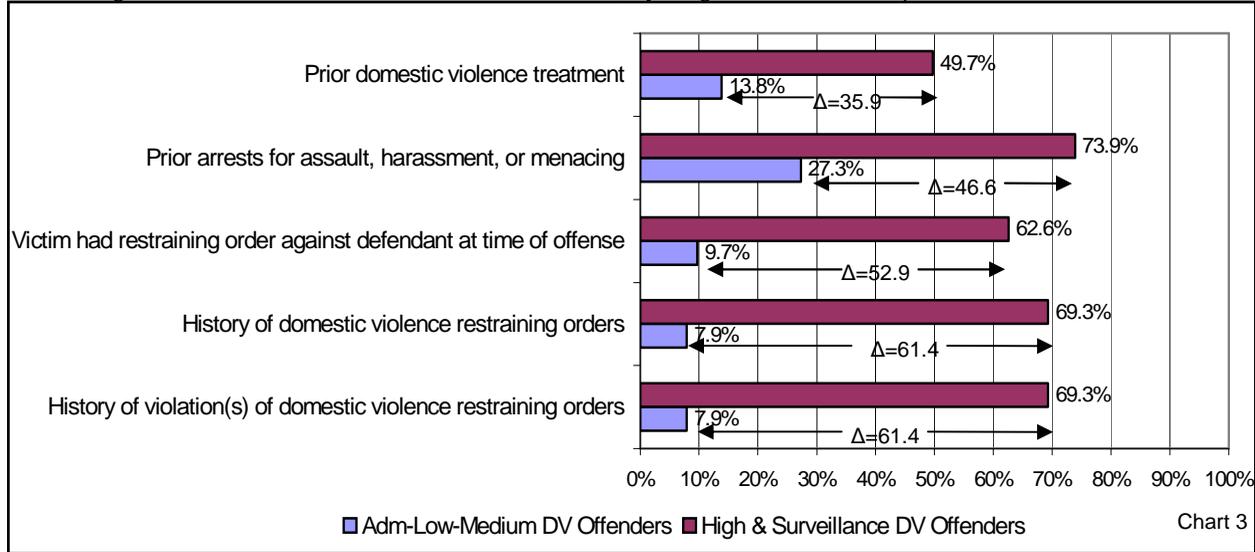## V. DV-Related Risk Factors Present, by Risk Classification Levels in the DVSI and SARA
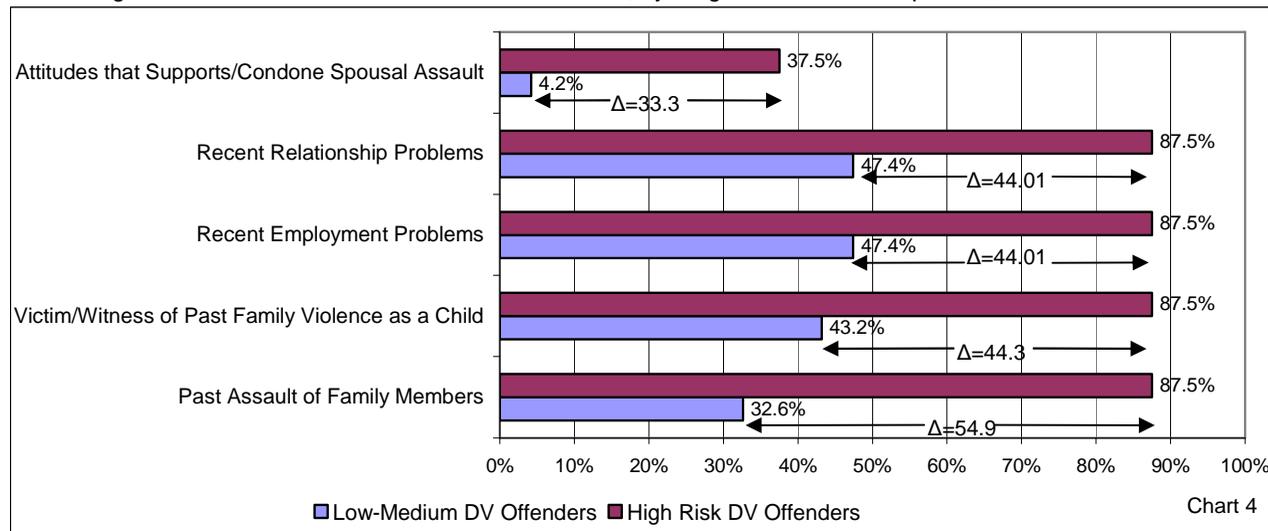
The following tables reveal the percentage of offenders with risk factors present, rank ordered by risk-level disparities. The disparities reflect the percentage difference in the presence of risk items between offenders who scored at the Administrative-Low-Medium risk levels and the High-Surveillance risk levels on the DVSI; and the Low-Medium versus High risk levels on the SARA.

