

Domestic Violence Taskforce Meeting Notes
 February 2, 2026
 11am-12pm
 Teams Meeting

Attendees:

- Alameda Police Department
 - Sergeant Robby Stofle
 - Lieutenant Joshua Crossley
 - Captain Matthew McMullen
- Alameda City Attorney’s Office
 - Julia Gonzales, Chief Assistant City Prosecutor
- Building Futures
 - Jessica Rogers, Domestic Violence Outreach Manager
 - Jennifer Co, Domestic Violence Director
 - Rhea Olmedo, Domestic Violence Outreach Coordinator
- Alameda Family Services
 - Katherine Schwartz, CEO of Alameda Family Services
- Alameda Fire Department
 - Cody Moxley, Deputy Chief of Operations
 - Khader Nijmeh, AMS Division Chief
- Alameda Housing and Human Services
 - Camille Rodriguez, Program Manager
 - Shelbey Neil, Administrative Specialist
- Family Violence Law Center
 - Tenisha Keys, Crisis Intervention Specialist
- Social Service Human Relations Board
 - Bernie Wolf, Domestic Violence Workgroup Chair
- Assistant City Manager Amy Wooldridge
- Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft

DATA UPDATES (Sergeant Stofle)

APD Statistics on Incidents of Domestic Violence Oct - Dec 2025

VICTIM INFORMATION

		Victims (n = 52)	Suspects (n = 52)
Gender	Male	18	34
	Female	34	17
	Unknown	0	1
Age	15–17	1	1

	18–24	6	6
	25–34	18	17
	35–44	16	16
	45–54	9	9
	55–74	2	2
	75–84	0	0
	Unknown	0	1
Race	White	11	14
	Female	7	5
	Male	4	9
	Black	23	20
	Female	18	9
	Male	5	11
	Asian	5	5
	Female	2	3
	Male	3	2
	Hispanic	10	10
	Female	6	1
	Male	4	9
	Other	2	3
	Female	1	0
	Male	1	3
	Unknown	0	0
	Female	1	
	Male	0	
Housing	Housed	52	45
	Unhoused	0	4
	Unknown	0	3

Sergeant Robby Stofle reported that the APD has received increased training on cases involving strangulation, including current best practices informed by medical research. APD has updated their report-taking protocol to always ask whether the victim has ever suffered strangulation. Captain Matthew McMullen also shared that the APD will be undergoing updated training for responding to incidents of domestic violence twice in April.

Q: The Super Bowl and similar events often increase incidents of domestic violence. Is that a trend you've seen in Alameda?

Sergeant Stofle reported that he hasn't noticed an increase in DV incidents in Alameda around the Super Bowl, but did observe an uptick during the holidays. Captain McMullen reported observing a spike in cases around Valentine's Day.

Q: According to the APD's data, four suspects were unhoused and no victims were unhoused. Is there an opportunity for HHS's internal engagement team there to receive additional training on domestic violence?

Building Futures responded to confirm that they could offer training to the HHS team and offer certification courses to the wider community.

Julia Gonzales, Chief Assistant City Prosecutor, explained how housing status doesn't describe the whole picture. Technically, anyone who has an address is considered housed, but there is often a need to leave that home because it is where the suspect lives and/or is paying the housing costs. There are additional opportunities for HHS there.

Q: Mayor Ashcraft has been very interested in trying to help identify potential batterers from suspicious behavior at the workplace. Mayor, do you want to speak to that? Is there anything that this group can do to help?

Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft described her two-fold approach of wanting to reach potential abusers through their workplaces and to reach a younger audience in high schools.

She remarked how after a recent family annihilation that shook the Alameda community, the perpetrator's coworkers were interviewed and mentioned that he had several times displayed a very short temper, including storming off of a job site. It made her interested in putting together a domestic violence awareness video to educate employers and employees on warning signs of domestic violence.

The Mayor is also working with Katherine Schwartz of Alameda Family Systems and AFS's Youth Advisory Board to put together a short PSA for teens and pre-teens about signs of an unhealthy or abusive relationship.

Q: How will this video be disseminated to the youth? I ask because the City Attorney's Victim Advocate is in touch with AHS about possibly doing an in-person training. I'm interested in seeing what this group thinks about combining efforts or if we should step back.

Mayor Ashcraft and Katherine Schwartz responded that the PSA will be shown as a video to students at school, and that they'd love to combine efforts with the victim advocate.

SPECIAL GUEST: CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Chief Assistant City Prosecutor Julia Gonzales:

We have received a grant for gun violence prevention and are applying that to domestic violence cases. Part of the commitment we've made already in filling these grants' objectives is to do public education about gun violence restraining orders. If you have contacts among the building and trades group, we are interested in getting people to say something when they see something that gives them pause in the workplace. They may be able to pursue a gun violence restraining order that could affect victims of gun violence downstream.

Q: Who is the point of contact for obtaining a gun violence restraining order (GVRO)? Especially in cases where there are concerns but the criteria for a GVRO may not be met.

The APD is the starting point. For the City Attorney's office to receive a case, it has to be referred for charges through APD. Even if an individual doesn't want to report a crime or press charges, they can still petition for a GVRO that would prevent this person from owning/possessing a firearm. The City Attorney's Office is in the process of developing trainings on the topic. They see a lot of conflicts between neighbors in Alameda, but a GVRO can be between neighbors, coworkers, or anyone.

The City Attorney's Office (CAO) recently launched a victim services program. Their victim advocate has been especially targeting DV cases and any cases involving juveniles. The CAO is building a victim services program from the ground up to help connect prosecutors with the community that we serve, and to help victims stay informed. The City Attorney's Office understands that the needs of the victims do not always overlap with the interests of the prosecution. In many cases, victims/survivors are not particularly interested in the prosecution of a case, and in fact may be interested in preventing a criminal case. The new victim services program is intended to support people even if they are not "cooperative" with the prosecution and with APD.

The program will help people connect to housing opportunities, counseling services, etc. The advocates will also help victims apply to Cal VCB (victim compensation board) for

financial recompense instead of waiting for the criminal case. Financial restitution is a key part of the criminal case, but it can take a long time and victims often need money to move or replace broken items. The CAO victim advocate will help them even if they are not actively engaging with the prosecution of the abuser. The CAO is looking at 2026 as the year to really get this program up and running. Currently, they have a part-time victim advocate named Bal Sindal but are looking to bring someone on full-time soon.