

2013 Program Report Card: Domestic Violence Prosecution (Division of Criminal Justice) – Update: 2013

Quality of Life Result: Allow for Connecticut residents to live lives free from fear and abuse.

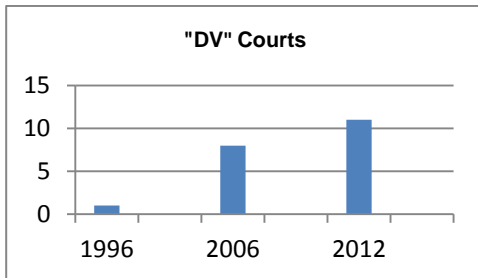
Contribution to the Result: Utilizing the best practices of vertical prosecution, along with a coordinated community response, the DCJ breaks the cycle of violence by holding offenders accountable, monitoring them closely; and ultimately increasing the safety of victims, their families and the community.

Program Expenditures	State Funding	Federal Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
Actual SFY 12	\$131,770	\$395,310	\$0	\$527,080
Estimated SFY 13	\$130,280	\$390,838	\$0	\$521,118

Partners: A coordinated community response ensures that DCJ work with many partners, especially Judges, our local state’s attorneys (prosecutors), both community based and state advocates, public defenders and private attorneys, both state and local law enforcement agencies, family relations officers, DCF case workers and investigators, probation and parole officers, DMHAS mental health diversionary personnel, and Judicial Department contracted program providers.

How Much Did We Do?

Number of superior courts (Part B) utilizing vertical prosecution and coordinated community response.



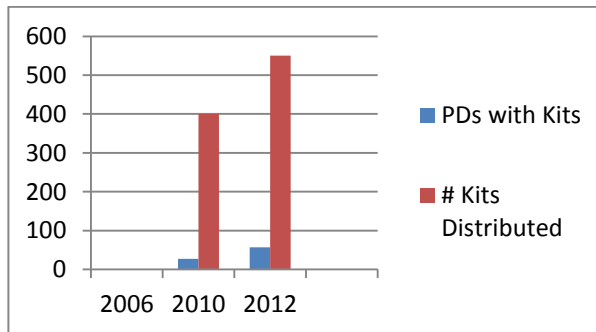
Story behind the baseline:

While it is the Judicial Branch that officially creates “DV Courts,” it is the responsibility of the Division to provide prosecutorial staff, which it has done for the eleven special dockets currently extant. In furtherance of this effort, DCJ has secured federal funding for five of these positions. In calendar 2012, those prosecutors handled 9,674 DV case referrals.

Trend: ▲

How Well Did We Do It?

Increase digital photographic evidence available for use in prosecution.



Story behind the baseline: DCJ worked with OPM to obtain funding for 400 Domestic and Sexual Violence Investigation Kits¹ to be distributed to 27 law enforcement agencies. The Kits (including digital cameras) were developed by multi-disciplinary subject experts, and should increase consistency of investigations, increase the amount of evidence collected, and facilitate victim accessibility to resources. Photographic evidence can speak for victims when they are unable to speak for themselves. The 27 agencies received their kits in January 2010. Because of an overwhelming response, additional DOJ

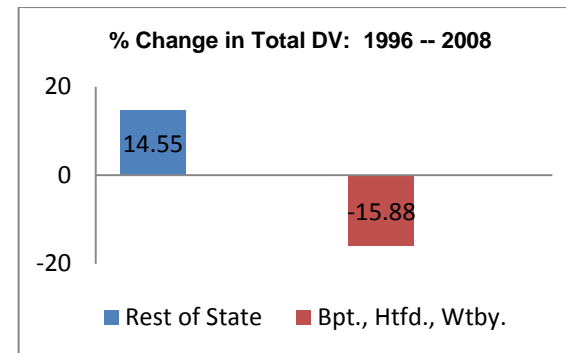
- Violence Against Women funding was identified to expand the program later that year.

Update: 57 police departments have received 550 kits – 85 police officers have received in-depth training.

Trend: ▲

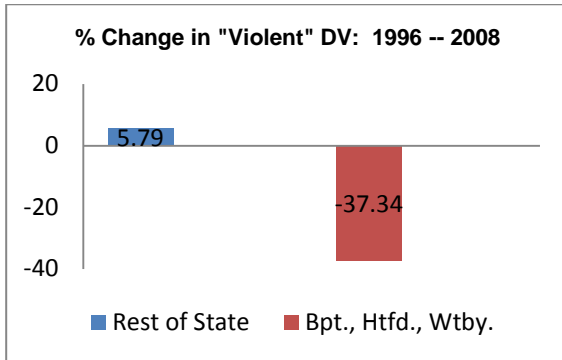
Is Anyone Better Off?

Long term effect of dedicated DV prosecution on total and violent Domestic Violence incidents.



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Story behind the baseline:

Update: DCJ examined the impact of dedicated DV prosecutors on total and *violent* (assault, sexual assault, kidnaping, homicide) DV crimes, comparing 1996 (the first year DPS kept track of DV data by type of incident) to 2008 in the cities of Bridgeport, Hartford, and Waterbury (which maintained dedicated full time DV prosecutors 1996 – 2008).

DCJ tracked total DV incidents and total *violent* incidents in Bridgeport, Hartford, and Waterbury and compared those figures to the data for the state as a whole (minus the totals for Bridgeport, Hartford and Waterbury – thus comparing cities DCJ placed a long-term DV focus on to the *rest* of the state.)

In a time period where total DV statewide incidents went **up** 14.55%, the total for DCJ DV focus sites went **down** 15.88%. For the same period, total *violent* DV statewide incidents went **up** 5.79%, yet were **down** 37.34% in DV focus sites.

Trend: ▲

Proposed Actions to Turn the Curve:

How Much:

Work with Judicial to create more DV dockets. Seek state and federal support for dedicated DV prosecutor positions to staff them.

How Well:

The program will be evaluated with a series of surveys completed by law enforcement supervisors, first responders and prosecutors.

Is Anyone Better Off:

Identify and attempt to secure resources to fund dedicated DV prosecutor positions. Work with Judicial to expand the number of informal and formal DV dockets.

Data Development Agenda:

Track cases and compile data by use of a comprehensive, electronic criminal case management system.

Currently the only way to perform statistical analysis of performance measures is by hand research of written records, working with data collected by separate agencies for other purposes, or relying on dated academic studies.

Update: Continue the ongoing process to upgrade overall DCJ hardware/software infrastructure so as to allow for and support the creation and implementation of an electronic case management system that captures criminal investigation and prosecution data, allowing DCJ to measure the success of programs, allocate appropriate resources, and gauge the overall effectiveness of its operations. Funding has been secured for these purposes. Upgrade of hardware and software is nearly complete; case management system scheduled for implementation in calendar 2013.