Findings: With respect to risk items present in the DVSI, the "History of violations of domestic violence restraining orders" had the greatest disparity (Δ=61.4) between High & Surveillance risk offenders and Administrative thru Medium risk offenders. In the SARA, with respect to risk items present, "Past assault of family members" had the greatest disparity (Δ=54.9) between High and Low-Medium risk offenders.

Percentage of Offenders with DVSI Risk Factors Present, by Largest Risk Level Disparities, FYs 2008 and 2009
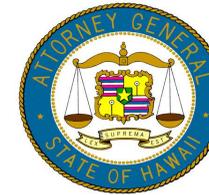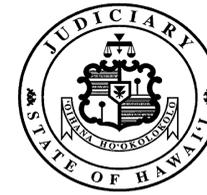
Chart 3

Percentage of Offenders with SARA Risk Factors Present, by Largest Risk Level Disparities, FYs 2008 and 2009

Chart 4

Domestic Violence Descriptive Study on the DVSI and SARA, State of Hawaii, FYs 2008 – 2009 is available electronically at the ICIS web site: <hawaii.gov/icis>.

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Domestic Violence Descriptive Study on the Domestic Violence Screening Inventory (DVSI) and the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment (SARA)

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This study is an analysis of the Domestic Violence Screening Instrument (DVSI) and the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment (SARA) conducted in FYs 2008 and 2009. The DVSI and SARA are nationally-validated intimate partner violence risk instruments. The DVSI is primarily a risk-based criminal history screening instrument, administered by probation officers (POs) during intake, or at the start of supervision services. The twelve risk items in the DVSI assist the POs by classifying offenders into five discrete risk levels (based on Hawaii-normed cut-off values). With respect to the SARA, this instrument assesses intimate partner *risk potential*, but does not predict dangerous outcomes found in intimate partner violence. The SARA is administered in conjunction with the DVSI, if recommended by the PO, and if the offender scores six or greater on the DVSI. The State of Hawaii uses the DVSI to screen out low risk offenders, and to assess the likelihood of intimate partner violence or the threat of violence. Probation services currently use the DVSI's five risk classification levels for community supervision purposes. Probation uses the SARA to help with its case planning efforts by targeting DV-specific services, but only for offenders who score at the high risk level (based on nationally-normed Low-Moderate and High risk classification levels). Offenders classified at high risk must have SARA scores ≥20 or eight or more DV factors present.

KEY FINDINGS

DVSI:
- Males represent 92% of the DVSIs administered.
- Hawaiians/ part-Hawaiians represent 41% of the DVSIs administered.
- 44% are unemployed.
- 60% are classified at the administrative level (DVSI<6)
- 40% have prior non-domestic violence convictions, i.e., total criminal history.
- Abuse of a family or household member represents 24% of the total offenses committed by offenders with DVSIs.
- Offenders who committed violations of protective orders scored at the high risk level.
- Offenders with a history of DV-related restraining orders were highly associated with high DVSI scores.

