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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SCCADVASA Statement: Report Shows South Carolina's Rate
of Women Killed by Men Continues to Outrank National Average**

October 7, 2024 – A [report by the Violence Policy Center \(VPC\)](#) underscores South Carolina's history of deadly violence against women with the state's rate of female victims killed by males continuing to top the national average.

According to the report, the state's rate of females killed by males in 2022 was 2.1 per 100,000, compared to the national rate of 1.4.

The South Carolina data is part of a VPC nationwide study "[When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2022 Homicide Data](#)" released last week.

Black women in South Carolina are more than twice as likely to be killed by a man compared to white women, although they comprise only one-quarter of the state's female population.

[Nationally, the percentage of Black females killed by males with a firearm](#) climbed from 51.0 percent in 2011 to 78.1 percent in 2022.

Most women murdered by men knew their killers. In 2022, over 86 percent of female victims knew the men who killed them. Nearly 78 percent of female victims killed by males in South Carolina were killed with a firearm, the majority of which were handguns.

Access to a gun makes it five times more likely that the abusive partner will kill his female victim. Yet, significant gaps remain that allow abusers to continue to have access to guns. As the VPC study states, **"Women face the greatest threat from someone they know, most often a spouse or other intimate acquaintance, who is armed with a gun. For women in America, guns are not used to save lives, but to take them."**

In 2023, VPC's "[When Men Murder Women: A Review of 25 Years of Female Homicide Victimization in the United States](#)" study analyzed the rate of females killed by males over a span of 25 years (1996-2020). **For 23 out of the 25 years, South Carolina was in the top 10 states for the rate of females killed by males.**

(more)

Domestic violence impacts all of us and affects someone you know whether it be a family member, friend, or colleague. The high levels of violence against women in this state underscore the incredible amount of work needed to end violence in our communities. During [Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#), we encourage you to help [#SparktheChange](#) to create a South Carolina free from domestic violence and sexual assault.

To learn more about SCCADVASA and ways to support survivors visit www.sccadvasa.org.

About SCCADVASA:

The South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCADVASA) serves as the collective voice promoting the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault in South Carolina. Our vision is a South Carolina free from domestic violence and sexual assault. Our statewide coalition is made up of the 22 sexual assault and domestic violence direct service and advocacy programs in South Carolina and other allied organizations. Since 1981, SCCADVASA has been a leader in representing the critical needs of survivors and their families. Our dedicated staff advance our work through advocacy, education, and collaboration.

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