



**Brandon M. Scott**  
Mayor

# **Quarterly Crime Stats and Violence Prevention Hearing: PSP Victims Assessment & the Administration's Victim Services Approach**

**Mayor Brandon M. Scott**

Thursday, October 6, 2022 - 2:00PM - Public Safety and Government Operations Committee

# Agenda

- **Victim Services as a Mayoral Priority**
- **Redefining “Victim”**
- **Evolution of the Work**
- **The PSP “Ask”**
- **Interagency Collaboration**
- **Timeline**

# Mayor's Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan (CVPP)

- **Pillar 1: Public Health Approach to Violence**
  - 2. Victim Services
    - *2.1 Expand Victim Services to Gunshot Survivors*
    - *2.2 Strengthen Victim Services for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking*

# Redefining “Victim”

**A victim is more appropriately defined as someone who is adversely impacted by violence and may include any of the following:**

- Direct victim of gun violence and other violent crimes
- Impacted witnesses, family and friends of the victim
- Others in community; i.e. neighbors and bystanders

# Evolution of the Work: BCHD Youth Services and Advocacy Project (YSAP)

- 2016: Victims services funds awarded by GOCCP to BCHD to provide services to anyone who has been a victim of a crime
- 2017-2021: Program expanded from servicing 30+ clients to 100+ clients annually
- Services all forms of violence: families who have lost individuals to homicide, shooting victims, domestic violence, robbery, etc.
- Services include: relocation assistance, links to employment/employment development, case management (entire family), advocacy with victims compensation, schools, jobs, etc., links and connections to mental health services, temporary shelter assistance, connections to landlords
- Community Partners: WE OUR US, BCPSS, MONSE, BPD, SAO, Safe Streets, ROCA, ROAR, Center for Hope, Park Heights Renaissance, and others

# Prior Year Statistics: Victim Services

- Served 142 victims of crime throughout Baltimore City
- Housed/ provided rental assistance for more than 40 families in need of assistance due to being a victim of crime
- Have connected more than 100 individuals to receive mental health services
- Assisted with finding employment for more than 20 individuals
- Paid for medical certifications for 5 participants
- Provided peer groups and victim services for youth in four Baltimore City Public Schools (Frederick Douglass, Connexions HS, Renaissance Academy, and Coppin Academy)
- Created Youth Ambassador program which has been conducting virtual trainings and community sessions around dating violence, human trafficking, community and gun violence, etc.

*Program staffing consists of 1 Project Director/Supervisor and 3 community advocates*

# Evolution of the Work: SAO

- Since 2015: Through VOCA funding, the SAO Victim & Witness Services Unit has significantly expanded to improve services offered to victims and witnesses of crime.
- 2017: Collaboration with BPD to create the Gun Violence Enforcement Division (GVED), a new prosecutorial unit aimed at targeting violent gun offenders.
- 2017: Partnership with BPD Homicide Advocates to provide services to survivors of homicide
- 2018: Renovation of the victim & witness waiting room to a trauma informed space for victims and witness to await their court appearances
- 2018: Served on the Witness Intimidation Steering Committee alongside with City agencies and Aequitas to identify new strategies for addressing witness intimidation and create an action plan to implement those strategies.
- 2021: Participation in Victim Services Workgroup meetings with MONSE and BPD to collaborate and discuss strategies to fill in gaps that exist in victim services throughout the City of Baltimore.
- 2022: Established partnerships and strengthened collaborations with Springboard Community Services, UMD ROAR and Lifebridge Health Center for Hope to expand supportive services for crime victims and witnesses.