SARA:
- 64% of offenders with SARAs administered are single.
- 63% are unemployed.
- 11% of offenders with SARAs scored at the high risk level.
- Violations of temporary restraining orders account for 24% of the total offenses committed by offenders with SARAs.
- Offenders who committed a terroristic threatening offense had the highest average score on the SARA.
- Offenders who were victim and/or witnesses to family violence as a child or adolescent were highly associated with high SARA scores.

I. DVSI and SARA Risk Classification Levels

Table 1 Risk Classification Levels for the DVSI and SARA, FYs 2008-2009

DVSI			SARA					
Hawaii cutoffs	Freq.	Pct.	National cutoffs	Freq.	Pct.	Factors Present	Freq.	Pct.
Administrative (DVSI<6)	433	59.5%	Low-					
Low (DVSI=6)	45	6.2%	Moderate	101	98.1%	<8	92	89.3%
Medium (DVSI 7-8)	84	11.5%	(SARA<20)					
High (DVSI 9-17)	156	21.4%	High			8 or		
Surveillance (DVSI>17)	10	1.4%	(SARA=20+)	2	1.9%	more	11	10.7%
Total	728	100.0%	Total	103	100.0%		103	100.0%

Note: 295 SARAs recommended based on DVSI>5;

II. Demographics

Table 2: Descriptive Profile of Offenders Administered the DVSI and SARA, FYs 2008 and 2009

	DVSI		SARA	
	Freq.	Pct.	Freq.	Pct.
Gender				
Male	282	92.2%	95	92.2%
Female	24	7.8%	8	7.8%
Total	*306*	*100.0%*	*103*	*100.0%*
Age Range				
<20 years	19	2.7%	3	4.2%
20-29 years	243	34.2%	22	31.0%
30-39 years	217	30.5%	21	29.6%
40-49 years	161	22.6%	15	21.1%
50-59 years	52	7.3%	9	12.7%
60+ Years	19	2.7%	1	1.4%
Total	*696*	*100.0%*	*71*	*100.0%*
Ethnicity				
Caucasian	38	12.4%	9	12.7%
Filipino	19	6.2%	8	11.3%
Hawaiian/Pt Hawn	125	40.8%	28	39.4%
Samoan	15	4.9%	5	7.0%
All Others	109	35.7%	21	29.6%
Total	*306*	*100.0%*	*71*	*100.0%*
Marital Status				
Single	171	55.9%	44	62.9%
Married	75	24.5%	11	15.7%
Separated	21	6.9%	9	12.9%
Divorced	39	12.7%	6	8.6%
Total	*306*	*100.0%*	*70*	*100.0%*
Education Level				
Less than high school	11	3.8%	3	4.5%
Some high school	82	28.2%	21	31.3%
High school graduate	150	51.5%	31	46.3%
Post High School	48	16.5%	12	17.9%
Total	*291*	*100.0%*	*67*	*100.0%*
Employed	156	54.5%	24	36.4%
Student	3	1.0%	-	-
Unemployed (1-3 months)	20	7.0%	6	9.1%
Unemployed (3+ months)	107	37.4%	36	54.5%
Total	*286*	*100.0%*	*66*	*100.0%*

Note: 92% of the DV offenders are Male, and 41% are Hawn/part-Hawn, based on the recorded number of DVSIs collected in FYs 2008-2009. Additionally, over half of the offenders are at least high school graduates, but are employed.

III. DVSI and SARA Rankings by Average Score, Risk Item Prevalence, and Correlation

The following tables refer to DV-related offenses by the highest average DVSI and SARA scores (Table 3); the prevalence of risk factors present in the DVSI and SARA data (Table 4); and the correlation (r) or statistical association, between risk items and the DVSI and SARA total scores (Table 5).

