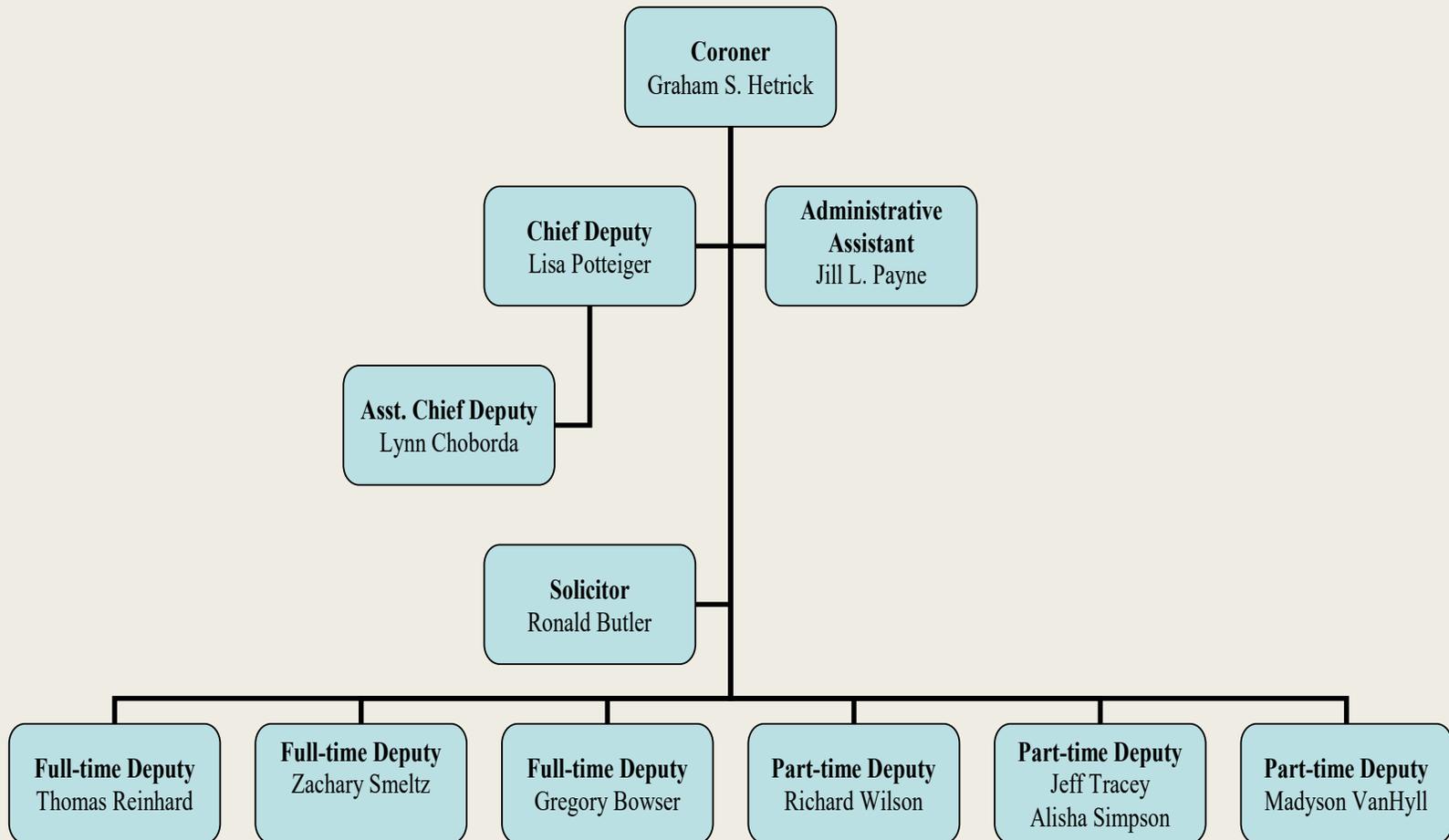


# 2016 Coroner's Report



# 2016 Organizational Chart



# Total Cases

- Total cases referred to this office = 947:
  - *Number of releases via phone calls = 276*
  - *Number of cases requiring Coroner investigation = 671:*
    - Certified by physician = 65
    - Remained as Coroner's jurisdiction = 606:
      - *Of the 606 - autopsies = 154 (25%)*

