

Police Officers as Perpetrators of Crimes Against Women and Children

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Author Note

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### Abstract

Crimes committed by police officers are a national problem. When an officer commits a crime, either on- or off-duty, it negatively impacts the public trust and legitimacy of the police. Police work has primarily been a male-dominated profession and has had its own distinct culture; both of which are conducive to violent behavior against women and children. There is little literature regarding misconduct and violence perpetrated by police officers; the police culture encourages behavior problems to be dealt with internally and away from the public eye. A sixty day review of the Cato Institute's Police Misconduct Newsfeed was conducted and all crimes against women and children were extracted and reviewed. There were a total of ninety-one crimes against women and children; ninety committed by men and one committed by a woman. There were twenty-eight cases of domestic violence, sixty cases of sex related crimes, and ten cases of child abuse; some cases involved a combination of crimes. The results of the sixty day review raise serious concerns regarding what is not being reported by the police department and calls for further research regarding police misconduct and departmental policies regarding misconduct.

### Police Officers as Perpetrators of Crimes Against Women and Children

For hundreds of years women and children have been viewed as property. If a woman was raped, she was considered damaged property and her owner, either her father or husband, would have to be compensated for the damages (Herman, 1988). Children, on the other hand, were expected to be useful and help provide for the family. The use of corporal punishment on women and children was not uncommon and publicly acceptable. This attitude toward women and children created the foundation for an accepting culture of violence towards women and children. The main concern and focus of this research is to determine if police officers share the same attitude regarding violence towards women and children. This study will attempt to determine the level of prevalence in which police officers commit crimes against women and children.

### **Domestic Violence**

In recent years intimate partner violence (IPV) has become the term more commonly used in place of domestic violence. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2012) defines intimate partner violence as violence which “occurs between two people in a close relationship, including current and former spouses and dating partners;” domestic violence and IPV will be used interchangeably throughout this paper. IPV encompasses all intimate relationships, past and present, dating or married, and same sex.

Until more recent years, the way the legal system dealt with domestic violence and child abuse was very lax and, except in very extreme situations, in favor of the male. It was not uncommon, twenty-five years ago, for police to respond to a family disturbance and not

arrest the aggressor. Rather, they would explain that such disturbances are family matters which needed to be handled within the home. If the situation appeared excessive, they may have asked the aggressor or the victim to leave the home temporarily until the situation “cooled down.”

Waaland and Keeley (1985) noted that there was a “notable failure” by law enforcement “to protect the legal rights of” battered women (p. 355). Police had a tendency not to define domestic violence as criminal behavior which resulted in a lack of police intervention, or inappropriate or delayed responses (Kolar, 1995). Kolar (1995) further explains that domestic violence was historically considered a “private matter” which resulted in very little police involvement. Regardless of the fact that there are mandatory domestic violence arrest laws, many police officers rarely arrested perpetrators and often had the attitude that domestic violence situations were not considered “real” police work (Kolar, 1995).

Negative attitudes towards victims by police officers are often the result of the officers placing the blame directly on the victims for either provoking the abuse or because the victims remain in an abusive relationship (Waaland and Keeley, 1985). Waaland and Keeley (1985) found that officers are more likely to hold the woman accountable for the assault if she was actively participating in an argument with her husband or had been drinking alcohol prior to the abuse; although the wife was assigned greater blame if she had been drinking prior to the assault, an intoxicated husband was excused for an assault. Waaland and Keeley (1985) found that police officers place a great deal of weight on the victim’s behavior prior to the assault and use that behavior to place blame on the victim.

## **Rape**

Rape culture is a set of beliefs and values that promote and provide an environment that is supportive to rape (Boswell & Spade, 1996; Buchwald, Fletcher, & Roth, 1993; Herman, 1984). The rape culture, although somewhat better now, often blamed women for their attack. Women were accused of being seductive or judged by the clothes they were wearing, or put at fault if they had been consuming alcohol prior to their attack. For example, in the 1997 case of a young woman in Italy that was raped by a 45-year-old man, the woman was said to have consented because of the tight jeans she was wearing. The court reasoned that since the jeans were so tight the young woman would have had to help remove them, therefore, she consented to the act. This absurd court ruling led to Denim Day; the annual day of solidarity when all women are asked to wear jeans in support of the Italian woman and all other survivors of sexual assault (Peace Over Violence, n.d.). Survivors of sexual assault often report not being believed by friends, family, or law enforcement, when they report the crime, or being treated like they deserved or asked to be raped. Moreover, there has been a firm belief that married women cannot be raped by their spouse, husbands have historically been “exempt from prosecution for raping their wives,” (Hasday, 2000).

Although many organizations have worked tirelessly to dispel the many myths regarding IPV, child abuse, and rape, there is a lag in many of the governmental systems needed to successfully stop these abuses. If the first response to abuse is usually from an organization that is mostly male dominated and its own members are abusing women and children, can that organization effectively and fairly treat the victims they are meant to serve and protect?

According to the CDC (2012), every minute, twenty-four people are victims of rape, stalking, or physical violence related to IPV. Approximately three in ten women have been the victim of IPV related rape, stalking, or physical violence. In 2007, 2,340 deaths were IPV related, accounting for 14% of all homicides; 70% of the murdered were females. The annual cost of IPV – loss of work, mental health services, and medical care – is \$8.3 billion. Approximately 1 in 5 women have been raped, and 1 in 2 women have experienced other forms of sexual violence (CDC, 2012). The sexual assault perpetrator is most often someone known to the victim, and usually a current or former partner or acquaintance (CDC, 2012).

### **Child Abuse**

In 2010, child protective services (CPS) across the United States reported 3.3 million cases of child abuse or neglect (CDC, 2012). The breakdown by types of abuse is as follows: 78% - neglect, 18% - physical abuse, 9%- sexual abuse, and 8% - emotional abuse. In 2010, approximately 1,560 children died from maltreatment (CDC, 2012). The majority, 40.8%, died from multiple types of maltreatment, 32.6% died from neglect, and 22.9% died solely from physical abuse. Children under four account for the greatest number of victims, 79.4%. African American children accounted for the greatest number of deaths, 3.9 per 100,000. Girls are slightly more likely to be abused than boys. The CDC (2012) also reports that the majority of abuse, 81%, is at the hands of a parent.

### **Law Enforcement**

Law enforcement is crucial to society. However, when the behavior of those sworn to protect the public is inconsistent with the laws they are meant to uphold, the result is public distrust and a weakened criminal justice system (Maher, 2010). Stinson, Liederbach,

and Freiburger (2011) concur and go further to say that even off-duty misconduct reflects adversely on the related police organization and can weaken police legitimacy and trust. Maher (2010) found that a deficiency by state officials to enforce the laws that address police misconduct only reinforces deviant police behavior and bolsters the deviant police subculture of such behavior. For instance, the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission revamped its sexual harassment discipline policy to reduce the number of cases it would adjudicate (Collins, 2003). Therefore, allowing the cases to be managed within the local departments and offering less of an opportunity for complainant's cases to be heard by what is supposed to be a more impartial ear. Collins (2003) continues to say that the Commission's "current policy positions on sexual harassment are out of sync with women's realities and deny the nature of sexual harassment experienced by many female officers working in law enforcement" (p. 533).

