



TEMPE FAMILY JUSTICE COMMISSION 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Description as Defined in Ordinance:

The Tempe Family Justice Commission advises the City Council and assists City departments in promoting access to justice and safety for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking; providing leadership and facilitating access to resources that will contribute to wrap-around services and a multi-disciplinary response for the victims and survivors; coordinating cross training and multi-disciplinary tools to provide training opportunities to criminal justice personnel and healthcare providers about educational initiatives and systems based standards of practice that are critical to serving the victims of domestic and sexual violence and keeping them safe; and expanding education and outreach to vulnerable populations..

TCC § {Ord. No. O2015.25, 6-25-15}

List of Board and Commission Members, Including Attendance and Service Dates:

<u>Board/Commission Members:</u>	<u>Service Dates:</u>	<u>Attendance Record:</u>
Jeanette Costa	January 21, 2020 – Present	100% Attendance
Ilene Dode	August 18, 2016 – Present	Absent: May
Josie Montenegro	September 15, 2020 – Present	Absent: Mar, Jul, Aug
Jill Etienne	September 22, 2022 – Present	100% Attendance
Mary O’Grady	December 14, 2017 – Present	Absent: Sep
Jill Oliver	December 14, 2017 – Present	100% Attendance
Mark Perkovich	December 3, 2020-Present	Absent: May
Patricia Riggs	March 28, 2019 – Present	Absent: Jun, Sep
Bjorg LeSueur	April 28, 2022 – Present	Absent: Jul
Margaret “Peggy” Tinsley	June 23, 2016 – Present	Absent: Apr
Anastasia Stinchfield	December 9, 2021 - Present	Absent: Jul

Name of Chair and Vice Chair:

- Chair – Mary O’Grady
- Vice Chair – Ilene Dode

Staff Liaison and Contact Information:

<u>Staff Liaison:</u>	<u>Department:</u>	<u>Phone:</u>	<u>Email:</u>
Paul Bentley	Human Services	480-350-5426	Paul_Bentley@tempe.gov
Nicole Galvan	Human Services	480-350-5478	Nicole_Galvan@tempe.gov

Meeting Frequency and Location:

The Family Justice Commission typically meets on the third Tuesday each month from 4pm-6pm.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Family Justice Commission meetings were held via Microsoft Teams.

As of May 21, 2022, the Family Justice Commission meetings were held via Microsoft Teams, as well as in-person at the Tempe Public Library.

Number of Meetings Cancelled and Reason for Cancellation:

No meetings were canceled. One meeting, originally scheduled for March 15, 2022, was rescheduled and took place on March 29, 2022.

Vacancies and Duration of Vacancies:

One Arizona State University Faculty seat was vacant from January 1, 2022 to April 27, 2022. The seat was filled by Commission Member Bjorg LeSueur, Ed. on April 28, 2022.

One At-Large Member seat was vacated in September 2022. The seat was immediately filled by Commission Member Jill Etienne on September 22, 2022.

Subcommittee and Subcommittee Activity:

Did the Board/Commission have any subcommittees active during the reporting period? YES NO

Mission Statement:

The Mission of the Family Justice Commission is to provide advice, recommendations, and guidance to the Mayor and City Council that promotes a coordinated community response to issues related to domestic and sexual violence.

Accomplishments (Past 12 Months):

- Completed the Domestic Violence Awareness campaign by providing informative posters to city buildings and local businesses to help victims in finding assistance
- Supported the opening of the Tempe Family Advocacy Center
- Submitted Teen Violence Awareness and Prevention Memorandum to Mayor and Council
- Invited representatives from Arizona State University's Counseling & Sexual and Relationship Violence Prevention Program to speak about student access to resources and counseling
- Submitted Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Memorandum to Mayor and Council
- Submitted Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Memorandum to Mayor and Council
- Invited Communications and Media Relations to assist with Commission initiatives
- Reviewed crime and victim statistics to inform Commission initiatives
- Reviewed report on Arizona Justice Commission to inform Commission initiatives