# Coroner's Jurisdiction Deaths

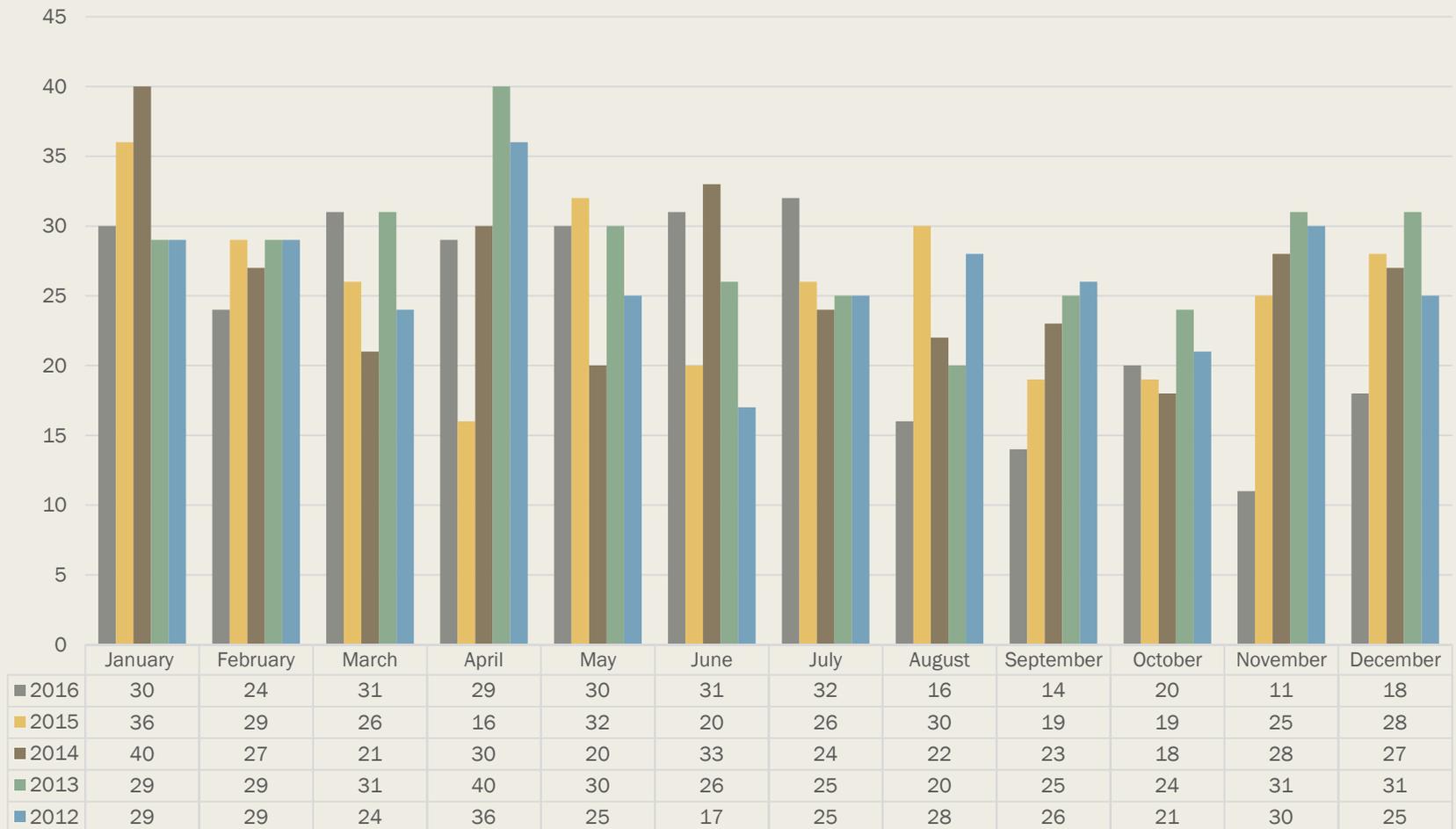
	NATURAL	ACCIDENTAL	HOMICIDE	SUICIDE	PENDING	UNDETERMINED	TOTAL
January	30	12	2	8	0	0	52
February	24	17	1	4	0	3	49
March	31	25	3	4	0	0	63
April	29	18	0	8	0	0	55
May	30	22	1	5	0	0	58
June	31	18	2	4	0	0	55
July	32	17	5	3	0	1	58
August	16	19	3	5	0	0	43
September	14	23	1	2	0	1	41
October	20	17	1	3	0	1	42
November	11	23	1	2	0	0	37
December	18	27	1	3	3	1	53
	286	238	21	51	3	7	606

