARGES = 26,561**

**NOTE: Percentages may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.**

# TYPE OF DISPOSITION

## JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988



## TYPE OF DISPOSITION GIVEN JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1988

TYPE OF DISPOSITION	NUMBER OF CASES	%
NOLLE PROSEQUI	11,384	74.7
DISMISSED	840	5.5
FINE	635	4.2
SUSPENDED SENTENCE WITH PROBATION	640	4.2
REARREST	1,309	8.6
ACCELERATED REHABILITATION	158	1.0
INCARCERATION	179	1.2
CONDITIONAL DISCHARGE	94	0.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,239</b>	<b>100.0</b>