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## **Police Officer Domestic Violence Is A Crisis. It's Time for States to Take Action.**

**Brian Stanley**, Boston University

Domestic violence by police officers is a nationwide scourge. While the actual number of cases that happen every year is **unknown**, it's likely in the **tens of thousands**. Police officers in **almost every state** have been charged with domestic violence since the start of 2025. Such figures demonstrate that police officer domestic violence is a structural failure, not the isolated misconduct of 'a few bad apples.'

These numbers become even more sobering in light of police officer-abusers' training and responsibilities, which makes them **uniquely dangerous**, and extremely undertrained: On **average**, less than 2 percent of police academy training time is spent on domestic violence response, while 17 percent is spent on weapons and defensive training.