# NATURAL DEATHS

## Monthly Totals

	HEART	LUNG	NUERO	DIABETES	DEMENTIA- FAILURE TO THRIVE	ALCOHOL- LIVER	OTHER	SEPSIS	CANCER	RENAL	TOTAL
January	21	3	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	30
February	14	7	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	24
March	22	3	0	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	31
April	17	5	0	1	0	0	4	0	2	0	29
May	18	1	4	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	30
June	22	3	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	31
July	23	2	2	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	32
August	12	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	16
September	12	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	14
October	12	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	20
November	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	11
December	6	1	2	2	1	1	4	0	0	1	18
Totals	182	30	13	15	5	5	20	4	8	4	286

# Natural Deaths Comparison

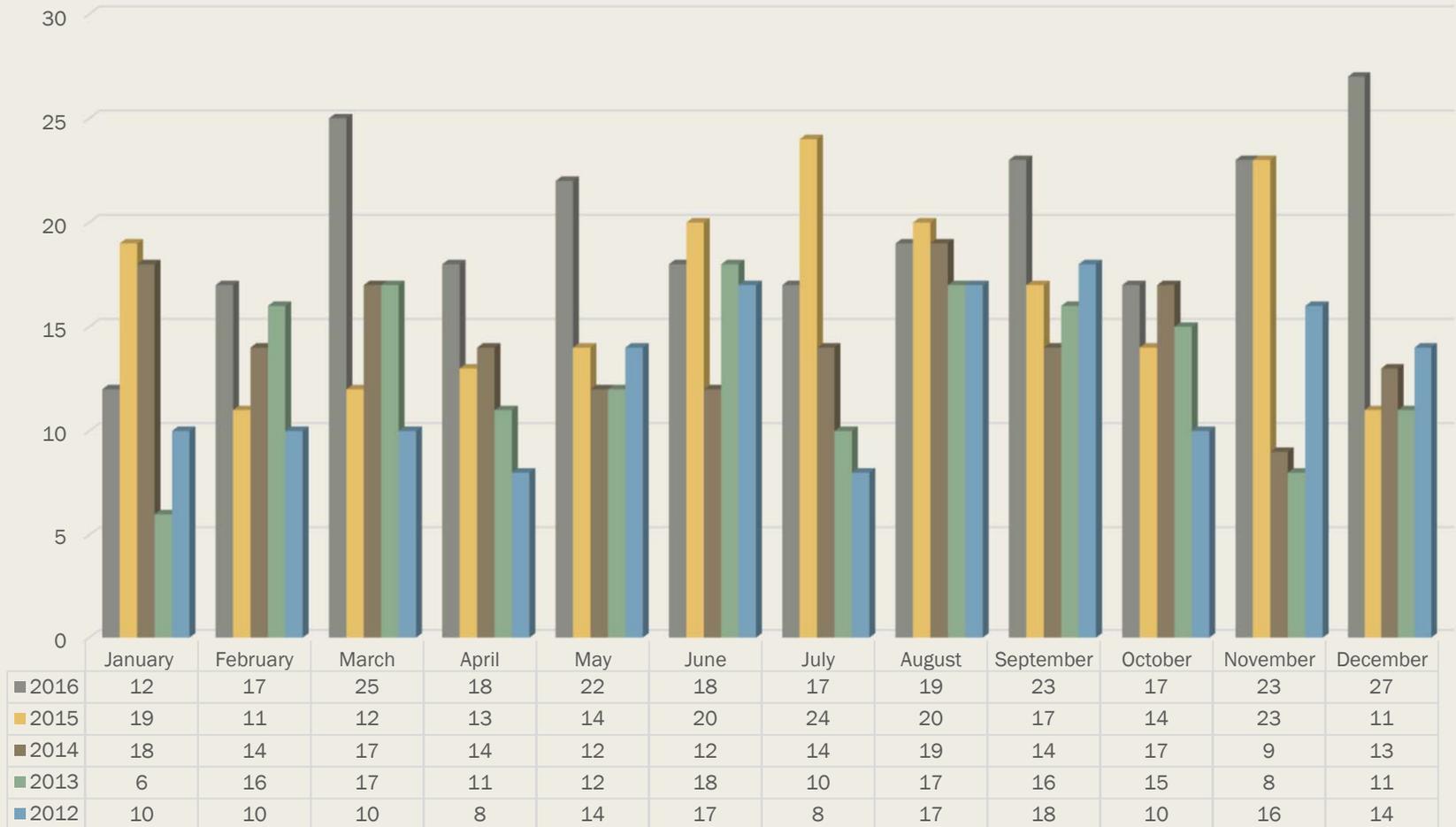


# ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

## Monthly Totals

	MOTOR VEHICLE	FALL	OVERDOSE	GUNSHOT WOUND	FIRE	CHOCKING	DROWNING	CO-SLEEP	OTHER	TOTALS
January	4	2	5	1						12
February	3	6	5		1	1			1	17
March	8	7	6		1		2		1	25
April	6	5	7							18
May	4	10	6			1		1		22
June	5	5	7						1	18
July	1	2	9				3		2	17
August	7	3	7				1		1	19
September	6	6	9				2			23
October	6	6	5							17
November	7	6	7			1	1		1	23
December	9	3	12			1			2	27
Totals	66	61	85	1	2	4	9	1	9	238

