

CLEVELAND COUNTY  
21ST DISTRICT  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**District 21 Combatting Increasing Domestic Violence Cases**

District 21 has seen a spike in domestic violence case filings over the past couple of years. Domestic Assault and Battery peaked in 2021, tripling the numbers our office had in 2019. It is also becoming more deadly with five times the amount of Domestic Assault and Battery by Strangulation charges that were filed in 2021 as opposed to 2019. Domestic violence has always been an issue, but it is continuing to grow.

The District Attorney's Office in District 21 is committed to raising awareness this October about the seriousness of domestic violence and the resources available for victims. We believe that domestic violence is not a private, family matter, but a pervasive crime against society.

"Since the beginning of 2022, our office has filed over 500 domestic violence cases District-wide and that numbers continues to grow," says District Attorney Greg Mashburn. "Domestic Violence is a crime we encounter every day in our jobs and we pledge to prosecute these crimes to the fullest extent of the law."

Domestic violence comes in many forms. It is an escalating pattern of abuse where one partner in an intimate relationship controls the other through force, intimidation, or the threat of violence. This can present itself through physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or economic or financial abuse. Domestic violence is extremely complicated and requires the full understanding of the context of a situation in order to identify the pattern.

When domestic violence charges are filed, we instate a no-drop where we will not drop charges at the victim's request. We understand that domestic violence cases are sensitive and complicated, therefore, we believe this policy allows us to do our jobs to hold abusers accountable for their actions.

However, we understand that these cases can be difficult on victims and we prioritize their safety, which is why our Domestic Violence Division is comprised of both trained prosecutors and victim/witness advocates who assist victims through the court process. Our Domestic Violence Division refers to victims to local organizations that help victims of domestic violence.

Some of those local organizations include:

[The Women's Resource Center](#)

[Palomar Family Justice Center](#)

[Absentee Shawnee Tribal Victims Services](#)

For more information on how DA Mashburn's office helps victims through these cases and other ways we hold offenders accountable, please reach out to Alexis White, PIO.