



# Domestic Violence Homicide List Narratives

## *January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012*

*Beginning in 2005 Jane Doe Inc. reconsidered its definition of domestic violence homicide and used the new definition in identifying all incidents that occurred in 2003 and subsequent years. The definition was modified in order to capture the full picture and context of domestic violence homicides. Homicides are considered domestic violence related if:*

- *the homicide victim and perpetrator were current or former spouses or intimate partners, adults or teens with a child in common, or adults or teens in a current or former dating relationship*
- *the homicide victim was a bystander or intervened in an attempted domestic violence homicide and was killed (including friends, family members, new intimate partners, law enforcement officers or other professionals attempting to assist the victim of domestic violence, roommates and co-workers)*
- *the motive for the murder was reported to have included jealousy, in the context of an intimate partner or dating relationship, or*
- *a relationship existed between the homicide perpetrator and adult or teen victim that could be defined as exhibiting a pattern of power and control (including family or household members and caregivers).*

*Furthermore, in order to meet our goal of capturing the full picture of deaths due to domestic violence, we have also included the deaths of perpetrators, whether by suicide, police or self-defense by the victim.*

*To the extent that information is available, we also we add to this list domestic violence homicides that have a Massachusetts connection (e.g. perpetrator suicide and out of state). This list may be edited over time to reflect any new information that comes to light about these domestic violence homicides.*

**January 1, 2012:** Kristin Broderick, 37, of Houston, Texas, and his wife Martha McDermott, 36, of Hampton, New Hampshire, were found in an apparent murder-suicide at a parking lot next to Winnekenni Castle in Haverhill, Massachusetts. The two drove separate cars to the scene. Evidence suggests that Martha shot her husband several times in the chest then shot herself once in the head. Both were found in Kristin's rental car by a passerby. The couple's nine-month old son was not present at the time of the murders. The status of their relationship at the time of the murder-suicide is unknown. [No information available on motive]

**February 6, 2012:** Belinda Torres, 40, of Worcester, was shot to death by her ex-boyfriend, Jose Soto, 48, also of Worcester. Jose shot Belinda twice in the head as she left a grocery store. The SWAT team found Jose later that evening, dead from a self-inflicted gun shot wound to the head. Belinda did have a restraining order against Jose, and police say Jose had been stalking her before the murder.

**February 10, 2012:** Lisa Stilkey, 44, of Douglas, jumped to her death from a second story window of her home during a violent argument with her husband, Allen Stilkey, 40. Early reports suggested she threw a pillow out of the window first, in an attempt to cushion her landing. At the scene, there were signs of struggle at the home including wine splashed on the walls, broken glass, and broken furniture. Minutes before she jumped, Lisa called her son, Allen's stepson, to say that if she were ever found dead, Allen did it. The son also reported overhearing Allen threatening to kill Lisa during that phone conversation. The couple had been having marital and financial problems and had been drinking heavily the night of the incident. Allen was charged with manslaughter, assault and battery and threatening to commit a crime and was held without bail. At the arraignment, prosecutors presented evidence that Allen had taken out a \$250,000 life insurance policy on Lisa as well as updating his passport photo just two weeks before this incident. On December 10, 2012, Stilkey was found guilty of manslaughter and threatening to commit a crime and was sentenced to a 4 to 5 years. He also pled guilty to a steroid possession charge and received two years of probation to begin after he is released from custody.

**February 19, 2012:** Keosha N. Gilmore, 25, was shot to death by a former friend after she rejected his romantic advances. Christopher Jackson, 26 was arrested after shooting at Keosha as she sat in a car with her boyfriend in Mattapan. Despite DNA evidence linking Jackson to the scene, he pled not guilty and is expected to appear in court on May 8, 2013.

**February 20, 2012:** Jessica Ann Pripstein, 39, of Easthampton, was stabbed to death by her boyfriend, Ryan Welch, 36. The two argued intensely at an Easthampton bar about money as Welch was not working. About an hour after leaving the bar, Pripstein called 911 and told the dispatcher her boyfriend was trying to kill her. Welch interrupted the call, killed Pripstein, and attempted to kill himself by slashing his own throat. Welch survived. A witness told police that Pripstein had confided concern about Welch's behavior on the day before the homicide. Welch was charged with murder and held without bail.

**March 3, 2012:** Jessica Rojas, 25, of Springfield, was stabbed to death by her on-and-off boyfriend Jose C. Santiago, 30. According to police, the couple had been arguing in the hours prior to the murder. Jessica had been celebrating her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday with family and friends before going home. Jessica was a mother of four.

**April 9, 2012:** Lori Levangie, 41, of Hopkinton, was shot to death in her home by her husband Todd Vogel, 43, who then killed himself. Todd and Lori had been married for about five months. Todd was licensed to own firearms. While there were no previous reports of domestic violence, the District Attorney did say there was evidence of what the office called "marital discord" in the two weeks prior to the murder.

**May 3, 2012:** Kristen Pulisciano, 38, of Burlington, was stabbed to death by her male partner, Christopher Piantedosi, 39. The couple had a long-standing relationship and a fifteen year-old daughter, Bryanna. Kristen and Christopher's relationship had deteriorated in recent months, and at the time of the murder, Christopher had been living with relatives for several weeks. Kristen and her daughter were waiting for dinner to be delivered; the daughter was in her room iChatting with a friend on an iPad. Christopher entered the house and began arguing with Kristen. Bryanna heard her parents, told her friend she would be back, left the iPad running, and went to check on her parents. Bryanna witnessed the argument continuing, then Christopher grabbed a butcher knife and chased Kristen upstairs into the daughter's bedroom where he stabbed her 34 times while the daughter screamed "No, no." Bryanna's friend was still watching via the iPad and heard and saw the attack. Christopher fled the scene, and then turned himself in to police. Kristen is survived by her daughter and a 20 year-old son from a previous relationship.