# Accidental Deaths Comparison

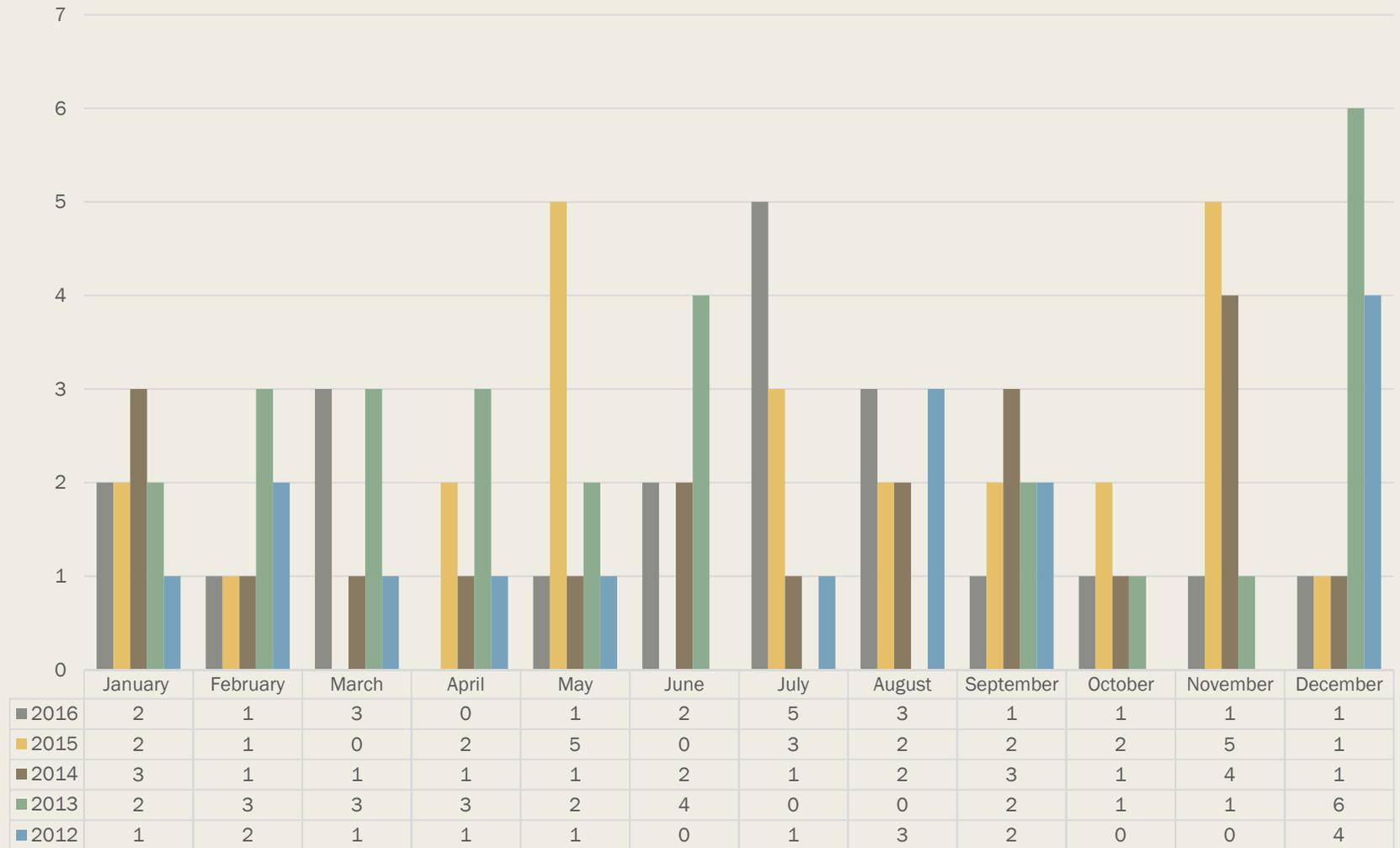


# HOMICIDE DEATHS

## Monthly Totals

	GUNSHOT WOUND	STABBING- STRANUGLATION	TRAUMATIC INJURY	ODVERDOSE	DROWNING	TOTAL
January	2					2
February	1					1
March	3					3
April						0
May		1				1
June			2			2
July	4			1		5
August	3					3
September					1	1
October	1					1
November	1					1
December	1					1
Total	16	1	2	1	1	21