Goals Related to City Council Strategic Priorities, if Applicable (Next 12 Months):

- Advance messaging and communication with Tempe City Council
- Invite Tempe's Chief Diversity Officer to speak at a Commission meeting to determine how the Family Justice Commission can support her role
- Support the Family Advocacy Center by advocating to help strengthen the trauma healing initiative
- Ensure inclusion of vulnerable populations
- Host a training involving multiple disciplines
- Encourage service providers to collect and report outcome data (qualitative, satisfaction, etc.) from clients
- Explore connecting points with other commissions, departments, and resources
- Identify complementary community resources to support the Family Advocacy Center

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC ABUSE?



Abuse can take many forms

Physical

Being shoved, grabbed, exit blocked

Financial

Funds withheld, spending monitored

Emotional

Being threatened or humiliated, feeling confused

Verbal

Constant criticism, being ridiculed & called names

Sexual

Pressured or forced sex



THERE IS HOPE

The City of Tempe's CARE 7 team offers hope for you today

Safety planning

Shelter information

Connection to community resources

Orders of protection

Assistance with criminal justice process

Counseling & support groups

Emotional Support

Trauma healing services

Yoga, art and music, support groups, family support

Visit: tempe.gov/CARE7
or call **480-350-8004**



Poster developed by Tempe Family Justice Commission

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MEMORANDUM



TO: City of Tempe Mayor and Council
THROUGH: Naomi Farrell, Human Services Director
FROM: Tempe Family Justice Commission
DATE: January 28, 2022
SUBJECT: Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month – February 2022

Because February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, the Tempe Family Justice Commission is providing this memorandum as part of its responsibility to advise the Mayor and City Council on various crimes that involve sexual violence. This is the first briefing memorandum that the Commission has provided to the Mayor and Council on the important problem of teen dating violence.

The Family Justice Commission includes members with backgrounds in social services, law enforcement, education, child welfare, law, health care, and private citizens who care about the issues that the Commission was created to address.

Teen Dating Violence – The Problem

Dating violence encompasses a wide range of conduct, including physical violence, sexual violence, psychological aggression, and stalking. It can occur in person, through social media and all the various ways people can communicate. It can have a devastating and long-term impact on its victims.¹

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 26% of women and 15% of men who have been victims of sexual violence, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner, first suffered those experiences before age 18. Nearly 1 in 11 female and 1 in 14 male high school students have reported experiencing physical dating violence within the year before surveyed; and 1 in 8 female and 1 in 26 male high school students reported experiencing sexual dating violence in the previous year.²

Teen dating violence is not a new problem, but it has changed with technological advances that provide more tools to harass and abuse people.

Not surprisingly, the consequences can be significant. It can jeopardize the victims' immediate and long-term mental health and lead to destructive behaviors. Teen victims are often victimized again later in life.³

¹ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, "Preventing Teen Dating Violence," <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/teendatingviolence/fastfact.html> (last viewed January 6, 2021) (hereinafter cited as, CDC, Preventing Teen Dating Violence.)

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

Tempe Context

No place is exempt from the problem of teen dating violence. Tempe is fortunate to have Care 7, the City's crisis response program, which provides victim assistance and trauma healing services. Care 7 also provides education and outreach programs to Tempe schools. These programs are intended to help prevent problems from occurring and increase awareness of the help that is available. Care 7 has educational materials aimed specifically at teen dating violence that include phone numbers for hotlines designed for teens as well as contact information for a variety of local and national resources and basic information about the nature of dating violence and suggestions for a safety plan.⁴

The Tempe Police Department also works closely with Care 7 to maintain constant communication with victims throughout their investigations and to help provide the appropriate resources and prevent further victimization.

This collaboration between Care 7, which is part of the Tempe Human Services Department, and the Tempe Police Department is a critical part of serving victims of dating violence in our community and trying to prevent this conduct from occurring. As a home to a major university, collaboration with ASU is also important in addressing dating violence in our community.