# SAO 2021 Statistics: Victim Services

- Served over 12,600 Victims and Witnesses of crime
- Relocated 128 Victims and Witnesses of crime
- 711 survivors of homicide offered counseling services through the SAO Family Bereavement Center



# Evolution of the Work: BPD Victim Services Unit

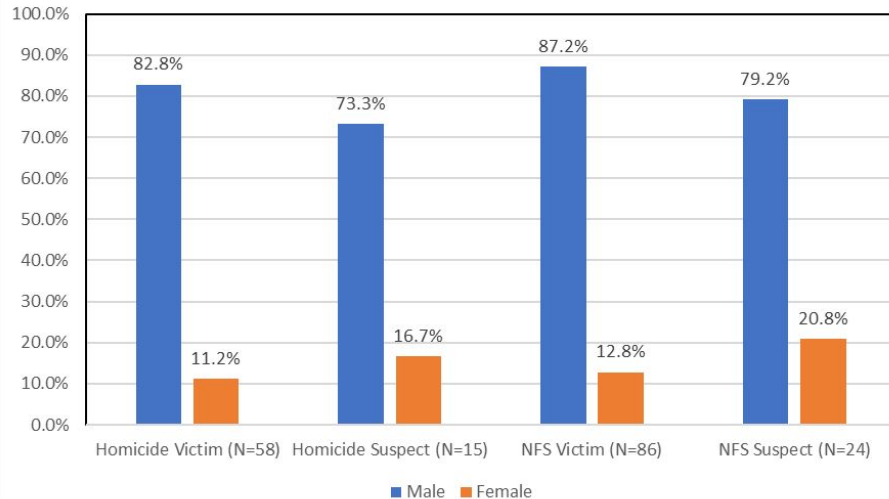
- 2016: Program created with a focus on Cold Case Homicide Survivors.
- 2017: Program expanded to serve current Homicide Surviving Victims
  - Victim Services Program Coordinators have a dual role: to serve as departmental liaisons and as advocates for the survivor community.
- 2020: Began review of Unit; potential for expansion in alignment with GVRS and Community Policing Plan development as well as Consent Decree priorities
- 2021: VSU moved from Homicide to Deputy Commissioner's Office; Began pilot coverage of Non-Fatal Shootings in the Western District to align with GVRS

*Program has grown from 1 homicide advocate in 2016 to 1 supervisor and 9 victim service coordinators in 2022*

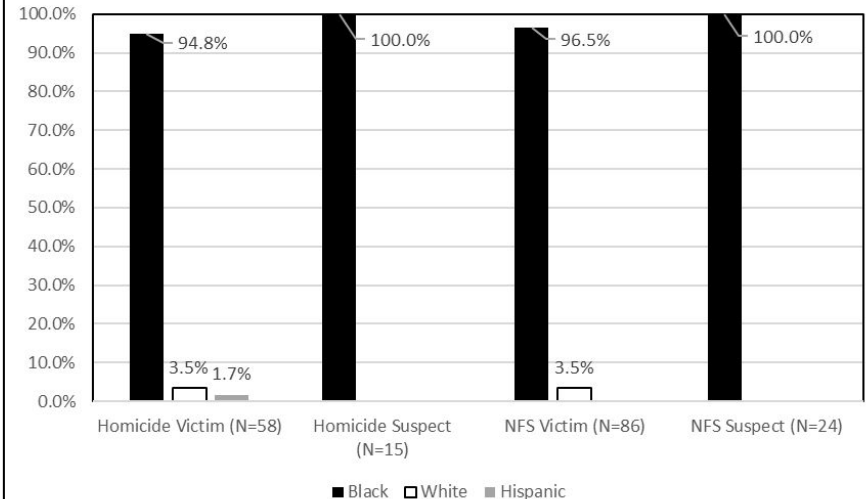
# The “Ask”

## GVRS Western District Problem Analysis – 2020 Homicides and Non-Fatal Shootings Victims and Suspects – Sex and Race

Sex of Victims and Known Suspects



Race of Victims and Known Suspects



# Prior Year Statistics: Victim Services

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 (YTD 9/30)
Cold Case Anniversary Sent	2,192	2,510	2,853	3,162	3,510	3,845
Current Year Homicide Victims	343	309	348	335	335	282
Current Year Homicide NOK Referred		296	325	325	292	256
Homicide Successful Referral Rate		96%	93%	97%	87%	89%
Total Non-Fatal Shooting Incidents (Citywide)	641	638	657	643	730	507
Total Non-Fatal Shooting Incidents (Western District)					113	64
Total Non-Fatal Shooting Incidents (Southern District)						62
Non-Fatal Shooting Cases Reviewed (Pilot Districts)*					19	126 <b>(73)</b>
Non-Fatal Shooting Cases Referred					7	46
Non-Fatal Shooting Successful Referral Rate					37%	33.58%
October 2021: The Victim Service Unit began coverage of non-fatal shootings in the WD March 2022: The Unit expanded to cover non-fatal shootings in the SD						

