Hello, everyone.

Welcome today I’d like to talk with you about violence against women crimes and officer and victim safety.

All the opinions that will be shared today are my opinions and not necessarily the opinions of the Department of Justice and OVW.

My name is John Guard. I’m Chief Deputy with the Pitt County Sheriff’s Office in Greenville, North Carolina.

I’ll be sharing some information with you today over the course of the next 10 minutes. A little bit of background about myself been in law enforcement about 28 years now.

The overwhelming majority of that, I’ve been focusing on, intimate partner violence response, to investigation of, a lot of work around policy changes here, within a local jurisdiction, as well as the state level and nationally too, so I want to jump right into this information so we can get it in And the time that's allowed. So, I'll start with this question. What does domestic violence response after do victim and officer safety?

And to answer that, I want to share with you, just see clips from some articles that I've seen over the course of a number of years.

And by doing this, what I'm hoping to accomplish is to kinda lay the foundation and discuss the parallels between violence that affects victims within the contexts of the home, intimate partner violence, and deaths, law enforcement.

And the trends we've been seeing nationally is that there is an absolute correlation between those that are killed in the context of management partner violence and those deaths of men and women who are responding to these homes to help.

Um, and these, these trends haven't just started them, and they've, they've been here for a number of years, and I'm glad we're focusing on this a little more today than than we have. Maybe,

When I started my career back in the very early, early nineties, but there is a correlation.

And now, although, you know, we look at domestic violence, generally, we say it's like the second most reported crime to law enforcement. Second only to theft. And when we talk about officers killed in the line of duty, I don't think we point out this correlation as much as we should, so can we, and our response,
Address and drop these numbers down on both sides?

Both men and women killed within the home by way of intimate partner violence, and the deaths of the men and women that are responding to these? And I think we can. So, again, not going to read all the slides to you. Just know that it's not just one or or or two studies out there that address this issue. There are a number of studies that have pointed out this, this correlation between people that are killed in the context of violence within the home and law enforcement that are, are responding. So.

Ah.

We know it's dangerous now for both,

Law enforcement, and people within the home. What? What can we do about these, these calls? Are there things we can do that can drive this down, these numbers down? And I think I think there is.

and I want to kinda look at the numbers just a little more it and and share this with you that in about 60% of all homicides within related to intimate partner violence, all sides of women that that guns are involved.

And we know, when we talk about Mass killings, you know where, four or more people are killed

In an incident, 54% of these cases, the perpetrator killed their intimate partner.

If you look toward Newtown, the first person that was killed in that case, prior to going to the school, was the mother, so it was within the home.

The Washington Post, did a series of all the children that were killed, and the year after Newtown. There were 71 children killed nationally.

And when they started pulling back the layers of the onion and doing their investigation.

They found overhyped, 52% of those children they were killed were killed in the context of domestic violence.

So, when we look at some of the most tragic cases across the country, it seems like, more often than not, the underlying issue is intimate partner violence.

So, what can be done?
5:31 Well, we've argued for years, understanding the basics of domestic violence is the foundation of where we, as law enforcement start.

5:41 Domestic violence is about power and control and those offenders don't only use those tactics against people within their family, but they also use it against the officers that respond to the scene and so manipulating them.

6:02 So, the information I hope to share today is that if we want to make a change in these numbers, drive these numbers down, Mitigate some of these senseless homicides that we need to get back to the the basics. and it starts with our response to domestic violence.

6:24 We need to understand and recognize that the dynamics are, are progressive in nature.

6:33 That we need to focus on protecting the victims through intervention, follow up, and and referrals to the programs within our communities.

6:43 That can be resources for the people that are victimized in the context of domestic violence.

6:50 And focus on holding the offender accountable by enforcing the laws and making lawful arrest.

6:59 obviously every call we respond to as a potential crime.

7:04 It's not just a mission to keep the peace. We're taught as very, very young children, universally that when there's an emergency dial 911.

7:17 So we know going in that there is more than a fair probability, that there's probably a crime that has been been committed.

7:29 We also know that this is a pattern of behavior. It's very seldom an incident

7:39 So we should be able to dig and investigate and determine what those potential problems are.

7:46 No, in law enforcement may be this interaction with us, may be their only chance for help.

7:52 All domestic violence situations are potentially more violent than what we may observe.

7:59 one world seen it like that moment because they are having an opportunity to manipulate us as responding officers is very similar to the way they do the people within the home.
Uh, often the offenders had past experiences for law enforcement, and they've learned, our behavior.

8:21
So we want to be really cautious of that. We already know that 42 states across the country prohibit abusers that are subject to protective orders from purchasing or possessing firearms.

8:34
We also understand that enforcement gaps undermine their effectiveness.

8:41
You couple this with 27% And this was a study that was done back in 2014. 27% of defendants known to have firearms are willing to surrender it to officers when they serve a protective order.

8:58
Math wasn't one of my strongest suits in school, but if 27% are willing to do that means 73% are going to try not to surrender firearms during the course of a protective order.

9:12
So what are the numbers?

9:14
Here in 2004 a week, we track that data and our average number of firearm seized pursuant to service over protective order was seven. it's never oneies or twosies. Chances are, if they have one, they have multiple.

9:29
And that’s why we strongly encourage folks to reach out to their local ATF office, get a copy of their white book, their Federal Final Regulations Reference Guide. And that will give you a whole ton of federal laws that can be used and leveraged to disarm prohibited individuals.

9:51
Hopefully, these actions not only save the lives of victims and children within the home, but also, too, the men and women in the law enforcement business that are tasked with responding to these times, this was not meant to be a, really goes to the wage training. And today, it's it's just affirmation meant to stimulate all and make sure we're starting and building a good foundation initially, and always learning. So I enjoyed my time with you all today. You have any questions. My contact information is there on the screen. I'd also like to thank the IACP for the opportunity to share this information with you.