

**Public Children Services Association of Ohio
CHILD WELFARE WORKER SAFETY INCIDENT REPORT
2006 ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY**

Number of Agencies that Reported	71
Agencies that Reported Incidents	44
Agencies that Reported No Incidents	27
Total Incidents Reported by Agencies	235

71 COUNTIES REPORTED IN 2006 (At least one of the four quarters)

Small Counties	Medium-Small	Medium Counties	Large	Metros	Major Metros
Adams, Carroll Champaign, Coshocton, Fayette, Hocking, Holmes, Gallia, Harrison, Henry, Hocking, Holmes, Meigs, Morgan, Morrow, Noble, Paulding, Perry, Putnam, Van Wert, Wyandot	Auglaize, Crawford, Fulton, Guernsey, Highland, Logan, Madison, Mercer, Ottawa, Preble, Shelby,	Ashland, Athens, Belmont, Erie, Geauga, Huron, Knox, Lawrence, Marion, Miami, Muskingum, Pickaway, Ross, Sandusky, Scioto, Tuscarawas, Washington,	Allen, Ashtabula, Clark, Clermont, Delaware, Greene, Licking, Medina, Richland, Wayne, Wood	Butler, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Montgomery, Stark, Summit, Trumbull	Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton

Incident Description

- 96** Verbal Aggression (w/ sense of danger)
- 82** Verbal / Written Threats of Harm
- 13** Personal / Agency Property Damage
- 4** Sexual Harassment
- 9** Stalked by Client
- 17** Physical Assault - not injured
- 11** Physical Assault – injured (*child bit*)
- 7** Use of Weapon (*pocket knife, bomb*)
- 20** Other

Alleged Offender

- 132** Client - Adult
- 23** Client Child/Youth
- 2** Caregiver's Relative
- 7** Client's Paramour
- 21** Other

Location of Incident

- 60** Client Home
- 57** Agency
- 6** Provider Agency
- 6** Victim's Home
- 54** Phone / Email
- 14** Court
- 22** Other

Incident "Trigger"

- 32** Visit as part of C/A,N investigation
- 26** Removal of Children
- 38** Routine Home Visit
- 26** Custody Discussion, Pending Action
- 21** Parent Visit with Child
- 25** Other

Post Incident Responses

- 12** Victim Received Medical Attention
- 68** Law Enforcement of local jurisdiction contacted for Agency and Victim
- 235** Incident Reported to Agency
- 15** Employee Assistance Program Offered / Provided
- 10** Warning Letter Issued
- 6** Incoming Phone Calls to Victim Taped
- 9** Offender/s Picture Posted w/in Agency for Security Purposes
- 33** Law Enforcement Intervention
- 17** Charges Filed Against Alleged Offender
- 13** Offender Arrested
- 1** Post Incident Training Scheduled/Conducted
- 30** Other

44 agencies reported that a safety incident had occurred during 2006

Small Counties	Medium-Small	Medium Counties	Large	Metros	Major Metros
Adams (1), Champaign (1), Coshocton (3), Gallia (1), Harrison (1), Henry (2), Hocking (2), Holmes (1), Meigs (1), Morrow (2), Van Wert (1)	Crawford (2), Fulton (4), Guernsey (2), Madison (1)	Ashland (1), Athens (2), Erie (1), Geauga (5), Knox (1), Marion (8), Muskingum (1), Ross (5), Sandusky (2), Scioto (2), Tuscarawas (2)	Allen (1), Ashtabula (4), Clark (4), Clermont (3), Delaware (1), Greene (6), Medina (1), Richland (17)	Butler (14), Lucas (29), Mahoning (6), Montgomery (22), Stark (5), Summit (6), Trumbull (2)	Cuyahoga (22), Franklin (26), Hamilton (11)
16 out of 235	9 out of 235	30 out of 235	37 out of 235	84 out of 235	59 out of 235

**2006 CHILD WELFARE WORKER SAFETY INCIDENT
SUMMARY REPORT
January – December 2006**

Child Welfare professionals are dedicated, helping agents who work towards improving quality of life outcomes for all children and families within their communities.

A child welfare agency employee can expect some client resistance because the focus for the services entails an intensive, detailed view of many intimate family matters. Even though a degree of resistance to services is accepted, a clear distinction must be made between resistance and aggressive behaviors which constitutes a danger to staff.

Through PCSAO's leadership, we have been collecting and reporting on Worker Safety Infractions across the state since 2002. PCSAO recently released the 2006 Ohio Aggregate Data Report on Child Welfare Worker Safety Incidents. From this data gathering process, we have learned the following:

- In 2006, 71 of Ohio's 88 county agencies utilized the reporting tool for worker safety incidents.
 - 100% of Major Metro Counties
 - 89% of Metro Counties
 - 73% of Large Counties
 - 81% of Medium Counties
 - 79% of Medium-Small Counties
 - 81% of Small Counties
- Of those 71 counties, 44 reported at least one incident occurred at the agency.
- A total of 235 incidents were reported to PCSAO which occurred in all county cohort groups.
 - 59 in Major Metro Counties
 - 84 in Metro Counties
 - 37 in Large Counties
 - 30 in Medium Counties
 - 9 in Medium-Small Counties
 - 16 in Small Counties
- Based on the data, verbal aggression (96 incidents) and verbal and/or written threats of harm (82 incidents) continue to have a high rate of incidents.
- Predominately, adult clients have the highest rate of alleged offenders (132 reported incidents were with an adult client).
- The top three locations where incidents occurred in 2006 were on in the homes of clients (60 reports), on agency grounds (57 reports), and by phone or email (54 reports).
- There was not a significant difference within the incident "triggers" identified by PCSAO
 - 32 Visits a part of an investigation
 - 26 Removal of a Child
 - 38 Routine Home Visits
 - 26 Custody Discussion
 - 21 Parent Visit with Child
 - 25 Other
- Agency employees endured physical incidents bitten by dogs, being bitten by a child, having a soda can thrown at them and being spit on. Workers also reported being threatened with a gun, a bomb, a pocket knife, and a screwdriver. Additionally workers reported observing a gun in a client's home, receiving property damage to their car and being chased by a stranger.
- The table below shows the number of counties who submitted a report to PCSAO, during at least one quarter, and the number of incidents reported from 2002 through 2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Participating Counties	62	69	63	63	71
Number of Incidents Reported	309	232	299	258	211

Information about PCSAO Child Protection Services Standards for Effective Practice and the Worker Safety Reports are available online at <http://www.pcsao.org/SafetyIncidentReport.htm>. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact PCSAO at (614) 224-5802.