Outreach and Education

Some of the education concerning dating violence involves education about what healthy relationships look like.⁵ Some of the educational efforts focus on high school students. Education and outreach programs also help educate adults on these issues so they can reinforce messages about healthy relationships, identify potential problems, and know how to get help when it is needed. On-line safety is an important part of the educational efforts.

This important work is also done by Care 7.

Recommendations

The Mayor and Council are encouraged to:

- (1) Advocate for Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention in the month of February by posting recognition on City websites and social media and contributing to any and all efforts to raise awareness of the problem;
- (2) Continue to support the Family Advocacy Center so that Tempe has a safe place that provides comprehensive services to victims of dating violence and other crimes;
- (3) Continue to support Care 7's victims services and the Tempe Police Department as they support victims of crimes resulting from teen dating violence.

⁴ City of Tempe Human Services Department, Care 7 Crisis Response Unit, "Teen Dating Violence," <https://www.tempecenterforthearts.com/Home/ShowDocument?id=82281> (last viewed Jan. 6, 2021).

⁵ *Id.* CDC, Preventing Teen Dating Violence.

Family Justice Commission

Chair – Mary O’Grady	Jill Oliver
Vice Chair – Ilene Dode	Mark Perkovich
Jeanette Costa	Patricia Riggs
Josie Montenegro	Anastasia Stinchfield
Robin Nelson	Margaret Tinsley

Past Commissioners involved in the draft of this memorandum:

Dr. Megan Brown
Kris Scharlau

Resources

Center for Disease Control and Prevention: [Preventing Teen Dating Violence | Violence Prevention | Injury Center | CDC](#)

National Institute of Justice – [Teen Dating Violence | National Institute of Justice \(ojp.gov\)](#)

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Family & young Services Bureau -- [Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month \(TDVAM\) | The Administration for Children and Families \(hhs.gov\)](#)

MEMORANDUM



TO: Mayor and Council
THROUGH: Naomi Farrell, Director of Human Services
FROM: City of Tempe Family Justice Commission
DATE: April 1, 2022
SUBJECT: Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (April 2022)

Purpose

One of the purposes of the City of Tempe Family Justice Commission is to advise the City Council and assist City departments in promoting access to justice and safety for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and sex trafficking. Because April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention month, the Commission prepared this memorandum to highlight the problem of sexual assault, describe the City's work in this area, and make recommendations for continued focus on these crimes and their victims and survivors.

The Family Justice Commission includes members with backgrounds in social services, law enforcement, education, child welfare, law, health care and private citizens who care about the issues that the Commission was created to address.

Background

Sexual assault is a crime that involves sexual activity when consent is not obtained or not freely given.¹ Nationally, more than one in three women and one in four men has experienced some type of sexual violence.² Nearly one in five women and one in 38 men have been victims of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault.³ This crime does not discriminate as victims vary from very young to very old, and all walks of life. The harm to victims can be both physical and psychological, and the crime can have long term consequences.

April's official designation as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention month nationally dates back to 2001.⁴ Even before its national recognition, there were efforts to bring attention to the problem and assist survivors. While the initial focus was to increase awareness of the problem of sexual violence, prevention has also become an important component of the campaign.

¹ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Preventing Sexual Violence, <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/fastfact.html> (last visited 2/13/22) (hereinafter "CDC, Preventing Sexual Violence"); U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, Office on Women's Health at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/relationships-and-safety/sexual-assault-and-rape/sexual-assault> (last visited 2/13/22). The crime of sexual assault under Arizona law is described in A.R.S. § 13-1406.

² CDC, Preventing Sexual Violence.

³ *Id.*

⁴ National Sexual Violence Resource Center, History of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, <https://www.nsvrc.org/saam/history> (last visited 2/13/22).

Prevention efforts are multi-faceted. They can involve promoting social norms that help prevent violence, teaching about healthy relationships and safe dating, creating protective environments at school, in workplaces and in the community, providing empowerment training to help reduce the risk of victimization, and addressing bystander support in prevention.⁵

Providing appropriate support for victims/survivors is an important focus of addressing sexual violence. It requires a victim-centered approach from the initial contact. It may involve crisis intervention, medical services, support groups, victims' services, and counseling. Providing tools for family and friends to support their loved ones who have been victims of sexual assault can also provide additional support to the victim. It may involve law enforcement officers who are trained in dealing with these types of crimes.