**June 4, 2012:** Kevin E. Ambrose, 56, of Springfield, was shot to death in the line of duty by Shawn Bryan, 35, when Ambrose responded to a 911 call. In the hour before the shooting, domestic violence survivor Charlene Mitchell, 29, obtained an abuse protection order against her ex-boyfriend Shawn Bryan, with whom she had an 11-month old daughter. The order permitted Shawn to return to Charlene's apartment to retrieve his belongings. While Officer Ambrose escorted the two into her apartment, Shawn suddenly shoved Charlene through the doorway, closing the door, locking Officer Ambrose out of the apartment. Shawn shot Ambrose through the door, wounding him, then opened the door and shot Ambrose 2 more times, mortally wounding him. Shawn next shot Charlene, who was critically injured but survived the incident. Shawn fled to his car and killed himself with a self-inflicted gunshot to the chest. Mitchell and Bryan's 11-month old daughter was in the apartment at the time of the shooting but was physically unharmed. Ambrose is survived by his wife, two adult children, and one granddaughter.

**June 24, 2012:** Jessica Dana, 30, of Huntington, was killed by her boyfriend Jeb Daly, 36. A week after Jeb had reported her missing, Jessica's body was found in their backyard in cardboard box, wrapped in bedding from their home and stuffed in a plastic bag. Jeb was initially charged with improper disposal of a body and misleading police and then later charged with murder. Family and friends reported that Jessica and Jeb were arguing on Friday night before she disappeared. Jessica was the mother of three; Jeb was the father of the two youngest children.

**July 21, 2012:** Christine Bolduc, 51, of Worcester, succumbed to brain injuries sustained fourteen months prior when she was attacked by her boyfriend Robert Bell, 56. On May 3, 2011 at about 1:18 a.m., police discovered Christine's body in an alley with apparent blunt trauma to the head. A surveillance video of the alley recorded Robert following Christine into the

alley near their home and captured audio of the attack. Once discovered, Christine was taken to a city hospital and remained in a coma on a feeding tube until her death over a year later. Robert was indicted on charges of assault with intent to murder and assault and battery causing bodily harm. The couple had been dating for six years.

**July 28, 2012: Abigail Benway, 7**, of Oxford, was shot and killed by her father, Daryl Benway, 41, weeks after her mother and father separated. Daryl also shot Abigail's brother Owen, who was critically injured, and then killed himself. Daryl had recently lost his job. Abigail's and Owen's mother Kelleen Benway was not at the home during the attack. Also surviving Abigail is her half-sister Nickole, 25.

**August 10, 2012: Cecilia Yakubu, 58**, of Malden, was strangled to death by her live-in boyfriend of five years, William Bryant Moseley, 45, in their home. William called 911 to say that he had killed his wife; he was charged with murder and entered a not guilty plea. News reports stated that charges from August 2011 against William for punching Cecilia had been dropped in an accord and satisfaction agreement. From 1996-2007, William had served a sentence for a non-fatal shooting his former wife.

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### **Perpetrator suicides and other deaths**

**February 24, 2012: Kenneth Nagy, 44**, of Beverly, committed suicide after shooting and seriously wounding Jason Lantych, 35, of Rowley, who he believed Lantych was having an affair with his wife. Jason was an officer in the Beverly Police Department; Kenneth was a Sergeant with the Hamilton Police Department. After shooting Jason outside of a Starbucks in Beverly, Nagy drove off and then later returned to the same parking lot and killed himself with a single gunshot wound to the head. Kenneth leaves 2 young children.

**March 16, 2012: Kenneth Bloomquist, 64**, of Rehoboth, was killed in self-defense by his estranged wife Cynthia Bloomquist. Kenneth apparently broke into their summer home on Martha's Vineyard where Cynthia was living alone. Kenneth first shot and injured his wife; Cynthia returned fire killing Kenneth with a shot to the chest. The two were high school sweethearts, but had recently separated with the understanding that Cynthia wanted a divorce. Cynthia had started a new relationship. Kenneth hoped for reconciliation and was extremely distressed over the separation. He previously threatened to kill himself in 2010, and after that incident, Cynthia turned several guns over to the Harvard Police Department. Kenneth's license to carry was revoked immediately. It is unclear how Kenneth was able to obtain a firearm again or if any of the previously confiscated guns were used in the incident. On March 1,

a judge decided that there was no immediate threat of injury and denied Cynthia an emergency restraining order. The couple did not have any children.

**April 13, 2012:** Carlos Gonzales-Laguer, 22, of Chicopee, apparently shot himself to death after he showed up at his estranged girlfriend's home in violation of a restraining order. Police arrived in response to reports of a home invasion. Gonzales-Laguer fired shots that hurt a state trooper and a bystander. Police found to have more than 200 rounds of ammunition along with guns. The estranged girlfriend and her 8-year old son escaped the house unharmed.

**November 13, 2012:** Bryce Coutinho, 22, of Marlborough, was killed in a fatal police-involved shooting. According to the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, the police responded to a domestic disturbance call to assist in the removal of an unwanted person from a residence. A Marlborough police officer discharged his weapon when confronted by a man armed with a knife. Coutinho was set to face an assault and battery charge from a previous incident. The circumstances of the shooting incident remain under investigation.

**November 24, 2012:** Lisa Mello, 51, of Swansea, was allegedly strangled to death by her boyfriend David Souza, 54. The incident took place in her home. The Bristol District Attorney's Office brought the murder charges and indicted Souza in October, 2013. Souza had been held in custody in Rhode Island on a separate probation violation. Mello was a grandmother and had worked for the past seven years as a cook at the Cozy Kitchen in Barrington.