

Legal Interventions

How many incidents of legal intervention occurred?

There were 6 incidents involving 8 victims.

How often did legal interventions result in a death?

Three of the 5 civilian victims were fatalities.

Were all officers involved on duty?

Yes.

How many officers were injured?

Three of the 8 victims were law enforcement officers who sustained nonfatal firearm injuries.

How often did these shootings take place in a public area?

The fatal incidents took place on the street, in a parking lot, and in a bank. The nonfatal incidents took place at a home, on the street, and in a bank.

Did the victims who were involved in legal interventions have a criminal history?

All 5 civilian victims of legal intervention had a criminal history.

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Fatal and Nonfatal Legal Interventions

Fatal and Nonfatal Firearm-related Injuries

Characteristics of Incidents and Victims

There were 6 incidents of legal intervention, involving 8 victims. Three of the victims were law enforcement officers who sustained nonfatal injuries. No demographic information was collected for the law enforcement officers, to maintain confidentiality. There were 2 nonfatal civilian injuries and 3 fatal civilian injuries (Figure 104).

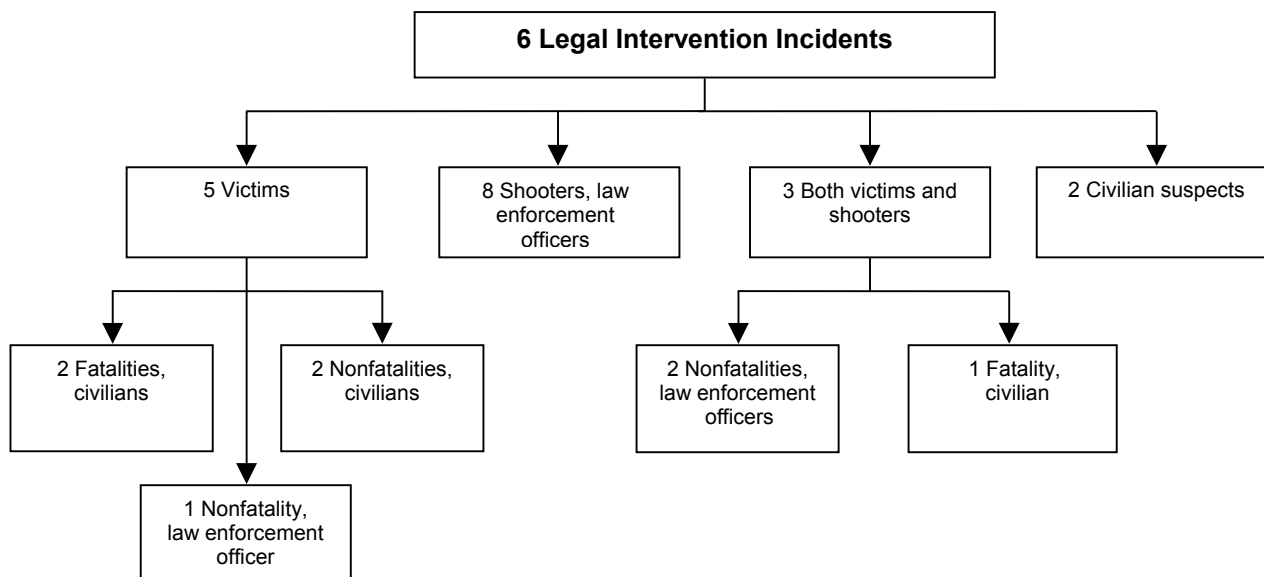


Figure 104: Number of Victims, Law Enforcement Officers, and Suspects Involved in Legal Intervention Incidents: San Francisco, 1999

All of the fatalities were nonresidents. The 2 nonfatality victims (other than the law enforcement officers) were residents. All of the victims were males. The ages of the victims who were fatally wounded ranged from 26 to 53. The 2 nonfatality victims' ages were 19 and 31. The race/ethnicity of the fatality victims was 1 Hispanic, 1 Asian, and 1 African American. Both nonfatality victims were African Americans.