Tempe Context

In 2021, there were 147 reports of sexual assault in Tempe. This number does not include offenses that have occurred on ASU's Tempe campus. In addition, research has shown that nearly 80% of sexual assaults go unreported.⁶

The Tempe Police Department has six detectives dedicated to investigating sexual assault and other sex crimes. Care 7 provides support to victims of this crime, whether or not reported to police, and employs advocates who work closely with the police to assist the victims. Care 7, which is part of the Human Services Department, also provides educational and prevention programs to try to reduce this crime from occurring by informing people about the resources available and to try to limit the harm to victims. Care 7 resources can be accessed remotely, which is particularly important since the onset of the COVID pandemic.

This fiscal year, funding has been approved for a Tempe Family Advocacy Center, which will ensure that victims of sexual assault and other crimes have a single place where they can receive a wide range of services. This Center is a collaborative effort of Tempe, ASU and other community partners. The decision of the Mayor and City Council to establish the Tempe Family Advocacy Center is an important step forward in supporting survivors of these crimes.

Recommendations

- (1) Continue to support and fund the Tempe Family Advocacy Center which will provide centralized services to victims of sex crimes and other victims. Mayor and Council can expect to see a Capital Improvement Project in future years for the purchase of a facility as part of the budget process, which this Commission recommends that Council approve.

⁵Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention, "Stop SV: A Technical Package to Prevent Sexual Violence."
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/SV-Prevention-Technical-Package.pdf> (last visited 2/13/22).

⁶ Sexual assault remains dramatically underreported. Brennan Center for Justice. Retrieved March 15, 2022, from <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/sexual-assault-remains-dramatically-underreported>

- (2) Engage in awareness campaigns, including a city proclamation for Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention month and use of social media, to help raise awareness of the problem of sexual assault. Written materials in Spanish as well as English are recommended.
- (3) Work collaboratively with ASU to address this problem and improve services to victims.

MEMORANDUM



TO: Mayor and Council
Through: Paul Bentley, Deputy Human Services Director
FROM: Tempe Family Justice Commission
DATE: September 30, 2022
SUBJECT: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

Purpose

October is designated nationally as Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. To recognize the prevalence and severity of this crime in Tempe, and in support of the City Council's Safe and Secure Communities policy, the Tempe Family Justice Commission (TFJC) presents the following information based on its research and makes these recommendations for action.

Context

It is important to understand the definitions of Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence. While they may appear to be the same thing, and certainly have much overlap, Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence are two different terms with different meanings for those professionals working in the field. Domestic Violence is violence that takes place within a household and can be between any two people within that household. Domestic Violence occurs between a parent and child, siblings, or even roommates. Intimate Partner Violence only occurs between romantic partners who may or may not be living together in the same household.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, both Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Domestic Violence (DV) are abuse or aggression that occur in a close relationship. "Intimate partner" refers to both current and former spouses and dating partners. IPV and DV vary in how often it happens and how severe they are. They can range from one episode of violence that could have lasting impact to chronic and severe episodes over multiple years. IPV and DV include four types of behavior: physical violence, sexual violence, stalking and psychological aggression. Several types of these behaviors can occur together.

IPV and DV are connected to other forms of violence and cause serious health issues and economic consequences. IPV and DV affect not just the adults involved, but also any children in the home, having a generational negative impact. By using a public health approach that addresses risk and protective factors for multiple types of violence, these forms of violence can be prevented.