# Interagency Collaboration: BPD

BPD Victim Services Unit convenes bi-weekly and monthly case management meetings with partners to foster collaboration and eliminate the duplication of services.

- Bi-weekly case management meetings:
  - Government Partners
    - SAO, BCHD, Center for Hope (PAAVE Program), MONSE, & BPD's VSU
- Monthly case management meetings:
  - Grief Partners (individual meetings)
    - Roberta's House
    - ROAR (Rebuild, Overcome, and Rise) Center
    - MEI (My Empowering Impact)
    - Urban Trauma Center
    - BTST (Better Tomorrow Starts Today)
    - SBLC (South Baltimore Learning Center)

# Interagency Collaboration: MONSE

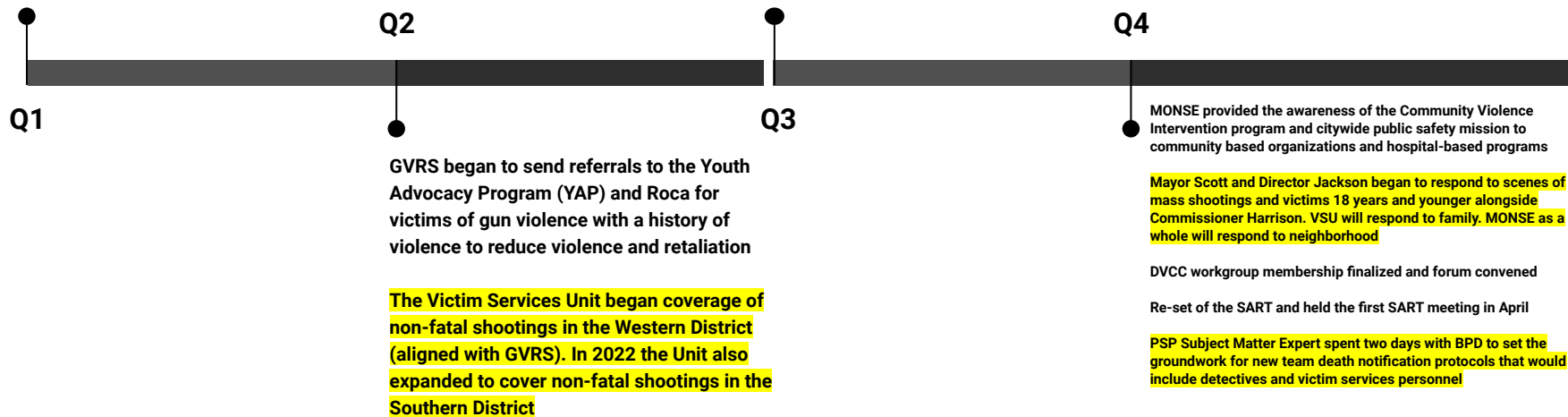
- **Public Safety Partnerships (PSP) Meeting** - MONSE, BPD's VSU, SAO, Heather Warnken
  - Meetings continue to ensure agency accountability for following through with the 21 recommendations indicated in the PSP assessment.
- **Relocation Work** - Witness Victim Location Meeting - MONSE, SAO, BPD's VSU, BCHD, HABC, DHCD, MOCFS.
  - Each of these agencies play a vital role in housing stabilization and/or relocation services. The purpose of this collaboration is to collectively determine how services will be provided for witness relocation and intimidation.