Although only one form of sexual misconduct, sexual harassment could very well be the cornerstone of other sexual misconduct. Women in male-dominated professions are more likely to experience sexual harassment because those professions promote a masculine ideology and a male-dominated sense of power, leadership, and authority which contributes to the oppression of women. In a study by Maher (2010), 75 percent of female police officers he interviewed reported experiencing sexual misconduct in the workplace by either male officers or supervisors, yet only 12 percent reported the harassment. Although the harassment stopped in the reported cases, no official punishment was issued (Maher, 2010). Maher (2010) also discusses the police culture and the "significant pressure not to report police sexual misconduct" especially for what was considered minor sexual misconduct. Martin (1996) also reported a high percentage of female officers experiencing

a variety of sexual harassment: crude remarks, propositions, sex magazines or vibrators being left in their lockers, touching and kissing, and quid pro quo harassment. The literature confirms that sexual misconduct is not exclusively an on-duty problem and the Maher (2003) study confirms that officers perceive the sexual misconduct as “relatively common.” For example, it is common practice for officers to conduct a traffic stop so they can make contact with a driver or passenger they think is attractive. Stinson, Liederbach, and Freiburger (2011) also found that off-duty officers were more likely to commit statutory rape, pornography/obscenity offences, online solicitation of a child, and incest. Whereas, more than half of the officers arrested for sex crimes committed them while on-duty. Finally, considering that the Maher 2010 and Martin 1996 studies were fourteen years apart, it is evident that there has not been much change within the police culture.

In 2009 a murder-suicide in Florida received nationwide attention. A police lieutenant shot and killed the mother of one of his children then shot himself. This case reminds society that police officers and their families are not immune to family violence. In fact, it is estimated that family and intimate partner violence occurs as frequently, if not more often, in police families as it does in the general population (Oehme et al., 2011). D’Angelo (2000) suggests IPV by police officers is possibly the result of addiction to violence. Further, the police culture and organizational system “often lend themselves not only to facilitating the addictive process, but also to prevent it from alleviation,” (D’Angelo, 2000, p. 150). Miller (2007) found that “many departments have maintained a conspiracy of silence” (p. 35) around incidents of domestic violence, and have often convinced the spouse not to file any official complaints since the loss of her husband’s job could be damaging to the entire family. Although research shows that arrests could likely reduce



repeat offences, many officers are averse to arresting their peers (Nicoletti & Spencer-Thomas, 2000). Additionally, officers are more likely to resign before they can either be suspended or terminated (Stinson, Liederbach, & Freiburger, 2011). An additional consideration when officers are being charged with IPV is the 1996 Lautenberg Amendment. The amendment states that any person, including police officers, convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence is prohibited from using or owning a firearm. It is possible that this amendment, although meant to provide additional protection to victims, has actually interfered with complaints and prosecutions of police officers.

The academy training and later street work emphasizes being in control, gaining compliance through various levels of force, and behaving in an authoritative manner. When an officer perceives loss of control over his wife or child, he could automatically respond with what he considers an appropriate level of force to gain compliance. Although Stinson, Liederbach, and Freiburger (2011) found that domestic violence was the most common reason for officer termination, they reveal that the data is scarce. The reporting of IPV within police families is different than in the general population; the fact that the aggressor is an officer often intensifies the victim's fear to report the violence. In a 2006 study as many as 40% of officers surveyed admitted that they had "gotten out of control and behaved violently toward their spouse or children" during the previous six months (Lonsway, 2006, p. 398).

Finally, all the literature concurs that there is a prevalence of alcohol abuse among police officers. Alcohol is a common factor involved in many IPV cases. It is the substance most commonly associated with IPV and is often used as an excuse for the misbehavior

(D'Angelo, 2000). Alcohol serves as a disinhibitor that can result in a disregard for consequences resulting from IPV. In a 2005 study by Johnson, Todd, and Subramanian, two-thirds of the officers in their study admitted to drinking while on duty and hard drinking off-duty. The alcohol abuse itself may be the source of contention within the family and could be the trigger that starts many conflicts.

### **Method**

The data (Appendix) presented is a sixty day review of police misconduct involving crimes against women and children. The data was gathered directly from the Cato Institute's National Police Misconduct Reporting Project (NPMRP) web page. The NPMRP is non-partisan and non-governmental. The purpose of the Project is to track the extent of police misconduct in the United States and provide public awareness of the misconduct. All data provided is publicly verifiable. The greatest drawback to the data is that it is dependent on what is publicly reported by the thousands of police agencies in the United States. Most of the data is misconduct that is so severe it cannot be hidden from the media or the public.

The data was gathered from the National Police Misconduct NewsFeed Daily Recap. Each item includes a hyperlink to the original news article. The author of this review further investigated each article to verify its validity and searched for any further information or details. Additional information gathered by the author is included in the data and distinguishable by italics. All perpetrators in the data were sworn police officers when the crime occurred.

## Results

Ninety-four incidents of violence against women or children were reported during the sixty day review. However, there were three incidents that had updates, additional or updated information reported at a later date, resulting in a total of ninety-one incidents. Twenty-eight of the complaints involved domestic violence, three of which resulted in murder. One of the IPV cases was a murder suicide, the officer shot his wife and their child then killed himself. Another case was the murder of a mistress, after which the suspect left the victim's 1-year-old child to die in her vehicle. In the third case the on-duty officer shot and killed his ex-wife. One case involved IPV and the sexual assault of a child; another was a combination of IPV and child abuse. Two cases involved IPV and child abuse. One case involved the kidnapping and assault of an ex-girlfriend. One case was a combination of sexual assault and IPV. Three of the cases occurred while the officer was on-duty.

Sixty of the reports were sex related crimes; including the one combination sexual assault/IPV case discussed previously. The cases involved a variety of sex related crimes. For example, rape, sexual assault, custodial sexual assault, incest, sex with a minor, child pornography, and sexual harassment. They were almost equally divided between sex crimes involving children and sex crimes against adult women, 29 and 31, respectively. The majority of sex crimes committed against adult women occurred while the officer was on-duty, 28 incidents, compared to the child related sexual assaults where only seven were committed on-duty. There were several cases where multiple victims were involved.

There were a total of 10 cases involving child abuse, neglect, or murder. Four of the cases also involved IPV and were discussed previously. The remaining six cases occurred

while the officer was off-duty. One case resulted in the death of a child and the officer is being charged with murder. Three children were killed as a result of IPV and/or child abuse during the sixty day period.

In the single case committed by a woman, the aggressor was a police officer who attacked her husband's ex-wife. Out of the ninety-one cases reviewed, all but one was committed by men. The final result was, crimes against women and children committed by men, 99%, and, crimes against women and children committed by women, 1%.

### **Discussion**

As stated previously, it is estimated that police IPV occurs just as frequently, if not more often than in the general population. Although some IPV cases were reported in the sixty-day review, they are not nearly the number expected based on the IPV statistics offered by the CDC. Two possible explanations are, the victims are too afraid to report the abuse, or, the departments are intervening and convincing the victims not to press charges. Either explanation is unacceptable and will only promote continued IPV by the officers. It is estimated that 60,000 to 180,000 officers' families would experience some type IPV every year (Oehme, et al., 2011). Clearly, twenty-one cases in a sixty day period is a total misrepresentation of the violence that is really occurring within police families.

Additionally, after reading the cases presented, many officers were offered plea deals which changed the domestic violence charges to a lesser crime or battery. Therefore, the officers would not be convicted of domestic violence and would be immune from the consequences of the Lautenberg Amendment. In some cases the plea included complete erasure of the officer's conviction record if he showed one year of good behavior. In other words, he could be protected from losing his job or would be allowed to reapply as a police

officer upon completion of the probationary period. Although the officer has paid his debt to society, it would be a mistake to return him to a job that encourages aggression and an authoritative response when non-compliance is perceived.

Even more troubling than the reports of IPV are the reports of sexual misconduct. Officers have used their status to impose fear and gain control over their victims. In some of the cases reviewed, they have taken advantage of their positions as Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) officers or other school liaison positions, to prey on middle and high school students. Similarly, they have used their status to take women into custody and sexually assault them. It is unclear if the position of power is what encourages this behavior or if the officers were prone to be predators prior to gaining their positions. Regardless, it is their position that allows them easy access to their victims and sometimes even encourages their behavior.

