



Media Release
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Help your boss connect the dots

Learn how to get executive-level buy-in to protect employees and profits

ATLANTA, April 20, 2010 – Recently, a Publix cashier was shot and killed by her estranged husband in front of co-workers and customers. Domestic violence can strike at work. Partnership Against Domestic Violence (PADV) is offering its ninth annual *When Domestic Violence Goes to Work* conference to help employers take a preventive approach to workplace domestic violence. Employers will learn how to develop practices and policies to protect their employees and their profits from workplace domestic violence. The event is scheduled for April 29, 2010, at the Loudermilk Center, downtown Atlanta.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, **18,700 violent incidents** are committed each year by an intimate partner in the workplace. It is common for the abuser to seek out the abused employee at work, endangering the victim and possibly co-workers. Some recent examples include the murder of Raven Buckley outside Midtown's Bank of America Plaza by a man she formerly dated. In another high-profile case, an Omni Hotel employee was killed by her ex-boyfriend at the CNN Center in Atlanta.

“Employers have a duty to protect their employees from harm in the workplace, and their failure to do so could lead to fatalities and lawsuits,” said Cathy Willis Spraez, president and chief executive officer of PADV. “The time to figure out what to do isn't after a fatal shooting, but before the crisis happens. PADV can help employers plan in the quiet comfort of a conference room rather than in the aftermath of a frenzied crisis.”

Despite the dangers and prevalence of workplace domestic violence, there is a lack of strategic planning when it comes to addressing this issue by the business community. The disconnect is vast. What do corporate leaders think about domestic violence in the workplace?*

- 66 percent think it's a major problem.
- 68 percent think their company's financial performance would benefit if addressed.
- 91 percent think it affects both the private and working lives of their employees.

And yet,

- Less than 13 percent of corporate leaders think their companies should address workplace domestic violence.

Registration is \$235 for profit businesses, \$210 for ASIS International and SHRM Atlanta members, and \$85 for nonprofit and government sectors. To register for the conference, or for more information, call 404.870.9605 or click on <http://www.padv.org/conference.asp>

About PADV

Partnership Against Domestic Violence (PADV) is the largest and one of the oldest nonprofit domestic violence organizations in Georgia. For 35 years, PADV has been providing professional, compassionate and empowering support to battered women and their children in metro Atlanta. PADV provides violence prevention, emergency intervention and long-term advocacy for battered women and their children including a 24-hour crisis line, two emergency shelters in metro Atlanta, supportive housing, support groups, legal advocacy, corporate and community education and a teen dating violence prevention program. To learn more about domestic violence and PADV programs and services, please visit www.padv.org.

**Liz Claiborne Inc. 2nd Corporate Leader Survey, 2002*

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