# Timeline

FY 2022

Implementation of workgroup with MONSE, BPD, SAO and Heather Warnken in response to Victim Services Capacity Assessment Report

The Victim Services Unit (VSU) was realigned in BPD's organizational structure to report to the Deputy Commissioner of Operations Office. This realignment supports their expansion to cover homicide and non-fatal shooting cases in pilot districts

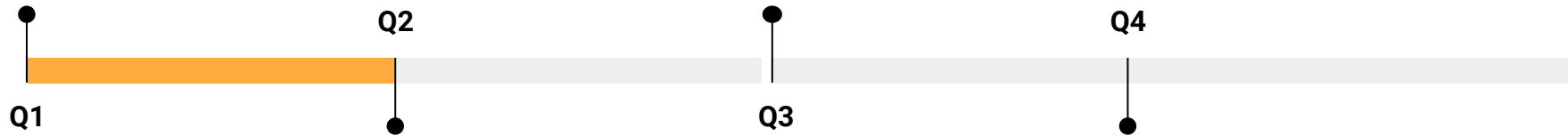


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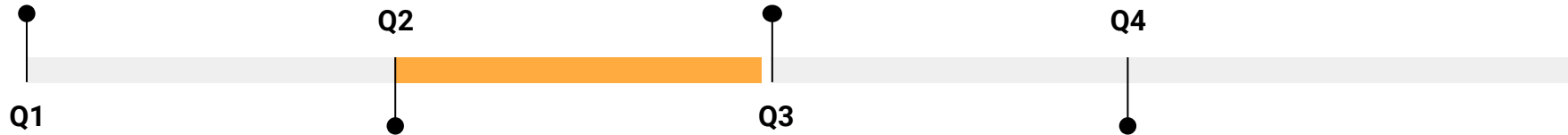


# Timeline

FY 2022

**GVRS began to send referrals to the Youth Advocacy Program (YAP) and Roca for victims of gun violence with a history of violence to reduce violence and retaliation**

**The Victim Services Unit began coverage of non-fatal shootings in the Western District (aligned with GVRS). In 2022 the Unit also expanded to cover non-fatal shootings in the Southern District**





# Timeline

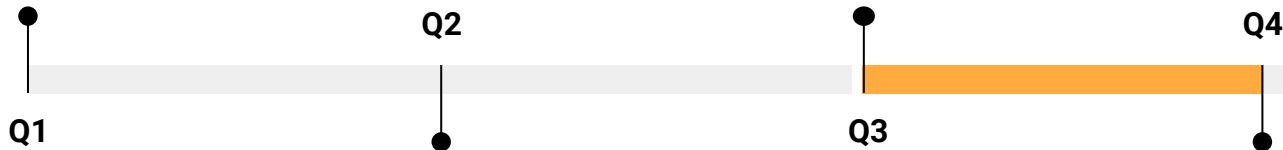
FY 2022

**GVRIS/Victim Services assists in being the forefront for response to the community**

**MONSE broadened the definition of "victim" and those in relation to a violent crime**

**In response MONSE's broadened definition of victim, PSP work group began discussions around all individuals no matter direct contact to an incident are treated with dignity and would feel safe cooperating with BPD and SAO**

**MONSE secured additional resources with the use of ARPA funding, the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success to address the primary needs of people impacted by life threatening violence**



# Timeline

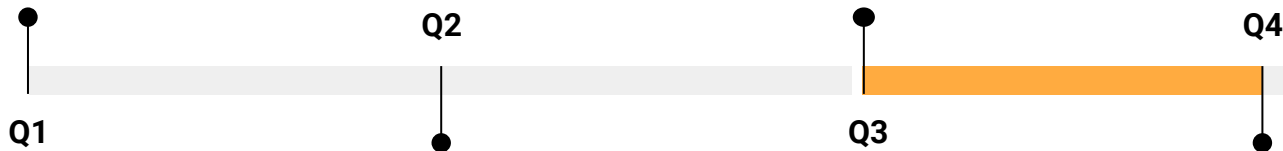
FY 2022

**Domestic Violence High Risk (DVHR) task force established**

**VSU is located in BPD Headquarters, which is an essential programmatic element to ensure direct access and collaborations with BPD detectives. As part of the expansion, VSU was moved into a larger and more trauma-informed office space within the BPD Headquarters building**