After reviewing the cases of sexual harassment, it is clear that victims' complaints often fall on deaf ears or other measures are taken to protect the job of the aggressor. In the cases where the aggressor was merely reassigned, the victims did not feel validated, rather, they were often harassed further by other employees who sided with the aggressor. Hence, leaving them to feel further victimized. It is clear that police work continues to be a male-dominated profession and women are thought to be second class and continue to be openly objectified.

The rate at which child abuse or neglect was reported is also a concern. Much like IPV, it is expected that more cases of child abuse exist. It is likely that the abuse is being

kept within the confines of the family or the department is managing to internally address the complaints.

The greatest limitation to this review is the availability of misconduct reports. The information provided by the Cato Institute is limited to what is publicly reported and available to the media. It is clear that only the most serious cases are presented here.

It may be possible to prevent or lower the incidents of misconduct. During the hiring process prospective officers are administered psychological and personality inventories to judge their suitability for the job. Unfortunately, it is the aggressive, dominant personality that is preferred. Further study is recommended to determine a possible correlation between certain personality outcomes and the likelihood a person would be involved in domestic violence, sexual violence, or crimes against children.

Continuing education and awareness programs are also essential to the efforts of reducing misconduct. Not only is awareness training important to encourage others to feel safe when reporting misconduct by their peers, it could also be essential in helping potential transgressors to recognize they have a problem and seek help. The male-dominated paramilitary environment of police work is not conducive to help-seeking. The police archetype is in need of a major transformation.

Finally, although many departments have established policies regarding on- and off-duty police misconduct, there appears to be mixed messages between the official policies and their implementation. It has not been uncommon to discover that the officer who made the front page of the newspaper after committing an IPV related crime had a history of prior misconduct or personality problems. All personnel, starting from the Chief of Police,

have to be treated equally under the law regardless of their position. There should not be a double standard simply because the accused is a sworn officer. In fact, the sworn officer should be held to a higher standard since he or she is responsible for upholding the law. Clearly not all police officers engage in illegal or unacceptable behavior, however, when an officer's misdeeds are made public, that behavior is often generalized to the entire department or all police officers. Any appearance of special treatment for officers will undermine the public trust, and reflect negatively on and negate the legitimacy of law enforcement.

The results of this review are very disturbing. Further and continuing research regarding police misconduct, specifically, offences involving women and children, is highly recommended. The literature regarding police IPV, sexual misconduct, and child abuse is scarce. And current records of police misconduct are difficult, or impossible to obtain. Most research is conducted using a self-report method which often leads to under-reporting. In order to maintain public trust, complete transparency is essential. With the advances in technology, it is very possible to maintain officer privacy while providing a true misconduct database.

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## Appendix

The CATO Institute's

National Police Misconduct Reporting Project

Daily Newsfeed

March 5, 2013

1. Long Island, New York: A police officer, *Jason Sharp of the Brooklyn PD gang unit*, has been accused of punching his 3-year-old son in the face at their home. The child suffered bruising and swelling to his right eye, cheek, and nose. *Sharp was involved in an argument with his wife when the incident occurred. Sharp had also punched a hole in the wall of their home during the incident. Sharp was charged with assault, endangering the welfare of a child, and criminal mischief. Sharp was also issued a protection order to stay away from his wife and child.* <http://ow.ly/ijO2s>
2. Queens, New York: An officer *with 12 years on the job* has been arrested and charged with patronizing a prostitute. *Officer Luis Gutierrez, 37, was on-duty, and the prostitute was actually an undercover officer. Gutierrez was also charged with official misconduct and conspiracy.* <http://ow.ly/ijOED>

March 1, 2013

3. Lawrence, Massachusetts: A police officer is accused by authorities of raping a teenage girl. He is now facing charges of committing sexual battery on a juvenile between the ages of 12 and 18 and giving alcohol to an underage person. He has been jailed with no bail set. [ow.ly/i95qm](http://ow.ly/i95qm). *Officer Carlos Gonzalez, 48, is accused of raping a girl during his vacation in Haines City, Florida. Gonzalez has been with the department since 1988. He was also studying at Mass. School of Law to become a lawyer.*

February 27, 2013

4. West Sacramento, California: A police officer, *Sergio Alvarez*, has been arrested after an investigation into assault and kidnapping charges involving six women, *ages 20 to 47*. He allegedly carried out the acts while performing uniformed patrol duties. *Alvarez used his position as an officer to stop the women then assault them. Alvarez had been with the department since 2007.* [ow.ly/i4bwd](http://ow.ly/i4bwd)
5. Hampton County, South Carolina: A deputy, *52-year-old Larry Heyward*, was indicted on one count of criminal sexual conduct with a minor between 11 and 14, committing a lewd act on a minor, and misconduct in public office. The incidents occurred while he was working as a school resource officer between *August 2010*

*and December 2012. A male student reported he had been abused on multiple occasions during the time period. [ow.ly/i2XHi](http://ow.ly/i2XHi)*

February 25, 2013

6. Albemarle, Virginia: A now-former fourth grade teacher and police officer, *47-year-old Charles Farrell Long*, will spend three years in prison for possessing child pornography. He pleaded guilty to two of the ten felony counts against him as part of an agreement. He received two ten-year sentences, each with all but 1.5 years suspended. *Two of the eight remaining felonies that were dropped included aggravated sexual battery and producing child pornography. Some of the charges date back to the mid-'80s. Long is no longer allowed to have unsupervised contact with minors. [ow.ly/hXwIw](http://ow.ly/hXwIw)*

February 22, 2013

7. Update: Asheville, Virginia: A police officer admitted to physically abusing a 3-year-old girl left in his car. He avoided jail time, but must do 24 hours of community service and pay a one hundred dollar fine. The child must stay in therapy, and he can never be an officer again. *There was no further info. [ow.ly/hXwXe](http://ow.ly/hXwXe)*

February 21, 2013

8. Lea County, New Mexico: A jury has found a now-former deputy, *Danny Surratt*, guilty; he was arrested following the investigation of a claim that he sexually assaulted a 9-year old girl, and her 16-year-old sister. He faces a prison sentence of 18 years and a lifetime of parole and sex offender registration requirements. A second, separate trial involving the allegations of the 16-year-old girl is still pending. *Surratt was a deputy at the time of the assault. The assault occurred in 2010. DNA evidence taken from inside the 9-year-old was confirmed to be Surratt's. [ow.ly/hTU7f](http://ow.ly/hTU7f)*
9. Update: Melbourne, Florida: A former police officer, *Jose Otero*, who was fired for having sex with a prostitute while on the job took a plea deal. He will get 6 months probation and treatment for sex addiction. *Evidence was obtained by surveillance and dashboard cameras. Otero had sex with at least four different prostitutes. [ow.ly/hTw6l](http://ow.ly/hTw6l)*

February 20, 2013

10. New York, New York: A sergeant, *Alberto Randazzo*, 36, with fifteen years on the force has been arrested and charged in connection with having child pornography on his computer. *Randazzo was charged with use of a child in a sexual performance,*

*promoting sexual performance by a child, and possessing a sexual performance by a child.* He has been suspended without pay pending the outcome of the criminal proceeding brought against him. [ow.ly/hTf7m](http://ow.ly/hTf7m)