Findings: Offenders with Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) violations, or violations of Protective Orders, had average DVSI scores that were within the high risk level (DVSI score 9-17), while offenders who were previously arrested for Terroristic Threatening and TRO Violations had the highest average SARA scores (Table 3). In Table 4, of the twelve risk factors established in the DVSI, "Prior non-domestic violence convictions" was the most widely reported risk item (reported 39.7% of the time), while in the SARA, "Recent employment problems" was reported 49% of the time. In Table 5, the presence of the DVSI risk item, "Any history of DV-related restraining orders" had the highest correlation with the DVSI score (r=.35), while the presence of the SARA risk item, "Victim and/or witness to family violence as a child or adolescent" had the highest correlation with the SARA score (r=.47).

Table 3: Type of DV Offense Committed, by Highest Average Scores, FY 2008 and 2009

DVSI (n=468)			SARA (n=103)		
DV-Related Offenses	Freq.	Ave Score	DV-Related Offenses	Freq.	Ave. Score
(1) Violation of protective orders	37	12.4	(1) Terroristic Threatening	11	11.2
(2) Violation of temporary restraining order	13	11.6	(2) Violation of temporary restraining order	25	10.7
(3) Criminal Contempt of Court	44	8.4	(3) Harassment	6	10.3
(4) Abuse of family or household member	107	6.4	(4) Abuse of family or household member	28	10.1
(5) Terroristic Threatening	17	5.7	(5) Assault	9	8.4

Table 4: Highest Ranked Risk Items Established in the DVSI and SARA, FYs 2008 and 2009

DVSI (n=728)			SARA (n=103)		
Highest Percentage of Risk Factors Present	Freq.	Pct.	Highest Percentage of Risk Factors Present	Freq.	Pct.
(1) Prior non-domestic violence convictions	288	39.7%	(1) Recent employment problems	51	49.0%
(2) Prior arrests for assault, harassment, or menacing	275	37.8%	(2) Assault	49	47.1%
(3) Unemployed	251	35.0%	(3) Recent releationship problems	47	45.2%
(4) Victim separated from defendant within last six months	221	30.7%	(4) Past violations of conditional release	46	44.2%
(5) History of domestic violence restraining orders	220	30.5%	(5) Victim/witness of past violence as a child	45	43.3%

Table 5: Highest Ranked Risk Items Correlated with the DVSI and SARA Total Score, FYs 2008 and 2009

DVSI (n=728)			SARA (n=103)		
Highest Ranked Risk Items	# of Items correlated with DVSI/SARA	r	Highest Ranked Risk Items	# of Items correlated with DVSI/SARA	r
(1) Any history of DV related restraining orders	16 out of 32	0.35	(1) Victim and/or witness to family violence as a child or adolescent	6 out of 32	0.47
(2) Prior arrests for assault, harassment, or menacing	11 out of 32	0.32	(2) Past physical assault	13 out of 32	0.47
(3) Any history of violation(s) of DV restraining orders	7 out of 32	0.31	(3) Past assault of family members	7 out of 32	0.46
(4) Was defendant under any form of community supervision at time of offense	13 out of 32	0.31	(4) Recent relationship problems	4 out of 32	0.37
(5) Did the victim have a restraining order against the defendant at time of offense	16 out of 32	0.23	(5) Recent escalation in frequency or severity of assault	10 out of 32	0.37

IV. DV-Related Offenses Committed by Offenders who were Administered the DVSI and SARA

The DVSI (Chart 1) and SARA (Chart 2) data depict, from low to high, the percentage of probationers who committed a DV-related offense in FYs 2008 and 2009. This is an unduplicated count of sentenced offenders who were administered the DVSI (n=450) and the SARA (n=103).

Findings: With respect to the DVSI, the greatest proportion of DV-related offenses committed came from Assaults (25.3%), followed by Abuse of Family (24.4%), and Harassment (22.9%). In the SARA, Abuse of Family (27.2%) and TRO Violations (24.3%) accounted for the highest proportions of DV offenses committed.