# Homicide Deaths Comparison

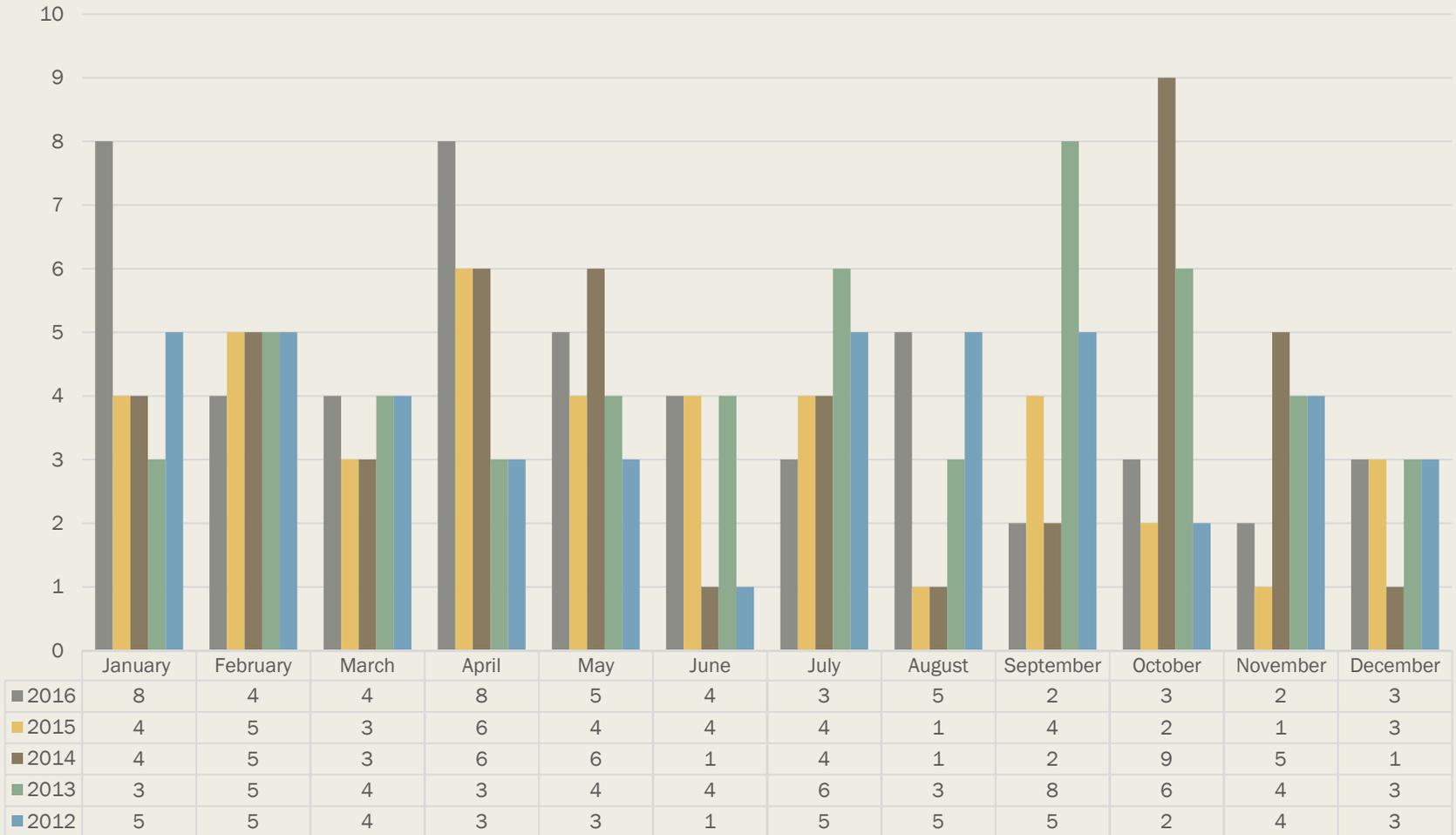


# SUICIDE DEATHS

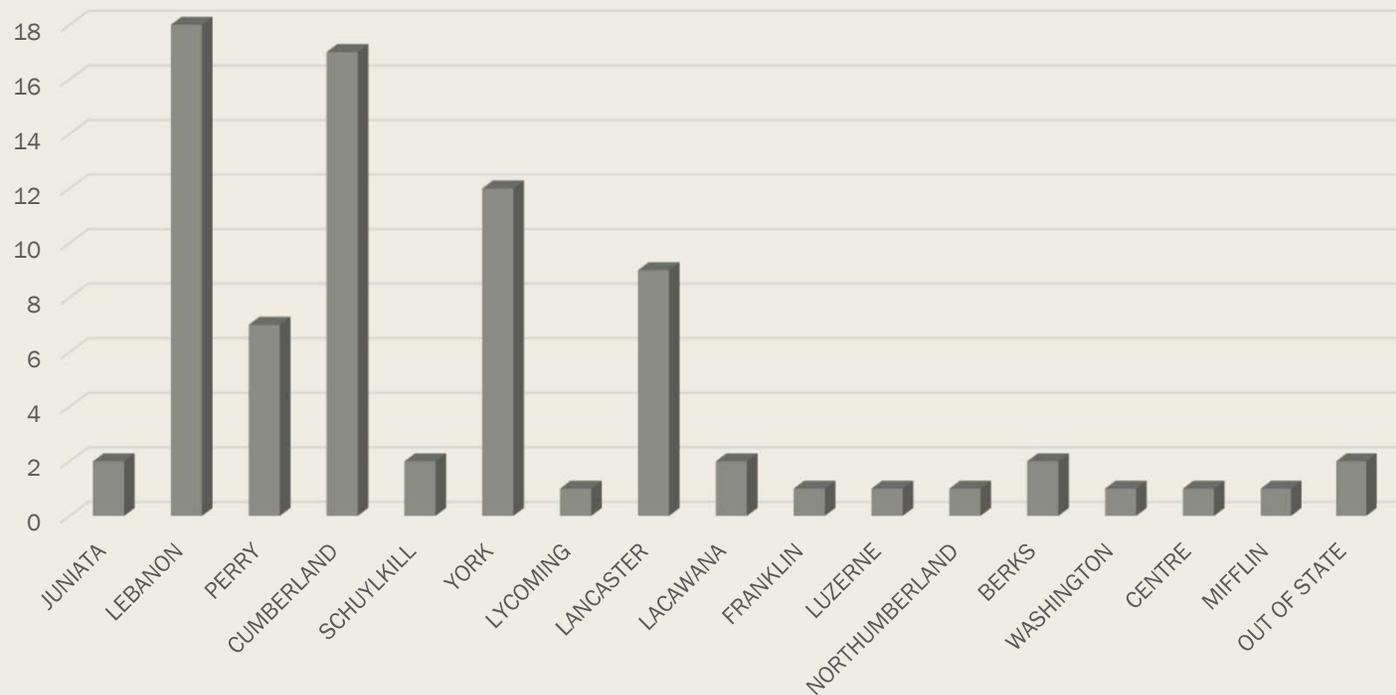
## Monthly Totals

	GUNSHOT WOUND	HANGING	OVERDOSE	TRAUMATIC INJURY	TOTAL
January	5	2	1		8
February	2	1		1	4
March	2	1		1	4
April	3	5			8
May	3	1	1		5
June	2			2	4
July	3				3
August	2	2	1		5
September	1	1			2
October	1	2			3
November			2		2
December			1	2	3
Total	24	15	6	6	51

# Suicide Deaths Comparison



# Deaths Where Incident Occurred Outside of Dauphin County



# Cremation Authorizations

- It is the duty of the Coroner's office to review each death when a cremation is requested, because this is an irreversible process.
- Occasionally, a Death Certificate is improperly issued by a physician, with the manner of death erroneously listed as natural. However, a past incident leading to the death may deem it as other than natural. In this event, the Coroner's office must mount an investigation.