11. Mount Horeb, Wisconsin ([ow.ly/hTaNk](http://ow.ly/hTaNk)): A police officer, *44-year-old Dennis Jenks*, was arrested on a tentative charge of sexual assault on a child. He is accused of repeated assault on the 14-year-old. *Jenks was suspended pending investigation. Jenks has been on the department since 2000. An update on 3/25/13 indicated that Jenks resigned from the department* (<http://www.nbc15.com/home/headlines/Madison-Man-Arrested-for-Repeated-Sexual-Assault-of-a-Teen-191262041.html>). UPDATED Thursday, February 28, 2013 -- 5:23 p.m.
12. Pawtucket, Rhode Island: An officer, *Stephen Ricco, 40*, has been charged with one count of domestic simple assault and three counts of domestic disorderly conduct. He was ordered to stay away from the alleged victim. *Ricco has 15 years with the department. On April 10<sup>th</sup> Ricco plead no contest to one count and the remaining charges were dismissed. Ricco was sentenced to 20 hours of community service, court costs, and anger management counseling. All items will be expunged if he has no further incidents within a year. After Ricco's arrest a woman came forward to the news and stated she'd been having a romantic relationship with Ricco for 3 years. She met Ricco during an on-duty contact and later went out with him. The woman, "Lisa", says she saw Ricco while he was on and off duty. She claims Ricco took advantage of her because she was vulnerable as a result of her personal life. She stated Ricco was "nice at first, but then became obsessive and controlling." Lisa also stated that Ricco became violent when she told him she no longer wanted to see him.* <http://ow.ly/hSRAE> and <http://www.turonto10.com/story/21305842/woman-claims-she-had-sex-with-pawtucket-cop>

February 16, 2013 to February 20, 2013

13. Mt. Pleasant, Texas: An officer, *Eric Jason Campbell, 41-years-old*, pleaded guilty to aggravated sexual assault of a child under 14-years-old. He has been sentenced to 50 years in prison, and will be required to register as a sex offender when he is released from prison. *He resigned as an officer during the investigation.* <http://ow.ly/hR19L>
14. Glasgow City, Kentucky: A police lieutenant colonel, *David Graves*, was arrested on a domestic violence charge. He was charged with assault *in the 4<sup>th</sup> degree (which is the technical term for domestic violence)*, domestic violence, and lodged in the county jail. <http://ow.ly/hQJ3D>

15. Birmingham, Alabama: A robbery detective, *49-year old Jeffrey Miller*, was taken into custody at his home. He was arrested and charged with domestic violence/physical harassment. *A woman at the home stated there was a verbal dispute that escalated into a physical altercation. Arresting officers observed physical evidence that resulted in the arrest of Miller.* <http://ow.ly/hQHGx>

February 15, 2013

16. Birmingham, Alabama: A police officer, *Carletta Walker*, was arrested after an altercation with her husband's (*he is also a police officer*) ex-wife. *According to the article, Walker would have had to have used "physical action to place another person in fear of imminent serious physical injury." The department would not comment if Walker threatened the ex-wife with her firearm.* She was reassigned to administrative duties after her department learned of the arrest. <http://ow.ly/hKx5B>

February 14, 2013

17. Kingsville, Texas: A now-former police corporal, *David Cerda, 41*, was indicted on a charge of continual sexual abuse of a child under 14-years old. *Cerda had been with the department for six years.* <http://ow.ly/hIRjN>
18. Update: Seattle, Washington: A police lieutenant, *Donnie Lowe, 46*, who was charged with violating a domestic-violence court order, reached an agreement that could lead to charges being dropped. The officer has a checkered history with the department. *If Lowe complies with the conditions given by the court, after one year the charge will be dismissed. Lowe has been with the department since 1992. The department will resume its internal investigation of the allegation now that the criminal case has been completed. Lowe was acquitted of misdemeanor domestic violence after a jury trial last year. The trial resulted in a stay away order which prohibited him from contacting his wife. Lowe had a prior arrest for DUI which was reduced to a reckless driving charge and resulted in a four day suspension; he was reprimanded by the department for "inappropriate physical treatment of a handcuffed son while he was in police custody in a holding cell"; and he was reprimanded for improperly attempting to retrieve nude photographs a man had of Lowe's female acquaintance.* <http://ow.ly/hIATC>

February 13, 2013

19. Newton Falls, Ohio: The village council voted unanimously to terminate the police Chief *John Kuivila* amid an investigation into allegations of sexual harassment made by a female employee. The measure was passed as an emergency "to protect the

health, safety, and welfare of the community.” *Kuivila was accused of making inappropriate comments to a female employee and threatening another employee if she spoke out about the harassment claims.* <http://ow.ly/hGSSc>

20. Box Elder County, Utah: A sheriff’s deputy, *Scott Womack, 37*, accused of sexually assaulting women during a series of traffic stops has reached a plea agreement that could land him in state prison for up to five years. *Womack plead no contest to one count of custodial sexual misconduct, and two counts of attempted custodial misconduct; a third-degree felony and class A misdemeanors, respectively. Prosecutors dropped nine other charges including, official misconduct, lewdness, unlawful detention, and theft. Womack was accused of ordering women to expose intimate parts of their bodies during traffic stops. The eight incidents occurred from October 2010 to July 2011. Womack is facing eight counts of violating civil rights (a misdemeanor) in federal court and civil suits filed by three of the women he victimized. Womack was fired in July 2011.* [ow.ly/hGAfL](http://ow.ly/hGAfL)
21. Selmer, Tennessee: A police officer, *Quinton Garland*, has been charged with domestic assault; he is accused of throwing his girlfriend to the floor and then grabbing her by the neck during an argument. According to a Lieutenant, the police are taking the accusations very seriously. He has put on suspension without pay pending the investigation. *Garland has been on the department for three years.* [ow.ly/hG60a](http://ow.ly/hG60a)

February 12, 2013

22. Male Officer: Jackson, Mississippi: Bond was denied for a police officer, *Natyyo Gray*, who was charged with capital murder in connection with the death of his one-year-old daughter. An autopsy confirmed that she died of internal hemorrhage after suffering blunt-force trauma to the abdomen. <http://ow.ly/hE5AJ>. **Update (2/25/13):** Jackson, Mississippi: A now-former police detective is likely to spend the rest of his life behind bars. A jury found him guilty of capital murder in the death of his 1-year-old daughter. [ow.ly/hY84m](http://ow.ly/hY84m).
23. Male Officer: Rushville, Indiana: A police officer, *28-year-old Cale Worley*, has been arrested after state police say he had an inappropriate relationship with a teenage girl. According to court documents, he sent the 15-year-old girl messages on Facebook and via text. *Worley was a DARE officer and met the teen at a junior high school under his jurisdiction. Worley met with the teen after hours and also contacted her electronically through Facebook and text messages.* <http://ow.ly/hE8qB>

24. Update: Boulder, Colorado: A police officer, *Christian McCracken*, accused of stalking and plotting to kill a fellow department employee. *McCracken was planning to kill his ex-girlfriend's boyfriend in front of her then kill himself. McCracken's ex-girlfriend and her current boyfriend are Boulder PD police dispatchers. McCracken pleaded guilty in a county courthouse. He was offered a plea deal which included prosecutors of dropping first degree murder and felony menacing charges against him.* He faces one to three years in prison and remains free on a \$500,000 bond. <http://ow.ly/hE983>
25. Douglas County, Colorado: A sheriff's deputy, *Robert "Mike" French*, has been fired after being tied to a child sex exploitation investigation *and is faced with two charges of sexual exploitation of a child.* Investigators received information about inappropriate text messages involving a juvenile, and determined a deputy was alleged to be involved. *The first charge is for "causing, inducing, enticing or permitting a child to engage in, or to be used for, any explicit sexual conduct for the making of any sexually exploitive material." The second charge is for possession or controlling sexually exploitive material.* <http://ow.ly/hDWd6>
26. Male Officer: Plattsburgh, New York: A state trooper, *32-year-old Trevor Donah*, charged with raping two women has been charged with attacking a third woman. *Donah had been on the department for five years. The rapes occurred between 2008 and 2012 while Donah was off-duty.* <http://ow.ly/hEh7k>
27. Male Officer: Haines City, Florida: A police officer who was arrested in an investigation of underage prostitution has pleaded guilty and received 10 years in prison. The report says that the man, Paul Aaron, who ran the prostitution ring, exploited runaway girls younger than 18; one of them was forced to have sex with the officer for free so Aaron could receive favors from him in the future. <http://ow.ly/hDZiX>