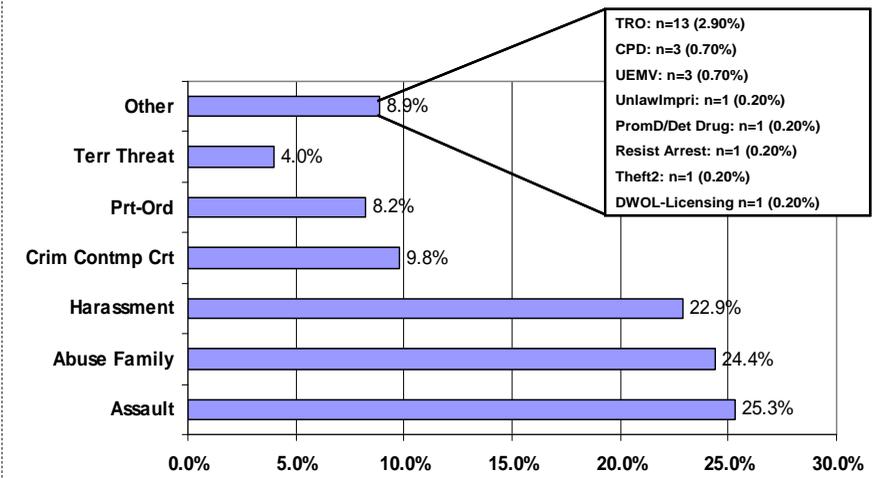Percentage of DVSIs Administered to Offenders, by the Type of DV Offenses Committed, FYs 2008 and 2009 (n=450)

Inset (Other breakdown):
TRO: n=13 (2.90%)
CPD: n=3 (0.70%)
UEMV: n=3 (0.70%)
UnlawImpri: n=1 (0.20%)
PromD/Det Drug: n=1 (0.20%)
Resist Arrest: n=1 (0.20%)
Theft2: n=1 (0.20%)
DWOL-Licensing n=1 (0.20%)

Other: 8.9%
Terr Threat: 4.0%
Prt-Ord: 8.2%
Crim Contmp Crt: 9.8%
Harassment: 22.9%
Abuse Family: 24.4%
Assault: 25.3%

Chart 1

Percentage of SARAs Administered to Offenders, by the Type of DV Offenses Committed, FYs 2007 and 2009 (n=103)

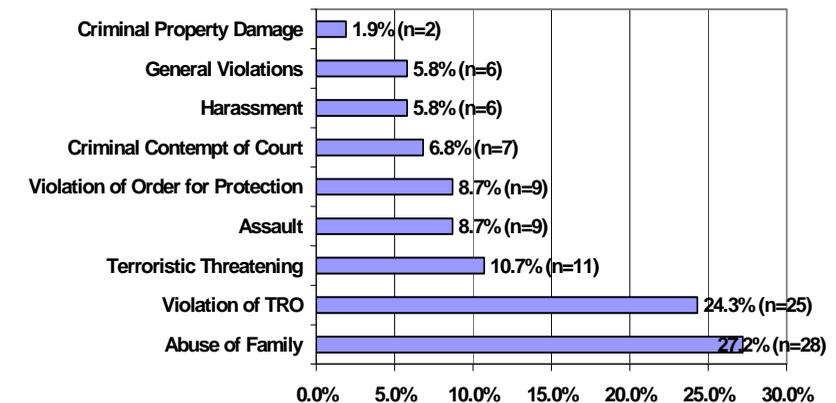Criminal Property Damage: 1.9% (n=2)
General Violations: 5.8% (n=6)
Harassment: 5.8% (n=6)
Criminal Contempt of Court: 6.8% (n=7)
Violation of Order for Protection: 8.7% (n=9)
Assault: 8.7% (n=9)
Terroristic Threatening: 10.7% (n=11)
Violation of TRO: 24.3% (n=25)
Abuse of Family: 27.2% (n=28)

Chart 2