

# Memorandum



**Date:** February 17, 2022

**To:** Honorable Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava  
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava".

**Subject:** Report on the State of Intimate Partner Violence in Miami-Dade County -  
Directive 190535

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The following report is provided pursuant to Resolution No. R-408-19, sponsored by Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, and co-sponsored by former Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava and Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, which was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on April 9, 2019. The resolution directed the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to submit a report after conducting a comprehensive study of the state of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in the County and directed the Domestic Violence Oversight Board (DVOB) to review the results of the comprehensive study and return to the board with recommendations as well as amendments, deletions, or modifications to the County’s comprehensive plan for domestic violence.

As part of my operation to catch up on the backlog items, we are bringing you reports that were pending from the previous administration.

In response to Resolution No. R-408-19, it is important to note that IPV data is not presently available nor is it uniformly captured in the County (or the State). Data currently collected in Miami-Dade County has been comprised of instances of domestic violence as it is more broadly defined. There is no legislative requirement at the present time that requires IPV to be tracked. Florida Statute 741.28 defines domestic violence as any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member. Additionally, as noted in Resolution No. R-408-19, the World Health Organization defines domestic violence as violence by an intimate partner, but the term can also include child or elder abuse, or abuse by any member of a household. The term “intimate partner violence” may be used to specifically refer to violence inflicted by an intimate partner.

CAHSD began collecting data on October 1, 2021, during the intake phase of services provided for clients within the County operated emergency domestic violence shelters and Coordinated Victims Assistance Center. Two questions have been added to the intake tool and the tracking mechanism (Osnum) has been updated to allow for differentiation between two types of domestic violence (familial DV and IPV). These measures will provide one year of data collection that can be used to conduct a local comprehensive study.

The following serves as an interim report to Resolution No. R-408-19. The DVOB is in the process of contracting consulting services to conduct comprehensive research on IPV. The resulting report of this research will be submitted to the Board upon completion.

**Injunctions for Protection Issued in Miami-Dade County, Jan 2019-Dec 2019**

Location	Domestic Violence	Repeat	Dating	Sexual	Stalking	Total
Lawson E. Thomas Courthouse Center	2,504	2,504	186	149	87	5430
Hialeah District Court	377	28	45	8	31	489
South Dade Government Center	1,040	118	69	16	228	1471
North Dade Justice Center	821	144	67	4	1,234	2270
Joseph Caleb Center	22	6	2	2	7	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>4764</b>	<b>2800</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>1587</b>	<b>9699</b>

**Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Battery Cases, Jan 2019-Dec 2019**

<b>Total Number of Cases filed</b>	<b>4796</b>
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**Clients Assisted by Community Action and Human Services Department  
 Violence Prevention and Intervention Division, Jan 2019-Dec 2019**

Location	Total
Coordinated Victims Assistance Center	4308
Safe Space South	269
Safe Space North	383
Safe Space Central (N/A)	0
Inn Transition North	636
Inn Transition South	1856
	<b>7452</b>

**Summary: Miami-Dade Police Department Reported Domestic Violence Offenses  
 Jan 2019-Dec 2019**

Agencies	Total
North	3633
Central	2327
South	2287
<b>Miami-Dade County</b>	<b>8247</b>

**Miami-Dade Police Department Reported Domestic Violence Offenses, 2019**

<b>Agency (North)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bal Harbour Village Police Department	4
Hialeah Police Department	659
Miami Springs Police Department	37
North Miami Beach Police Department	138
Doral Police Department	93
Opa-Locka Police Department	85
Surfside Police Department	15
El Portal Police Department	2
Hialeah Gardens Police Department	48
North Bay Village Police Department	36
North Miami Police Department	384
Virginia Gardens Police Department	5
Bay Harbor Islands Police Department	13
Golden Beach Police Department	1
Indian Creek Village Public Safety Dept.	0
Medley Police Department	4
Sunny Isles Beach Police Department	58
Aventura Police Department	82
Miami Gardens Police Department	520
Biscayne Park Police Department	4
MDPD Intracoastal District Station	374
MDPD Northside District Station	839
MDPD Town of Miami Lakes	42
MDPD Northwest District Station	190
<b>Total</b>	<b>3633</b>

<b>Agency (Central)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Coral Gables Police Department	23
Miami Police Department	1444
Miami Beach Police Department	448
Miami Shores Police Department	11
West Miami Police Department	16
Sweetwater Police Department	22
FDLE - Miami	0
Florida International University PD	0
Miami-Dade County Public Schools PD	6
Miccosukee Police Department	13

Key Biscayne Police Department	3
DOC Inspector General - Miami-Dade	0
DABT - Miami-Dade	0
DIFS - Miami-Dade	0
FWC - Miami-Dade	0
FHP - Miami	15
South Miami Police Department	33
MDPD Midwest District Station	293
	<b>2327</b>

<b>Agency (South)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Florida City Police Department	196
Homestead Police Department	268
Town of Cutler Bay Police Dept.	122
Village of Pinecrest Police Department	13
Palmetto Bay Police Department	33
MDPD Hammocks District Station	513
MDPD Kendall District Station	289
MDPD Village of Palmetto Bay	28
MDPD South District Station	825
	<b>2287</b>

MPDP will continue to track and document all domestic violence offenses and arrests as governed under Florida Statute 741.28, which occur within Miami-Dade County’s jurisdiction. MPDP currently does not track IPV cases separate from those cases encompassed within the State of Florida Statute; however, MPDP will have future discussion with partners on this matter.

The DVOB is empowered to advise on all matters relating to domestic violence, including the use of the proceeds of a Food and Beverage Tax levied by the County in accordance with section 212.0306 of the Florida Statutes. The DVOB adopted the 2019 Annual Report and Interim Amendment to the Domestic Violence Plan, in which it recommended that the comprehensive assessment of intimate partner violence in the County include eight priority sections:

- 1) existing continuum of demand for services;
- 2) the socioeconomic demographic of the County as compared to other similarly sized counties;
- 3) service interventions and responses;
- 4) communities’ ability to help abusers stop their violent behavior while holding them accountable;
- 5) outcomes and benefits of services and interventions;
- 6) intersectional issues and collaborative strategies and opportunities between systems designed to enhance shelter services;

- 7) how to maximize and leverage funding for domestic violence services; and
- 8) building capacity among current service providers.

The data provided in this report reflects only instances of domestic violence as collected by the Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD), Florida State Attorney’s Office, and the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD). As previously mentioned, as dictated under Florida Statute 741.28, the data is collected as “domestic violence” and cannot be bifurcated for specific instances of “intimate partner violence.”

Educating the community about the various forms of domestic violence and how to seek help remain a priority for my Administration. The Communications and Customer Experience Department (CCED) created and ran a public awareness campaign that will continue and expand to include content for Miami-Dade TV and other digital media platforms.

Lastly, CAHSD assumed programmatic and operational oversight of SafeSpace Central (formerly the Lodge) in June 2020. SafeSpace Central is included in the data collection that commenced on October 1, 2021.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sonia Grice, Director, Community Action and Human Services Department, at (786) 469-4616.

Per Ordinance No. 14-65, this report will be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda.

- c:
- Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
  - Gerald Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney
  - Jess McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney
  - Office of the Mayor, Senior Staff
  - Sonia Grice, Director, Community Action and Human Services Department
  - Alfredo Ramirez III, Director, Miami-Dade Police Department
  - Inson Kim, Director, Communication and Customer Experience
  - Jennifer Moon, Chief, Office of Policy and Budgetary Affairs
  - Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor
  - Melissa Adames, Director, Clerk of the Board
  - Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator, Office of Agenda Coordination