Overall, the 6 injury incidents took place in the months of January (2), October (2), and December (2). Two fatal injuries occurred in January and one occurred in December, with 2 of them occurring on Fridays and one on Monday. The time of these incidents ranged from 12:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. The nonfatal injuries took place in January (2), October (2) and one in December. The nonfatal injuries also occurred on Friday (2), with one injury on each of Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday. These nonfatal incidents occurred between 12:40 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

There was a single injury occurring indoors at the victim's residence, 3 occurred both in and outdoors and 4 injuries occurred outdoors. The precincts where the fatality reports were filed were Central (1) and Southern (2), and the nonfatality reports were filed at Mission (1), Park (1), and Taraval (1).

The fatalities occurred on the street (2), in a bank (1), and in a parking lot (1). The nonfatal injuries occurred in the home (1), on the street (2), and in a bank (2).

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The neighborhoods in which the fatal injuries occurred were Potrero Hill (1), Telegraph Hill/Embarcadero (1), and North Beach/Chinatown (1). The nonfatal injuries occurred in Inner Mission (2), Telegraph Hill/Embarcadero (1), Ingleside/Excelsior/Crocker Amazon (1), and Haight-Ashbury(1). None of the legal interventions took place in public housing.

Two of the fatality victims lived between 10 and 29 miles from the incident and one lived between 30 and 50 miles from the incident. The nonfatality victims lived at the incident location (1), and one lived between 1 and 3 miles from the incident. All the nonfatality victims lived within 3 miles of the incident.

Of the fatality victims, 2 were married and one had never married. Two of the fatality victims had served in the military. One of the fatality victims was foreign-born and the 2 other fatality victims were born in the United States. The occupations of the fatality victims were management, construction, and sail maker. The fatality victims' education levels ranged from the 10th grade to the 12th grade.

The circumstances surrounding these legal interventions were a single incident of possible domestic violence (family violence), robbery (2), officers shot on duty (3), and suspected criminals shot by police (7).

One of the fatality victims was shot with a single bullet (single wound) and 2 were shot multiple times, resulting in 8 and 30 wounds, respectively. Each of the 5 nonfatality victims was shot with a single bullet, resulting in a single wound. The location of the wound entry is shown in Figure 105.