February 9, 2013 to February 11, 2013

28. Auburn, Washington: A police officer is under investigation for allegedly groping a pregnant, handcuffed woman. Another police department is now conducting a criminal investigation. *The officer followed the victim home with his patrol car blacked out. He handcuffed the victim then groped her under the pretense of looking for narcotics. He asked the victim several times if he could go inside her house. The unidentified officer has 4 to 5 years on the department.* <http://ow.ly/hC7bq>
29. Orlando, Florida: A veteran officer, *Danny Sidders*, who was jailed twice last year on allegations of domestic violence, has been fired. He violated two department



policies. *Sidders attended alcohol rehab but was arrested again for domestic violence involving the same woman.* <http://ow.ly/hC8YB>

February 8, 2013

30. Hillsboro, Oregon: An officer, *Timothy Cannon*, surrendered after a gun fight with ten county officers. He allegedly got into a domestic dispute with his wife, when she called the police. When they arrived he armed himself, and fired at officers attempting to enter the house numerous times. His wife finally convinced him to leave the house with her, and their 6-year-old daughter. *The incident occurred on January 20<sup>th</sup>. The wife, Lisa Cannon, stated Timothy had been drinking throughout the week and drank all day on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Lisa called the police and when officers arrived a gunfight ensued. Lisa was able to help Timothy surrender to police. He is charged with 24 counts, including 11 counts of aggravated murder. Timothy was apparently taking medications for pain, anxiety, panic attacks, and depression.* [ow.ly/hynCg](http://ow.ly/hynCg)
31. Male Officer: Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania: A state police trooper, *Paul C. Mauser, 38*, has been placed on unpaid leave after he was charged with assaulting his wife. According to documents, he got into an argument with her, *he threatened to kill her*, and pushed her, causing her to fall down a flight of stairs and break her ankle. [ow.ly/hyxDI](http://ow.ly/hyxDI)
32. Male Officer: Pueblo County, Colorado: An officer, *Randall Alire, 42*, will face multiple counts of sexual assault and kidnapping, along with menacing and another count of tampering with evidence. He is accused of kidnapping his estranged girlfriend at gunpoint, taking her to his home and sexually assaulting her, before taking her back to her home. [ow.ly/hxYoa](http://ow.ly/hxYoa)
33. Minneapolis, Minnesota: A police officer, *Bradley Schnickel, 32*, is in jail after his arrest for allegedly having off-duty sexual encounters with several girls between the ages of 12 and 14, according to the Sheriff's office. He was arrested on suspicion of first-degree criminal sexual conduct with a person under 13 that caused personal injury. *The allegations include penetration and sexual contact. Schnickel used social media to contact girls and initiate contact with them and the access their contacts to reach other girls. He did not identify himself as an officer. Schnickel has been with the department since 2008. He has had three complaints sustained internal affairs investigations that involved search and seizure, force, and code of conduct.* [ow.ly/hxNEQ](http://ow.ly/hxNEQ)
34. Rindge, New Hampshire: A police officer, *John Vargas-Cifrino, 35*, accused of sexually assaulting a teenager is slated to plead guilty to lesser charges. He allegedly engaged

in sex acts with a girl he knew between the age of 13 and 16, according to court documents. *Cifrino worked part-time as an officer and a para-professional working with high school youth. He worked as an officer for ten years. In an update on March 27<sup>th</sup>, Cifrino was sentence to 12 months for misdemeanor sexual assault and a second 12 month sentence was suspended for three years pending good behavior. These are reduced charges agreed to in the plea, dropped from the original felony count of attempted aggravated sexual assault and two counts of misdemeanor sexual assault.* <http://ow.ly/hyoYx>

35. Weymouth, Massachusetts: An officer, *Scott Ficarra, 37*, charged with assaulting his 9-year-old twin daughters has resigned. They told other officers he pushed them and warned them not to tell anyone because no one would believe them, according to a police report on file. *The parents are divorced and the children were visiting with Ficarra at the time of the incident. When they returned home to their mother she took her daughter to the hospital where the child was diagnosed with a concussion. Ficarra, an 11 year veteran with the department, resigned after a departmental disciplinary hearing.* <http://ow.ly/hyps7>
36. Rockwood, Michigan: A now ex-police officer, *Christian Zieminski, 34*, has pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor charges in connection with an allegation of inappropriate contact involving a female prisoner in his custody. As part of his plea, he has agreed not to challenge his termination. *He was charged with second- and fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct and indecent exposure. He pleaded to two counts of willful failure to uphold the law. Zieminski was fired from his previous job with Brownstown Township Police after accusations of being involved in a relationship with a 17-year-old student at the high school where he was the liaison officer.* <http://ow.ly/hyuBY>

February 7, 2013

37. Lafayette, Louisiana: A police corporal, *Jackie Hagan Jr., 34*, has been indicted by a grand jury on charges of sexual battery and malfeasance for allegedly battering a woman while he was on duty. *This is the second accusation filed against Hagan. In the first allegation and woman stated Hagan pulled up her shirt and kissed and bit her breasts before she could escape. She has filed a lawsuit against Hagan. Hagan has resigned from the department.* <http://ow.ly/hvwV0>
38. South Salt Lake, Utah: An officer, *Neil Poff, 41*, has been charged with stalking a former girlfriend and hacking her computer accounts. He is on extended administrative leave. *Poff gained access to the victim's cell phone text messaging*

*records, her email, and Facebook account. Poff posted threatening messages on the victim's Facebook, and he also sent harassing messages to the victim's friends and family.* <http://ow.ly/hvDZq>

February 6, 2013

39. Update: Vero Beach, Florida: A now-former officer, *James Scharfschwerdt, 55-years-old*, has been sentenced to life in prison on three counts of lewd or lascivious sexual battery. He was convicted on the charges involving a victim who is now a senior in high school. [ow.ly/htPaL](http://ow.ly/htPaL) . *Three other witnesses, ages 18 to 37, testified that they experienced similar sexual encounters with Scharfschwerdt.* <http://jacksonville.com/news/crime/2013-02-05/story/former-cop-gets-life-sentence-st-johns-child-molesting>

February 5, 2013:

40. Valrico, Florida: A now-former officer charged with possessing child pornography changed his plea deal to guilty. He retired nine days after federal authorities searched his home and seized a computer, saying they found illegal images of children. *Fifty-three-year-old Jonathan Gamson was implicated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security during Operation Gondola, an operation to locate and prosecute child predators. Gamson had child pornography depicting minors, even a baby, involved in explicit sexual conduct. Gamson had been with the department since 1986.* [ow.ly/hrwry](http://ow.ly/hrwry)
41. Cobb County, Georgia: Another deputy was arrested in connection with alleged sexual assault of a female inmate. *Sgt. Kristopher Kravitz was arrested after being named by Officer Alvin Sutherland in a related investigation from two weeks prior.* [ow.ly/hrcQ1](http://ow.ly/hrcQ1)

