

January (Vol. 4, No. 1)

Published By
Oklahoma State Bureau of
Investigation

Stan Florence
Director

Charles Curtis
Deputy Director

Dave Page
Division Director
Information Services Division

Angie Baker
SAC Director

John Flores-Hidones
Statistical Research Specialist

Nikki Lofftus
Statistical Research Specialist

Jessica Shouse
Statistical Research Specialist

Jennifer Powell
Liaison
OK Violent Death Reporting
System



Oklahoma Address Confidentiality Program

John Flores-Hidones

The Oklahoma Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) was created on January 1, 2003, under 22 O.S. § 60.14. It initially started under the administration of the Secretary of State and was later transferred to the Office of Attorney General. The ACP provides victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking with a substitute address. It allows victims to interact with state and local government agencies without disclosing their actual residence. The address serves as the victim's home, work, and school address. The substitute address can be used for school records (enrollment, registration, etc.), applying for benefits (social services, child support, etc.), legal transactions (court documents, protective orders, etc.) and other activities. The ACP also denies perpetrators the possibility of using public or government records to locate their victims.

The program consists of two parts: first, it provides relocated victims with a substitute address; second, it provides a free first-class mail forwarding service to program participants. To qualify for the ACP, an individual must be a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking who fears for his/her safety; and a resident of Oklahoma who has recently relocated to a place unknown to his/her abuser or is planning to move in the near future. Application to the ACP is made in person at one of the designated victim assistance programs located throughout the state. Parent or guardians can apply on behalf of a minor or incapacitated person.

The ACP certification of a program participant is effective for four years, unless canceled prior to its expiration date. The ACP may cancel a certification if: the individual fails to notify the ACP of a change in address seven days after moving; the mail forwarded by the ACP is returned undeliverable; the individual provides false or incorrect information upon submitting an application to the ACP; and the individual obtains a name change.

The records of each participant are kept confidential and cannot be released without a formal request by a court of law. Verification of ACP participation is limited to state and local agencies. For more information about the Program and how to apply, please call 1-866-227-7784 (toll-free).

Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General – Oklahoma Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) <http://www.oag.ok.gov/oagweb.nsf/v-acp.html>

In this issue:

National Stalking Awareness Month

Victim Services Spotlight: Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma's Project SAFE.

Nikki Lofftus

Project SAFE, a program designed to increase community awareness and assist Native American victims of violent crimes, was awarded in 2006 by the Department of Justice Office on Violence against Women. Program staff works with members of the community to implement strategies to increase awareness and prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Project SAFE targets ten counties in southeastern Oklahoma with the highest rates of domestic violence and stalking.

Working with local schools, program staff has implemented the Safe Date Curriculum in the classroom for grades 6-12. The curriculum teaches students the signs of abusive relationships, what to do if involved in an abusive relationship, and how to avoid them. Every year at the teen conference, Project SAFE presents the latest information to over 300 advocates on domestic violence and stalking to increase awareness and prevention. During freshman orientation, college students are provided resources related to prevention and identification of stalking. The program also provides training to local law enforcement by supplying officers with a victim's resource envelope; officers distribute the envelopes when they respond to stalking-related calls.

For more information on Project SAFE, please visit <http://www.choctawfamilyservices.com/project-safe/project-safe.php> or <http://choctawnation.com/news-room/press-room/media-releases/project-safe-spreads-awareness-across-southeast-oklahoma>.

Reminder

The Office of Criminal Justice Statistics can assist you and your agency with statistics for grant applications or other research requests. [www.ok.gov/osbi/Statistical Analysis Center](http://www.ok.gov/osbi/Statistical_Analysis_Center)

