

Data for a three year period, between 2014 and 2016, demonstrates...

### Judicial Branch Family Services Unit Intakes

- 76,402 total family violence arrests/intakes representing 32% of the criminal docket
- 54,129 of those arrests were intimate partner violence arrests
- 14,953 of those intimate partner violence arrests were dual arrests representing 27.6% of the total intimate partner violence arrests

### DESPP Family Violence Arrest Report

- 47,897 total family violence incidents/arrests
- 39,854 of those arrests were intimate partner violence arrests (83%)
- 7,193 of those intimate partner violence arrests were dual arrests representing 18% of the total intimate partner violence arrests

Stakeholder input via 11 roundtables with law enforcement, court personnel, prosecutors, community-based service providers, and advocates demonstrated key themes including...

- Challenges faced by law enforcement at the scene
- Short- and long-term impact on children
- Perception of the criminal justice system negatively impacted
- Training and education across systems is critical, including specialized training

Challenges presented by Connecticut's dual arrest rate include...

- Significant financial and capacity burden to multiple systems including public safety, criminal justice, child welfare, and community-based providers
- Produces additional trauma and barriers that negatively impacts the stability of individuals and families

Opportunities exist to formulate a new shared approach to addressing dual arrest which brings Connecticut more in line with the national average of 7.3%...

- Structural modifications to laws governing (a) family violence arrest policies and related police liability and (b) training across systems
- Development of a universal and standardized training curriculum for use across law enforcement and other appropriate systems.
- Comprehensive approach to family violence data collection and reporting requirements across systems be established so that any policy change can be measured for its efficacy.
- All systems can be strengthened through training which speaks to the unique needs of victims regarding trauma, children, substance use, mental health, and culture.
- Leverage Connecticut's Lethality Assessment Program to more affirmatively develop distinct approaches in dual arrest situations.

One possible structural modification to Connecticut's family violence arrest statute (46b-38b) is to include predominant aggressor language. Connecticut's first look at predominant aggressor language was in 2004, which resulted in the compromise language of self-defense currently found in 46b-38b.

- More than ½ of the United States has implemented predominant aggressor laws
- Of the 27 states with explicit predominant aggressor language, 23 include in statute factors which police should utilize to determine which party is the predominant aggressor
- 10 states mandate the arrest of the predominant aggressor