**MONSE shared open solicitation for community membership on Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC workgroup of CJCC)**

**MONSE co-hosted the first Medical Professionals Human Trafficking Symposium with Johns Hopkins Medical, US Attorneys Office, and Mercy Medical Center. Over 300 people in attendance for this all-day training**



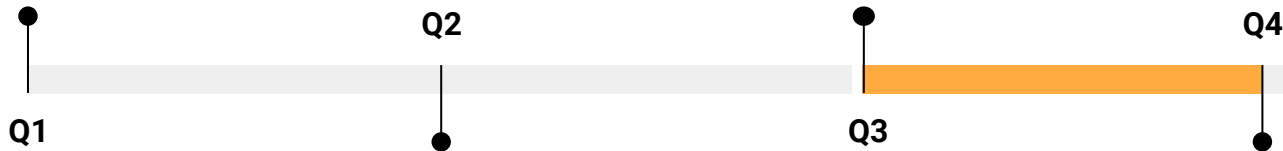
# Timeline

FY 2022

## **MONSE staff-aligned human trafficking and sexual assault work**

**BPD's VSU finalized updates to their SOP that reflect expansion into non-fatal shootings and refine existing homicide protocols. This SOP has been shared with all partners to promote interagency collaboration**

**The Group Violence Unit (GVU) participated in a three day specialized orientation that included presentations on procedural justice, community engagement, and victim services**



# Timeline

FY 2022

**MONSE provided the awareness of the Community Violence Intervention program and citywide public safety mission to community based organizations and hospital-based programs**

**Mayor Scott and Director Jackson began to respond to scenes of mass shootings and victims 18 years and younger alongside Commissioner Harrison. VSU will respond to family. MONSE as a whole will respond to neighborhood**

**DVCC workgroup membership finalized and forum convened**

**Re-set of the SART and held the first SART meeting in April**



Q1

Q2



Q3

Q4



# Timeline

FY 2022

**PSP Subject Matter Expert spent two days with BPD to set the groundwork for new team death notification protocols that would include detectives and victim services personnel**



Q1

Q2



Q3

Q4



# Timeline

FY 2023

MONSE launched work group in partnership with VSU within BPD and SAO to address issues around witness intimidation and boundaries on survivors

DVVRT official relaunch, onboarding and case review selection completed; workgroup official launch meeting; goals, guiding principles for project selection discussed

MONSE Conducted a Human Trafficking Training for the Baltimore City Public School, Health Techs and Nurses In-Service (300 in attendance)

MONSE started contacting Title IX Coordinators at all of the universities in the City to start a sexual assault awareness

**VSU attended the National Organization for Victim Assistance Training with the support of PSP**

Through the Consent Decree, BPD has updated and developed new policies/training regarding Procedural Justice, Crisis Intervention, Use of Force, Community Policing, Interactions with Youth, and Behavioral Health. (CDIU to add key dates)

Updating data collection systems to identify Detectives' level of collaboration and areas for improvement. These data will be incorporated into performance management meetings like CIDStat (Completion Dec. 2022)

MONSE awarded ARPA funding to the Esperanza Center to better support victim services to immigrant residents

**MONSE will establish multidisciplinary meetings with SAO, BCHD, BPD and hospital based programs to discuss best practices when interacting with victims**

MONSE will establish a tool to refer victims who need relocation and witness services

MONSE will establish administrator level meetings with all Baltimore Hospital based Violence Intervention Programs to reinforce working relationships, understand and address any needs and support

MONSE will Co-Host the Maryland Human Trafficking Investigators Seminar with the US Attorney's Office, Mission 14, and the Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force

MONSE will co-host the Second Annual Medical Professionals Human Trafficking Symposium with Johns Hopkins Medical, US Attorney's Office, and Mercy Medical Center

MONSE will grow the Sexual Assault Awareness subcommittee



**Mayor Scott held press conference to release PSP Victims Assessment.**

**MONSE Onboarded Gun Violence Victim Services Manager**

Expanding program database to improve and expand key performance indicators; including qualitative survey feedback (Completion Mar. 2023)