Recent Publications

Crime in Oklahoma, 2012

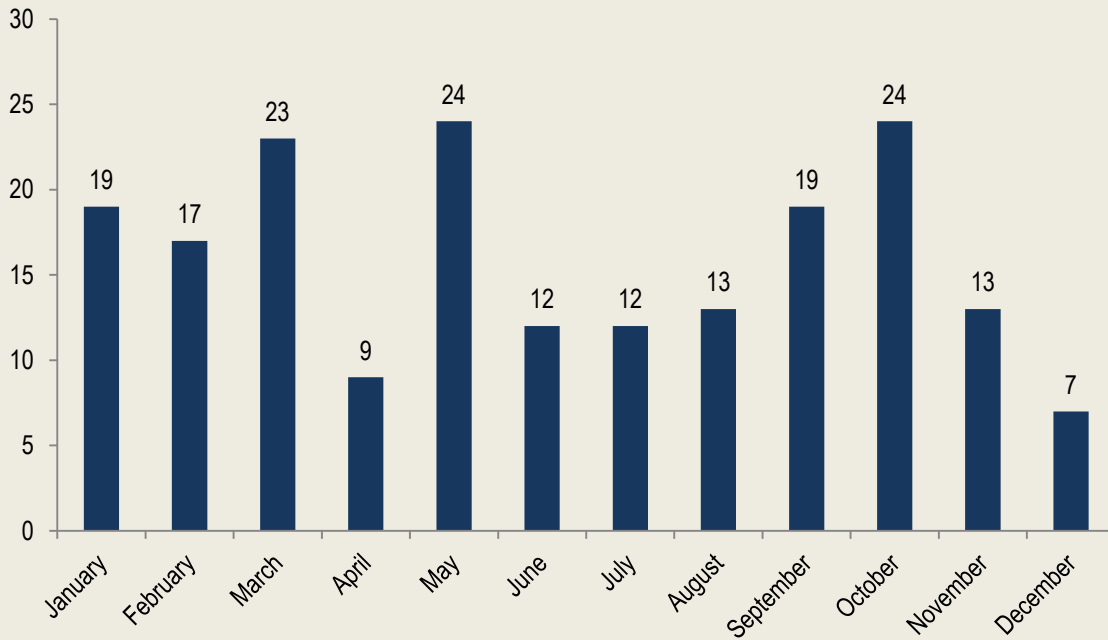
Arrest-Related Deaths, 2012

Murder in Oklahoma, 2012

Domestic Violence in Oklahoma,
2012

Office of Criminal Justice Statistics: Research Requests, 2013

Research Requests, by Month



The Office of Criminal Justice Statistics received 192 research requests in 2013, up from 151 in 2012.

Requests vary in the level of complexity, from requests for contact information to requests for complex datasets. Requests also cover a range of criminal justice-related topics.

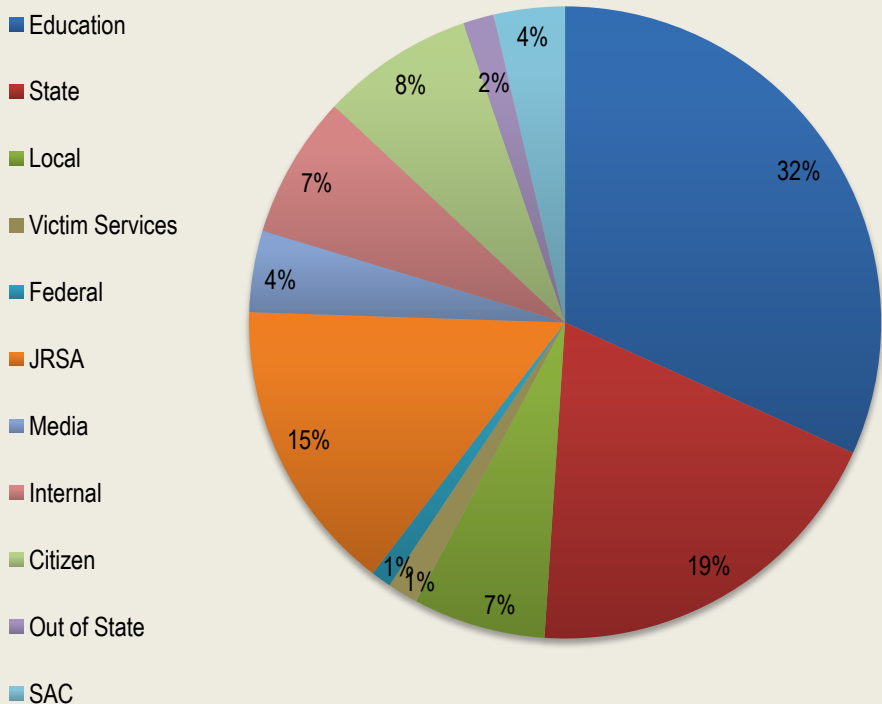
The majority of requests involve state crime statistics. Requestors use data to complete grant applications, enhance presentations, and enable effective decision making.

Requests related to rape and sexual assault continued to climb in 2013.

Requests for drug-related data remained steady in 2013; however, Data requests on drug threat assessment increased in 2013.

Research staff has received 12 research requests so far in 2014. In general, requests received this time of year are from researchers and fiscal analysts in neighboring states who are requesting data to assist them in creating fiscal impact statements for proposed legislation.

Research Requests, by Source



Baker's Dozen

Angie Baker, SAC Director

January is National Stalking Awareness Month (NSAM). NSAM aims to provide outreach for stalking victims and promote awareness. The Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report from 2009 focused on stalking victimization. Select findings from the report are provided below:

1. The U.S. Department of Justice defines stalking as “ a pattern of repeated and unwanted attention, harassment, contact or any other course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear;”
2. Approximately 6.6 million people are victims of stalking each year in the United States;
3. Stalking is considered a criminal act and punishable by law in every US State. ;
4. Women are three times more likely than men to become victims of stalking;
5. Seventy-five percent of stalking victims know their stalker;
6. Approximately one-third of stalking victims fear the stalking will never stop;
7. Fifteen percent of stalking victims move in an attempt to avoid stalking;
8. Persons 18-24 are at highest risk of stalking victimization;
9. Approximately 25% of stalking victims experienced some form of cyberstalking;
10. Males stalking victims are stalked equally by males and female perpetrators;
11. Less than 40% of stalking victims report the crime to authorities;
12. Oklahoma ranks number one for prevalence of stalking, rape, and/or physical violence of females by an intimate partner;
13. For more information, please visit <http://stalkingawarenessmonth.org> or <http://www.victimsofcrime.org>

Information adapted from: Stalking Resource Center: Stalking Fact Sheet, 2012 (US Department of Justice, Office on Violence against Women: 2012); National Crime Victimization Survey: Stalking Victimization in the United States, 2009 (US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, BJS: 2009); National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2010 Summary Report (National Center for Injury Prevention & Control of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: 2010)

Mission

To collect, analyze, and disseminate criminal justice research to educate and assist law enforcement and the citizens of Oklahoma.