- For each cremation request, the cause of death is reviewed. Last year this office received 1,687 requests for permission to cremate.

# Internship Program

- We were honored to work with the following institutions: Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Harrisburg University and Fitchburg State University.
- Gives practical training for those entering forensics or the medical/scientific fields.
- Resident program with the Hershey Medical Center through our Forensic Pathologist.
- Allows for research and expansion of our own forensic procedures.

# Challenges

- With increase in case load and the growth of technology in the field of forensic medical/legal investigation, we always need updating and expansion of our facility and equipment. This office is exploring a possible multi-county facility for both cost savings and the elimination of redundancy in facilities and equipment, which will result in major financial savings to taxpayers as well as inter-county cooperation on large scenes or in case of mass disaster.

# Improvements and Advancements

- Updated camera equipment.
- Updated records room with filing cabinets.
- Updated pagers.
- Host site for County MDT/Act 33 bimonthly meetings.
- Presentations for Citizens Police Academies.
- Coroner Hetrick: numerous community outreaches – speaking engagements – forensics youth camp.

# Conclusion

- This office is busier than in previous years. Investigations have gotten more complex and more time consuming, which has increased the work demand for this office.
- Opioid death and the ensuing investigations and prosecutions will have a significant impact on both the Coroner's medical services budget and the District Attorney's office.
- We must prepare for the future needs of increased manpower and facilities due to ever increasing demands for advanced forensic services and increasing caseload.
- We must collaborate with adjoining Counties to prepare for mutual aid in case of mass disaster.