DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES IN VOLUSIA COUNTY, 2013

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines domestic violence as a pattern of behavior which involves the abuse by one person against another in an intimate relationship such as marriage, cohabitation, dating or within the family.

Florida State Statute defines domestic violence as any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member (F.S. 741.28).

The Florida domestic violence offense (DVO) rate has consistently decreased since 2004. In contrast, the DVO rate for Volusia County has risen from a low of 667 offenses per 100,000 persons in 2004 to a rate of 807.4 in 2013, a 21 percent increase. Sub-county level data reveal similar trends - increases in the DVO rate in each health quadrant since 2009 except for the southeastern quadrant. The DVO rate in the southeast quadrant has decreased by 30.5% since 2011.

According to the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in 2010, 113,378 crimes of domestic violence were reported to Florida law enforcement agencies resulting in 67,810 arrests.
Police Agency Domestic Violence Offense Distribution, Volusia County, 2013

- Volusia County Sheriff's Office had the largest percentage (39.5%) of domestic violence offenses followed by the Daytona Beach PD with 26.1%
- Volusia County Sheriff's Office, Daytona Beach PD, Ormond PD, Port Orange PD, and Deland PD accounted for 86.4% of all domestic violence offenses in Volusia County in 2013

NOTE: Volusia County Sheriff's Office covers all other areas in the county not covered by city police departments.
Volusia County Beach Patrol covers the beach of the entire eastern coast of the county. The Volusia-Florida Game Commission patrols all county waterways, forests and parks, except for the beaches.

Data Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Domestic Violence Dataset, 2009-2013

Percent of Domestic Violence Offenses by Type of Offense, Volusia County, 2013

- Simple Assault — an intentional and unlawful threat made by one person towards another in order to create a reasonable fear that violence or harm is about to occur. (Section 784.011, FL Statues)
- Aggravated Assault — an intentional and unlawful threat made by one person towards another with a perceived ability to carry out the threat with a deadly weapon or an intent to cause bodily harm, permanent disability or disfigurement. (Section 784.021, FL Statues)

Simple assault, a misdemeanor, comprised 82.9% of all domestic violence offenses in Volusia County in 2013
Aggravated assault, a felony, accounted for 13.7% of all domestic violence offenses in Volusia County in 2013

For more information, contact the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County Office of Informatics and Assessment at 386 274-0605 or visit our website www.VolusiaHealth.com