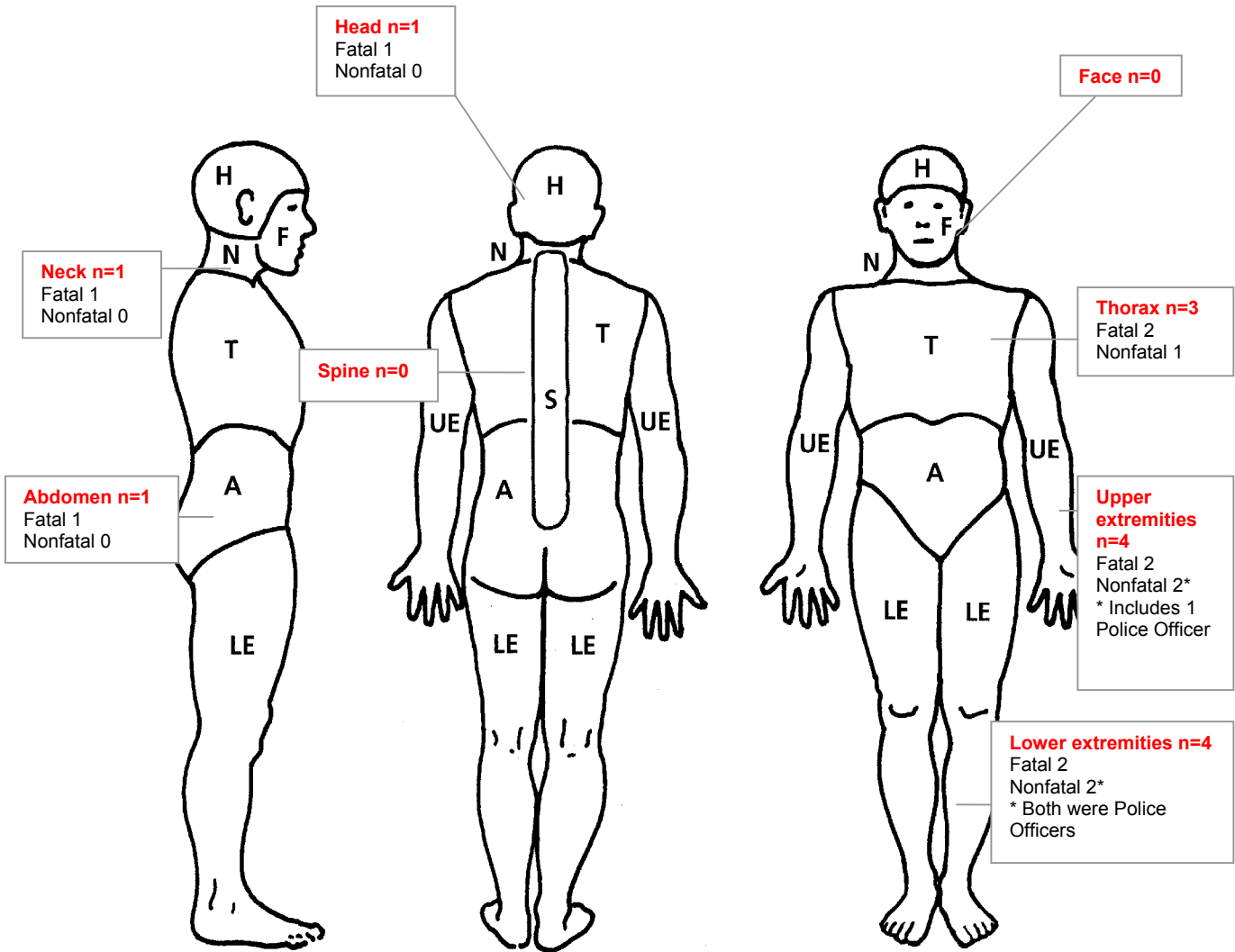


Figure 105: Initial Location of Body Wounds for Fatal and Nonfatal Legal Intervention Firearm-related Injuries: San Francisco, 1999

Note: There were 3 fatality victims representing 9 wounds and 5 nonfatality victims representing 14 wounds, for a total of 23 wound locations.

H - Head	S - Spine	A - Abdomen, lower back
N - Neck	F - Face	T - Thorax
UE - Upper extremities		LE - Lower extremities

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All 3 legal intervention fatality victims were tested for alcohol and for drugs. Two were positive for alcohol with a blood alcohol level of less than 0.08% and 2 were positive for drugs (one for cocaine and one for amphetamines). All 3 victims tested positive for alcohol and/or drugs.

EMS was present at the scene for all injuries. One victim died at the scene, one was dead on arrival at the SFGH ED, and one died in the operating room. The survival time for the fatality victims ranged from 39 minutes to 1 hour and 28 minutes. Four of the nonfatality victims were admitted to SFGH and were hospitalized for less than one day to 5 days. ISS's for the 2 nonfatality victims were under 10 and were 41 and 43, respectively, for the 2 fatalities.

All three of the fatality victims had prior criminal histories and both of the nonfatality victims had prior criminal histories. Both of the nonfatality victims also had juvenile records. One of the nonfatality victims had re-offended before the year 2001.

The two nonfatality victims had felony records with 6 and 11 charges, respectively, and misdemeanor records with 3 and 4 charges, respectively. One of the nonfatality victims had been charged with 7 felonies and one misdemeanor as a juvenile. Both of the nonfatality victims were booked.