February 2, 2013 to February 4, 2013

42. Lake County, Illinois: A deputy who tracked predators is being investigated. He allegedly had sexual contact with a teenage boy. He has been placed on paid administrative leave. *Lieutenant Rick White, 51, served with the department for 21 years and worked in the in the Children's Advocacy Center investigating child predators. White filed for retirement.* <http://ow.ly/holja>
43. Orient, Ohio: An officer has been accused of sexual assault on a female staff member, *also a corrections officer*, at a prison. *Ian Quincel, 25, has been placed on indefinite paid leave pending the investigation. Quincel has been with the department since Dec. 2007. The department is also investigating the supervisory response after the incident was reported by the victim.* <http://ow.ly/hnXtY>

44. East St. Louis, Illinois: An officer, *Ramon Carpenter, 40*, who lied to federal agents about demanding sex from a traffic violator, was vilified in federal court as a prime example of poor law enforcement that fosters rampant crime in his community. He was ordered to 30 months in prison, which is 2 ½ times the maximum recommendation under sentencing guidelines. He pleaded guilty to lying about the encounter. *Carpenter knew the woman had left her four children, ages 1 to 10, at home alone, when he took her to a local park and had her perform oral sex on him. The woman had been intoxicated and driving without a license, she feared she would be arrested and her children taken from her if she didn't comply with Carpenter's demands. Prosecutors made a point to say that Carpenter was abandoning the children for his own personal gain and pleasure, that he violated the woman's civil rights, and put the woman and community in additional danger when he released her to drive drunk. Additionally, Carpenter left the community at risk when he turned off his radio, ignoring calls for service and leaving only one other patrol officer to respond alone.* <http://ow.ly/hoVbe>
45. Macon, Georgia: A police officer, *Chris Campbell, 31*, pleaded guilty to violating his oath of officer and was sentenced to five years probation. He was on duty when he drove a 20-year-old woman from a club to an inn, where he had sex with her. *The victim said she was unconscious when Campbell had sex with her. When she awoke she was unclothed in the motel room. Campbell returned to the motel room several times throughout the early morning, between handling radio calls for service. Campbell, an officer for three years, resigned the next day. The sexual assault charge was dropped in exchange for a plea of violating oath of officer.* <http://ow.ly/hoZPa>

February 1, 2013

46. Boulder City, Nevada: Police Lieutenant Pieter Walkers murdered his wife and son before committing suicide. <http://ow.ly/hjohH>
47. Ahoskie, North Carolina: A police officer was arrested and charged with raping a teenager. *Lieutenant Andreas Snape was charged with more than 20 counts of statutory rape, indecent liberties with a child, and statutory sexual offenses. The victim was between 13 and 15-years-old. Snape was fired the day he was arrested.* [ow.ly/hlqKV](http://ow.ly/hlqKV)

February 1, 2013

48. New Haven, Connecticut: An officer, *Juan Monzon*, was arraigned in court on charges that he allegedly hit a woman whom he had been dating. *Monzon started a relationship with the woman after an on-duty contact in 2008. They had a daughter together in 2010. The incident occurred after the woman told Monzon she was going to tell his wife about their affair if he didn't pay child support. The woman claims Monzon had been physical with her on several other occasions. He is charged with third degree assault, risk of injury to a minor and threatening in the first-degree. He has been placed on administrative leave.* [ow.ly/hisqr](http://ow.ly/hisqr)

January 30, 2013

49. Nora Springs, Iowa: A police officer, *James Gray Jr., 43*, was arrested and charged with child endangerment. He allegedly choked his victim, causing him to have difficulty breathing and leaving a red mark on his neck. *Gray has been ordered to have no contact with the victim.* <http://ow.ly/hgEhZ>
50. Update: Sacramento, California: A now-former police officer, *Gary Baker, 49*, accused of raping a *78-year-old* woman has a court date, and the alleged victim is supposed to testify Baker was with the Sacramento PD for 22 years. [ow.ly/hgAUc](http://ow.ly/hgAUc)

January 29, 2013

51. Ellsworth, Maine: A cellphone text message led to an argument between an off-duty police officer, *Andrew Weatherbee, 30*, and his live-in companion. He was arrested after she got upset and he repeatedly restrained her. *After investigating the incident, it was determined that Weatherbee was the aggressor.* "Whenever an employee has violated our standard operating procedures, or if somebody or a member of the public makes a complaint about the officer, the lieutenant will do an investigation about the incident," said the police chief. [ow.ly/hcIXZ](http://ow.ly/hcIXZ)

January 28, 2013

52. Wichita, Kansas: A former police officer, *Joseph McGill, 28*, waived his right to a jury trial and was found guilty by a judge of sexually abusing two children. He was found guilty of two counts of aggravated indecent liberties with a child, *ages 3 months and 1 year*, after a five-minute bench trial. *McGill had confessed to his wife that he committed a sexual act with the two children. McGill also plead guilty to sexual battery in an unrelated case; he was given three years probation. McGill had been with the department for three years and resigned.* <http://ow.ly/h87iK>

January 25, 2013

53. Update: Readstown, A 375-page investigation report released this week portrays Readstown's former police chief, *30-year-old Shay Larson*, as a womanizer and bumbling cop who posed a danger to the community. He was found guilty of three counts of felony misconduct in office. He resigned and served a little more than a week in jail. *The investigation discovered that Larson had sex while on-duty, stalked a local business owner, sent inappropriate sexual text messages to women, and made "disturbing" sexual comments to women while on duty. Larson reportedly had a bad reputation before he was hired and it was rumored that he liked young girls. The two charges of fourth-degree sexual assault had been dropped as part of the plea arrangement.* [ow.ly/h5XP4](http://ow.ly/h5XP4)
54. Mesa, Arizona: An officer, *Larry Kelso*, lost his job because he used a stun gun on his stepson for bringing home an unsatisfactory report card. *The incident occurred in*

*2007 when the son was fifteen, but the son didn't report it at the time. Kelso had also falsified information on his 2005 application for the Mesa PD. Kelso had applied with Phoenix PD in 2002 but was denied employment because of prior illicit drug use. Kelso failed to report his drug use and prior application when he applied to Mesa PD.*  
<http://ow.ly/h5ZLC>

55. Update: Southern View, Illinois: A woman is suing the village, and a now ex-officer, in connection with the officer's alleged sexual assault of her during a traffic stop. *J. Zeid Langan sexually assaulted the woman during a traffic stop on 2012. The victim, Tonya King, is also suing the village of Southern View for hiring Langan. Langan had resigned from the Springfield PD after allegedly sexually assaulting another woman in 2008. King states the village was negligent in hiring Langan.* <http://ow.ly/h616m>
56. New York, New York: A teenager testified that an ex-officer, *Darrin Nemelc, 45*, persuaded her to have sex with him when she was 14 years old. *The victim was a runaway when Nemelc approached her and took her to his apartment in upper Manhattan where he sexually assaulted the teen.* The former police officer is charged with second-degree rape and other charges. He faces up to seven years in prison on the top count. <http://ow.ly/h6BM6>

January 24, 2013

57. Melbourne, Florida: A police officer has been accused of having sex with prostitutes while on duty. He was fired after investigators set up surveillance video claiming to show him in the act. [ow.ly/h42j6](http://ow.ly/h42j6) **(see update on 2/21)**
58. Cobb County, Georgia: A deputy, *Alvin Sutherland, 51*, is accused of sexually assaulting a female inmate. He has been charged with aggravated sodomy, aggravated sexual battery, sexual assault by a member of law enforcement, and violation of oath of public office. *In a related story on 2/5/13, Sgt. Kristopher Travitz was arrested for sexually assaulting a female inmate two years ago. Sutherland provided the information regarding Travitz during the course of his investigation.*  
[ow.ly/h2wsQ](http://ow.ly/h2wsQ)