Collaboration with Homicide Unit to expand to team death notifications

**Regular monthly meetings with the Criminal Injuries and Compensation Board to streamline existing processes.**

August 2022-December 2023: BPD requested PSP's support to:

- (1) Conduct a systematic review of all Victims' Rights policies
- (2) Convene a victims' rights summit in coordination with existing State events
- (3) Review resources developed through the Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Victims (ELERV) Program

**MONSE collaborated with VSU, SAO and BCHD to document current state process maps for victim services**

MONSE will share a list of protocols and SOPs to establish consistent communication among survivors, victim services coordinators and BPD homicide section

MONSE will share an SOP for current practices and procedures to address gaps and needs of victims

MONSE will Co-Host the Maryland Human Trafficking Professionals Seminar with the US Attorney's Office, Mission 14, and the Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force

MONSE will finalize the SART MOU

BPD will conduct one-hour training on Victim Services for the upcoming 2022 Community Policing In-Service Training

IPV Prevention Court Liaison to be onboarded at MONSE

911 IPV specific data tracking & operator training to be launched (BCFD)

**MONSE will invite CBOs who participated in the assessment to serve as workgroup members**

**MONSE will collaborate with VSU to develop an integrated process map for victim services**

**MONSE will establish an evaluation tool to determine effectiveness of initiatives across agencies.**

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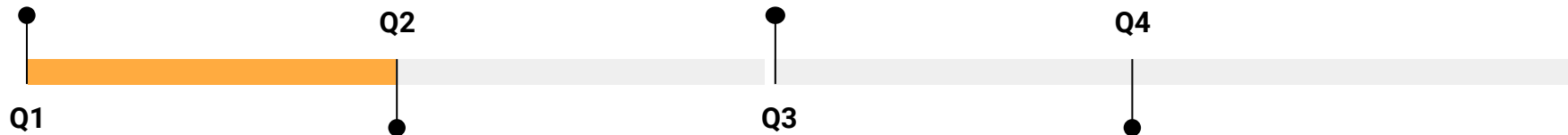
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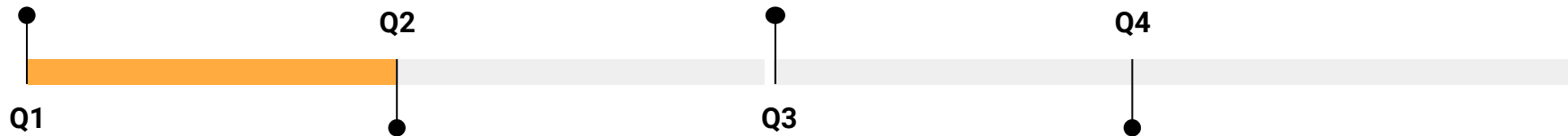
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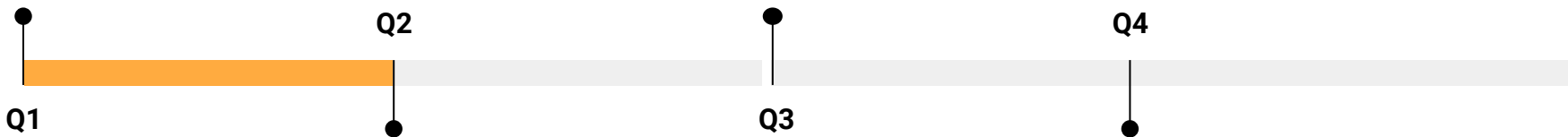
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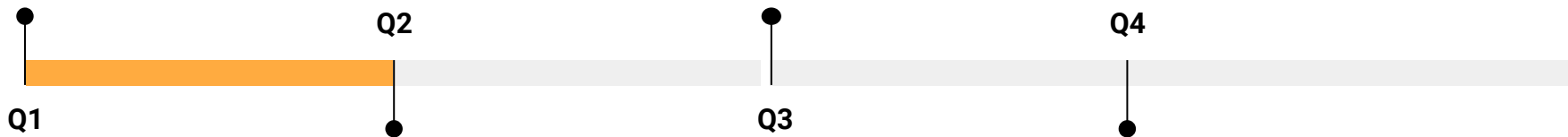