The Tempe Police Department responded to an increase in reporting of DV related crimes that had resulted during the COVID pandemic. Since the height of the pandemic, the numbers have decreased slightly, but still remain a concern within our community. In 2021 there were 1,318 DV assaults reported to Tempe PD, and currently to date there have been 545 DV assault reports made in 2022. Over the last five years, there has also been an increase in DV related arrests from 274 in 2017, to 922 in 2021, and to date: 499 in 2022. The increase could be attributed to reporting and response from the police department to address domestic violence. Working with Care 7 has also helped in reaching victims that may not otherwise report DV related crimes. In response to the increase of DV crimes, the Tempe PD Domestic Violence Detective Squad has, and continues to deliver training on Domestic Violence Investigations to all officers, and continues to improve service by offering advanced classes.

ASU responded by reporting that in 2019 there were 23 cases of sexual assault. In 2020 there were 17 cases of sexual assault. In 2019 there was one case of domestic violence. In 2020 there were four cases of domestic violence.

Best Practices for Assisting Victims of Intimate Partner Violence and Domestic Violence

The City of Tempe, including city government, especially the police department, non-profit organizations, schools, faith community, business community and families must band together in coordination to address this issue and apply the following best practices as recommended by the CDC:



Teach safe and healthy relationship skills

- Social-emotional learning programs for youth
- Healthy relationship programs for couples



Engage Influential adults and peers

- Men and boys as allies in prevention
- Bystander empowerment and education
- Family-based programs



Disrupt the developmental pathways toward partner violence

- Early childhood home visitation
- Preschool enrichment with family engagement
- Parenting skill and family relationship programs
- Treatment for at-risk children, youth, and families



Create protective environments

- Improve school climate and safety
- Improve organizational policies and workplace climate
- Modify the physical and social environments of neighborhoods



Strengthen economic supports for families

- Strengthen household financial security
- Strengthen work-family supports



Support survivors to increase safety and lessen harms

- Victim-centered services
- Housing programs
- First responder and civil legal protections
- Patient-centered approaches
- Treatment and support for survivors of IPV, including teen dating violence

Current City of Tempe Practices

The City of Tempe incorporates many, if not all, of these best practices through the actions of the Police Department, Human Services Department and CARE 7. Examples include implementation of a Family Advocacy Center in partnership with Tempe Police Department, ASU Police Department and Human Services. CARE 7 also provides advocacy services for Tempe Municipal Court including assistance with obtaining Orders of Protection. Additionally, CARE 7 has placed Youth Specialists in all seven Tempe high schools and four middle schools to provide supportive social-emotional services and connection to resources. The Youth Specialists are able to directly connect school-aged victims to advocates who can guide the student and their family through the criminal justice system. The CARE 7 program also provides clinical counseling for victims, free of charge, as well as a Trauma Healing Program that incorporates holistic practices like yoga, art, and music.

The Tempe Police Department (TPD) is part of the Maricopa County Sexual Assault Multidisciplinary Team which works together to provide resources to victims through victim advocates and to investigate reports of sexual assaults, collect evidence and ultimately prosecute offenders. The investigations move forward when the victim is ready and at the pace the

victim is comfortable with and can control. The majority of reports involve known suspects and many cases involve DNA and the use of technology (social media and/or devices), both of which can take time to process and analyze. TPD utilizes the Mesa crime lab for DNA processing.

The Tempe City Council has authorized the opening of the city's own Family Advocacy Center of Tempe (FACT). Arizona State University is a cooperating partner in this endeavor, as services will be available to students and staff. This new facility will give CARE 7 expanded facilities to better allow the provision of centralized services to victims of domestic violence and intimate partner violence, which is a major step forward.

However, services to victims of domestic violence and intimate partner violence could be enhanced if the Mayor and City Council consider and implement the recommendations set forth below:

Recommendations

1. Announce and publicize the opening of the Family Advocacy Center of Tempe so that local residents and ASU students, including victims, will be aware of the services available.
2. Televisе existing CDC domestic violence awareness videos on Channel 11.
3. Repeat the City's recent public awareness video campaign on Domestic Violence.
4. Discuss this issue both officially and in casual conversation.
5. Issue a city proclamation acknowledging this month-long observation.
6. Display a purple light on city hall in honor of this event.

Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/fastfact.html>

<https://www.asu.edu/police/PDFs/ASU-Clery-Report.pdf>