January 23, 2013

59. Memphis, Tennessee: An officer has been suspended after accusations of sexual assault were brought up. He has been relieved of duty with pay while the incident is investigated. *The officer has not been named. The victim believed the officer may have assaulted her while she was intoxicated.* <http://ow.ly/h2vFe>
60. Morgan County, Alabama: A deputy, *Donald Fanning*, was accused of domestic violence and attempted murder. He is charged with domestic violence, domestic violence by strangulation or suffocation, and attempted murder. *Fanning strangled the victim until she was rendered unconscious. Fanning also punched her and slammed her head in the ground.* <http://ow.ly/h1Qil>

61. Winnemucca, Nevada: An officer who has been on administrative leave for six months was arrested following a lengthy investigation into his off-duty conduct. *Dominic Cassinelli, 31*, was charged with sexual assault, battery with the intent to commit sexual assault, and abuse, neglect or endangerment of a child. He also faces two misdemeanor charges of domestic battery *and capturing images of someone's private areas*. <http://ow.ly/h1xJe>

January 22, 2013

62. Update: Las Vegas, Nevada: A now-former police officer is going to prison for two years. *John Norman* pleaded guilty to charges of coercing women to expose their breasts after stopping them on the road. The Judge, after hearing victims' statements, looked right at him and said: "You are nothing short of a sexual predator with a badge." *Norman claimed it was never his intention to make the women feel threatened. Norman will have to register as a sex offender when he is released from jail.* [ow.ly/gWgdQ](http://ow.ly/gWgdQ)
63. Los Angeles, California: Sheriff's department investigators are probing a deputy's allegations that she was the victim of sexual misconduct involving three top sheriff's officials. "I take this very seriously, and I will find out what did or did not happen," said the Sheriff. [ow.ly/gW9c0](http://ow.ly/gW9c0)
64. Beacon, New York: A city police officer was suspended from duty with pay after an investigation into his conduct with a police informant, according to court documents. *Detective Sgt. Richard Sassi Jr. was interviewing an informant in her apartment when he attempted to have sexual contact with her. The informant's boyfriend arrived and found Sassi in the closet wearing only his underwear.* [ow.ly/gVAiA](http://ow.ly/gVAiA)
65. Miami-Dade, Florida: Two female officers have gone public with sexual harassment accusations against the school police chief, saying they have lost faith in the district's investigation of their complaints. *The officers claim that Chief Charles Hurley has sexually harassed them for years and retaliated against them when his advances were ignored. The women stated that Hurley touched them and made sexual comments to them. Hurley was reassigned to another job but continues to collect his \$114,000 annual salary. The women claim the district has given them the runaround regarding their complaints.* [ow.ly/gWaPG](http://ow.ly/gWaPG)

January 18, 2013

66. Boston, Massachusetts: A veteran police officer, who has been suspended in the past for a domestic altercation, pleaded not guilty to charges of raping and indecently assaulting a woman, officials said. *Henderson Parker, 45, denied all charges. Parker has been with the department for 18 years. Parker was suspended for 30 days in 2002 for a domestic physical confrontation.* <http://ow.ly/gTFRL>

January 17, 2013

67. Update: Washington, DC: A District Court judge ordered a veteran police officer, *Wendel Palmer*, to remain jailed after a second woman came forward to say he had sexually assaulted her when she was a teenager singing in a church choir he directed. The judge called him a “danger” who targeted adolescent girls. The hearing was for a charge that he repeatedly sexually abused a girl, beginning when she was 11 years old and lasting nearly three years. *Palmer has been with the Metropolitan Police Department for twenty two years.* <http://ow.ly/gTX5B>
68. German Township, Ohio: A police officer, *Robert Oldham, 30*, will have to surrender his peace officer certification after he took a plea agreement. He was accused of raping a 19-year-old woman. The alleged incident occurred at a party; the victim, who said she had been drinking, said she was being assisted by two juveniles when the officer took her upstairs and sexually assaulted her, according to the initial report. *Oldham took a plea; the rape charge was dropped and he pleaded guilty to two misdemeanors, furnishing alcohol to a minor and unlawful restraint. Oldham will not serve any jail time; will pay \$800 in fines; will have to wear a monitoring device for 60 days; will be on two years probation; and was ordered to surrender his peace officer certification and not re-apply to the German Township police department. Oldham was also a lieutenant with the Township fire department where he has worked for 15 years.* <http://ow.ly/gRHWf>
69. Update: Edmonds, Washington: An officer, *Daniel Lavelly, 48*, who is facing criminal prosecution for allegedly having sex with a woman he detained, resigned upon learning he could be fired for the incident. *Lavelly had been with the department for eight years.* <http://ow.ly/gRy76>

January 16, 2013

70. Update: Orlando, Florida: A police officer, *Roderick Johnson*, who has been accused of raping a woman while on duty formally entered a not-guilty plea. *The woman was taken into custody for allegedly driving a stolen care. Johnson took the woman to a substation where he had sex with her then gave her money. Johnson told her she would face more charges if she didn't cooperate. The woman is now pregnant and the child could be Johnson's. The woman also claims she is being harassed by police.* [ow.ly/gQ0m3](http://ow.ly/gQ0m3)
71. Lewiston, Idaho: A sheriff's deputy has pleaded guilty to felony sexual battery for a sexual relationship he had with a 16-year-old girl. *Daniel Funderberg, 31*, was put on paid administrative leave when the charges were filed. *Funderberg will likely receive a three- to six-year suspended sentence if his psychosexual evaluation deems him a low or moderate risk for re-offense.* [ow.ly/gPYwa](http://ow.ly/gPYwa)
72. Chester County, Pennsylvania: An officer has been accused of slapping his wife and beginning to strangle her before she broke free and hid. He was arrested and



charged with aggravated assault, simple assault and related charges. *Ernest Manerchia, 57, is a member of the SWAT team for the City of Chester PD. He was ordered to stay away from the residence and his wife and to surrender his firearms. Manerchia surrendered 45 firearms but it was discovered that he still possessed several over firearms and had returned to the residence to confront his wife. His bail was raised to \$350,000 and he was remanded to Chester County Prison.* [ow.ly/gPFFKK](http://ow.ly/gPFFKK)

73. Wheeler, Wisconsin: A former police chief will spend 14 years in prison for committing numerous sex-related crimes. *Gary Wayerski, 57, was charged with 16 felony counts, half of which were the sexual assaults of children by those who work with youngsters. His other charges included child enticement, and exposing children to harmful materials. Wayerski was a part-time police chief. He was mentoring two teenaged boys when he fondled them, gave them alcohol, and showed them pornographic movies and images.* <http://ow.ly/gNjnO>
74. Washington, DC: An officer involved in paternity dispute with his mistress shot her dead, and left their infant child to die in a hot car. He is being tried on two counts of first-degree murder along with child abuse and firearms charges. *Richmond Phillips killed the woman and child because he didn't want to pay child support.* <http://ow.ly/gPf1l>

January 15, 2013

75. Franklin County, Virginia: The sheriff's deputy, *Jonathan Agee, 33, who publicly fatally shot and killed his ex-wife on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2011, pleaded no contest to first-degree murder. He arrived at the scene in the in a police cruiser, and prosecutors say the shooting was captured on the dashboard camera. Agee's current wife had called and warned the Franklin County Sheriff's office that her husband was angry, armed, and on his way to kill his ex-wife. Agee killed his ex-wife in front of their young daughter. The daughter was not injured.* [ow.ly/gNGj7](http://ow.ly/gNGj7)
76. Los Angeles, California: A Los Angeles County Captain will resign amid allegations by a deputy who says she was a victim of sexual misconduct. He denies the allegations. [ow.ly/gNeBU](http://ow.ly/gNeBU) **(same as incident on 1/22)**
77. Harrison County, Missouri: A Sheriff's Department deputy was arrested on charges of aggravated assault after being accused of choking his wife. He was dressed in his uniform and duty belt at the time of the assault and pointed his service weapon at her before leaving the scene of the assault, according to the release. <http://ow.ly/gNfOf> ✓
78. Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana: A sheriff's deputy, *Elijah Gary, 29, was arrested and fired. He has been accused of sexually assaulting a woman he arrested. The Police Crime Lab conducted tests and determined that the officer's DNA was recovered from the victim.* <http://ow.ly/gNfjp>