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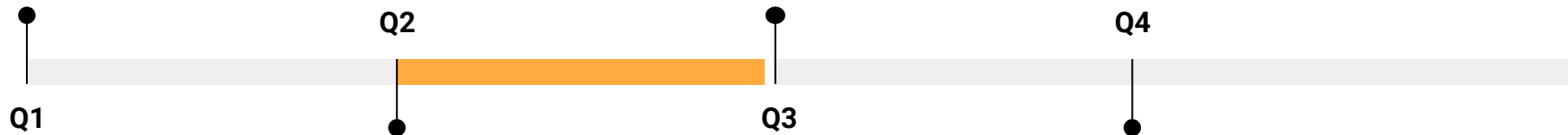
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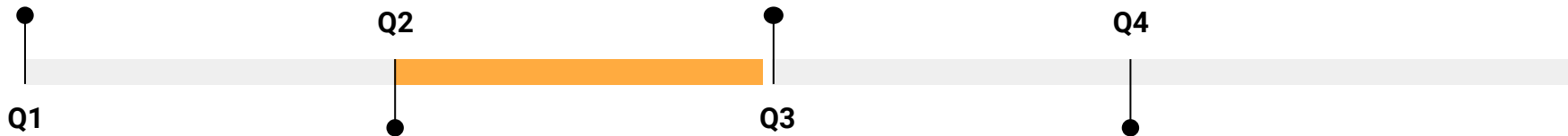
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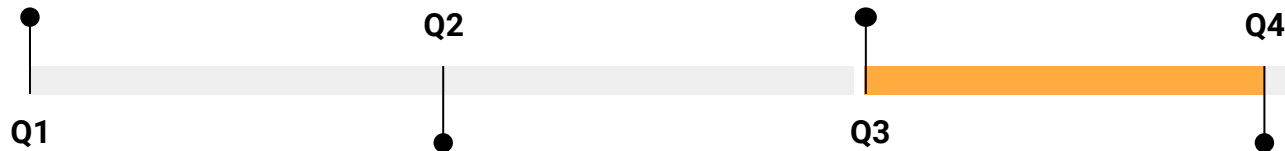
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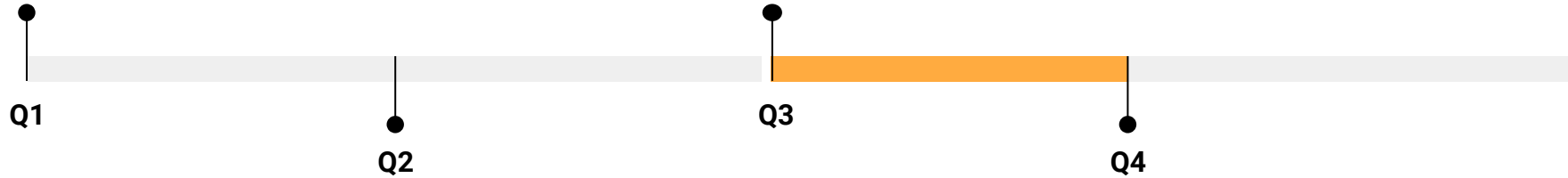


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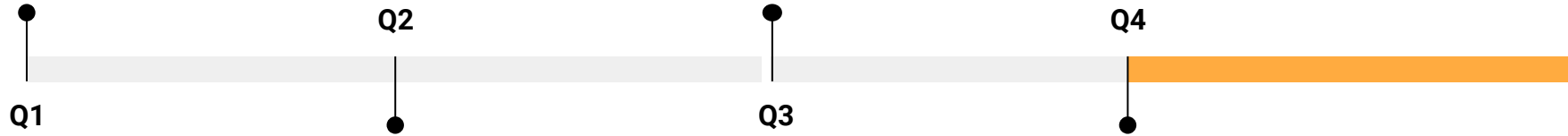
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# **L021-0006:**

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