January 14, 2013

79. Washington, DC: A woman filed a \$6 million civil lawsuit against a D.C. police officer and the D.C. government. Her lawyer filed the suit claiming an officer raped her on several occasions. *Larry Seay is accused of using a gun while forcing women to perform sex acts. There are at least three other victims involved. Seay was in full uniform and on duty when the incidents occurred.* <http://ow.ly/gK29v>

January 11, 2013

80. Winston Salem, North Carolina: A police officer was arrested and charged a second time with assaulting his girlfriend. He has been accused of pushing and threatening to kill her. [ow.ly/gIcZN](http://ow.ly/gIcZN)
81. Collierville, Tennessee: A police officer has been suspended without pay after he was charged with domestic violence in connection with an argument at his home; *the officer was initially suspended with pay. James Dood, 45, was heavily intoxicated at the time of the incident. His wife, a dispatcher for the Germantown Police Department, sustained bruises on her body from the incident. As a condition of Dood's release on his own recognizance, Dood is not permitted to carry a firearm. As a result, Dood cannot perform his police duties and was suspended without pay.* [ow.ly/gI6DQ](http://ow.ly/gI6DQ)

January 10, 2013

82. Elko, Nevada: Despite facing the possibility of life in prison, an officer pleaded guilty to incest and will avoid a public trial and additional charges. *Forty-year-old Aaron Hughes had sex with a 17-year-old relative and also made a pornographic video of the act. The incident occurred in 2008 and the charges were dropped because a "minor" was considered to be someone younger than 16. However, the Nevada Supreme Court ruled that pornography laws applied to anyone under 18-years-old. As part of the plea agreement, the child pornography charges will be dropped. Incest carries a life sentence with parole eligibility after two years. Hughes will also be required to have lifetime supervision and register as a sex offender.* [ow.ly/gFwwZ](http://ow.ly/gFwwZ)
83. Pennsville, New Jersey: An officer admitted to destroying a computer hard drive while he was under investigation. *Robert Waterman, 31, pleaded guilty to one count of obstruction of a federal investigation. He was allegedly in possession of child pornography. Waterman destroyed his computer's hard drive when he learned that the FBI was investigating him for possession of child pornography. Waterman was assigned as the school resource officer and managed the DARE program for elementary and middle school students. Waterman had been on the department for four years. He was permitted to resign. The incident is punishable by 20 years in prison and a fine up to \$250,000.* [ow.ly/gFvgu](http://ow.ly/gFvgu)

84. Elkton, Maryland: A state trooper was fired and charged for sexual solicitation of a minor for purposes of prostitution. *Joshua Wright, 21, was also charged with two counts of obstruction of justice.* [ow.ly/gFmc8](http://ow.ly/gFmc8)

January 9, 2013

85. Hampton County, South Carolina: A deputy, *Larry Heyward, 52*, was accused of sexually abusing a child while working as a school resource officer. He has been charged with two counts of criminal sexual conduct with a minor and misconduct in office. **(See 2/27/13)** [ow.ly/gDEZk](http://ow.ly/gDEZk)

January 8, 2013

86. Memphis, Tennessee: A police officer has been suspended with pay while the department investigates claims that he abused his girlfriend. *Samuel Hearn is accused of putting his hands around his girlfriend's neck and throwing her to the ground. Visible red marks were left on her neck; as a result, Hearn was arrested. Hearn is also named in a lawsuit for using excessive force on an arrestee.* <http://ow.ly/gBma5>

87. Jackson, Mississippi: A state trooper, *Otis Taylor*, has been arrested and charged with statutory rape. He is now on administrative leave without pay. *Taylor has been with the department for five years.* <http://ow.ly/gBJBZ>

88. Camden County, New Jersey: The police chief, *Joe Jackson*, was charged with harassing a female employee. The interactions included "touching, rubbing, and hugs" that persisted after the employee "indicated this behavior made her uncomfortable," authorities said. <http://ow.ly/gBex1>

89. Clark County, Nevada: A jail sergeant, *Laurence Watterson, 40*, was booked on charges of felony child abuse or neglect. He has been suspended without pay. <http://ow.ly/gB8Zj>

January 7, 2013

90. Sevier County, Utah: A highway patrol trooper, *Bruce Turner, 47*, was arrested and jailed on allegations he had sexually abused a young female relative over the last 8 years. *Thirteen counts of first-degree felony aggravated sexual abuse of a child, one count of first-degree felony sodomy on a child, and one count of second-degree felony forcible sexual abuse have been filed against Turner. The victim reported that Turner had been sexually abusing her since she was 6-years-old and the abuse continued on a weekly basis from 2004 to 2007. The abuse stopped in 2010 and resumed in 2012. Turner is on paid administrative leave, pending the investigation.* [ow.ly/gy8ed](http://ow.ly/gy8ed)

91. Los Angeles, California: Two officers are under investigation for allegedly preying on women over a period of five years, luring them into an unmarked car and forcing

them to perform sex acts, according to court records. *Officers Luis Valenzuela and James Nichols targeted at least four women they had previously arrested or were using as informants.* Investigators had planned to confront the officers in a surprise operation, but were forced to accelerate those plans, when one of the women unexpectedly filed a lawsuit against the officers. Fearing the officers might destroy evidence, investigators rushed to sequester the officers and seize their computers and phones, police confirmed. *Valenzuela had been on the department for 15 years and Nichols for 12 years. They have been assigned to home pending the investigation. The first complaint was received in 2010.* [ow.ly/gxMWI](http://ow.ly/gxMWI)

January 4, 2013

92. Indianapolis, Indiana: Seventeen felony and misdemeanor charges have been filed against an officer who was arrested. The officer faces charges including criminal confinement, intimidation, battery and criminal recklessness after a domestic violence incident involving his wife and their neighbors. *John Haggard, 40, had been drinking and driving. When his wife expressed concern for their safety in the vehicle Haggard became angry and punched her several times in the head. He hit her several more times once they were home. The victim and their son went to a neighbor, also an IMPD officer, because she was in fear for their safety. Haggard went to the neighbor's house and brandished his weapon ordering them to give him his son. Haggard left the residence and the police were called. Haggard is on unpaid leave.* [ow.ly/gvNLE](http://ow.ly/gvNLE)

January 3, 2013

93. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: The Deputy Commissioner, *William Blackburn*, one of Philly's top officers, allegedly instructed an aide to browse the police department's computer personnel files for photos of female officers so that he could select those he'd like to meet, according to court documents. The former longtime aide said the Commissioner would look at the photos, pick out some he wanted to meet and then direct his aide to find out where they worked. *Blackburn, 55, is named in a federal discrimination lawsuit filed by Debra Frazier, a police captain, who says Balckburn sexually harassed her and retaliated against her when she did not accept his advances.* [ow.ly/gugdR](http://ow.ly/gugdR)
94. Henry County, Georgia: An officer, *Stephen Martin, 27*, has been arrested and charged with domestic battery and two counts of cruelty to children. *Martin assaulted his wife in front of their two children. Martin is on unpaid leave pending investigation.* [ow.ly/gtMBR](http://ow.ly/gtMBR)