February 8, 2013: Julie Treadwell, 26, of Springfield, was fatally shot allegedly by Anthony Brown, 27, the estranged father of her twin 19-month old sons. Brown broke into Treadwell’s home while she was sleeping. He was confronted by Michael Vaz, Treadwell’s current boyfriend. As Vaz tried to escape out a window, Brown shot him once in the arm and again once he was outside. Brown then shot and killed Treadwell before turning the gun on himself. Treadwell’s three children, including the twins and her 6-year old son, along with her 16-year old brother were in the home during the attack but were physically unharmed. Treadwell had had a restraining order against Brown which prohibited him from contacting her and the two children they had in common. The restraining order expired five weeks before the murder. Treadwell was studying towards a career in Dental Assisting.

March 10, 2013: Rebecca Felteau, 33, of New Bedford, was killed allegedly by her on-again off-again boyfriend Pedro DeSousa, 47. Police had responded to a domestic disturbance call after family members heard her yelling “Help me! He’s trying to kill me!” They found DeSousa barricaded in the second floor bedroom with Felteau. When police entered, DeSousa jumped out the window but was found hiding a few blocks away. Initial reports indicate that Felteau suffered injuries to the head and that her throat was slashed with a box cutter. Felteau had three children from a prior marriage. DeSousa was charged with murder and held without bail. DeSousa has a prior history of domestic violence; he was convicted in 1999 for stabbing his ex-wife.

April 22, 2013: Glomerys Martinez, 37, of Worcester, was shot and killed in an apparent murder-suicide by her former boyfriend Douglas Youmans, 50. Martinez worked as a Massachusetts Trial Court officer in the Suffolk Superior Court. Youmans worked for the state Department of Corrections. She had two children, including a 4-year-old son in common with Youmans. A hearing in Worcester Probate and Family Court had been scheduled for later in the month.

May 4, 2013: Anita Clark, 46, of Stoughton was killed allegedly by her estranged husband, Willie Foster, 47, of Dorchester. Friends had requested a well-being check after not hearing from Clark for a few days. According to police reports, they found signs of a struggle and apparent stab wounds, though the official autopsy results have not been released. In 2006 Clark and Foster entered into marriage counseling and put initial divorce proceedings on hold. In 2011 filed for divorce “on the grounds of cruel and verbal abuse treatment; desertion;” the divorce decree gave Clark sole legal and sole physical custody of their two children (currently ages 6 and 13). Foster was ordered to pay $50 a week in child support. Neither was believed to have been
at home during the incident. Foster was apprehended a few days after Clark was found; he was charged with murder and ordered held without bail.

May 7, 2013: Kevin Paul, 51, of Haverhill, was killed allegedly by his live-in girlfriend Susan Lovejoy, 64, in the apartment they shared. Approximately six and a half hours prior to being called to investigate a suicide report, police had been to their apartment in response to a disturbance call where they found Lovejoy under the influence of both drugs and alcohol and Paul apparently drinking as well. According to the police report, Paul said that Lovejoy had been on a binge of drugs and alcohol and was “out of her mind” and “needed to be hospitalized.” Meanwhile, Lovejoy told officers that “Paul was a womanizer and abusive.” Lovejoy was taken to Merrimack Valley Hospital for observation but was released and returned to her apartment. She called to report a suicide but investigators said the stab wounds are not consistent with self-inflicted injuries. Lovejoy was charged with murder and held without bail. Reports from family members and neighbors suggest that Lovejoy had been physically violent toward Paul in the past. According to people who worked at the food pantry where Paul volunteered, he sometimes spoke of his children but did not provide other details.

June 13, 2013: Donna Zollo (Pisarczyk), 47, of Worcester and Israel Gonzalez, 42, were killed by gunshot in an apparent murder-suicide. The day prior to the incident Zollo’s mother was buried after dying from cancer. Zollo worked as an instructional assistant for the Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative. She had one college-aged daughter from a prior marriage. Gonzalez worked as a police officer for Worcester State University for 11 years. According to the University, the firearm issued by the University to Gonzalez was secure on campus on the night of the murder. Zollo and Gonzalez were in a relationship for the past three years. As of October 1, 2013, the Worcester District Attorney’s Office said that the case is still under investigation and it is inconclusive who committed the homicide.

June 23, 2013: Melissa Hardy, 33, of Weymouth, was killed allegedly by her ex-boyfriend Martin Jiminez, 43. Hardy had broken up with Jiminez a few weeks prior and moved in with her family after allegedly being hit by him in their South Boston apartment. The family reported that they had repeatedly expressed concerns to her regarding her safety. The family requested a well-being check with the police after not hearing from Hardy for a few days after she said she was going back to the apartment to retrieve her belongings. Jiminez and Hardy had lived together at an unregulated home for recovering substance abusers. According to the District Attorney, Jiminez killed her, left her in his bedroom which he padlocked, and then was arrested the next morning for driving under the influence. He was taken to a hospital for treatment, where he supposedly confessed to civilian witnesses that he had killed Hardy.

July 4, 2013: Tyshianna Atkins, 19, of Springfield, was shot to death allegedly by her boyfriend, Terrance Brown, 22. According to reports, after arguing inside the apartment, he carried her body outside and left her on the street. When police arrived, he claimed to have witnessed the shooting and saw the shooter flee in a car. Brown was charged with murder, carrying a firearm without a license, and discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a dwelling. Atkins was a student in the Medical Assisting program at American Career Institute.
July 11, 2013: Name withheld at request of family, 71, of Worcester, was killed by her husband, 70, in an apparent murder-suicide. Married for 18 years, this was the second marriage for both. She worked as a substitute teacher and was an active volunteer in the community.

August 15, 2013: Jennifer Martell, 27, of Waltham, was stabbed to death allegedly by Jared Remy, 34, her boyfriend and father of their daughter. Their 4-year old daughter was in the home. Two nights before the murder, Martell had escaped to a neighbor’s house and called the police to report that Remy had grabbed her by the neck and smashed her head into a mirror. Remy was arrested and released on personal recognizance, issued a “no abuse” order, and ordered to return for a hearing in the morning. At the hearing on Wednesday morning, prosecutors did not seek bail or a stay away or no contact order. On Thursday night, when Martell returned to their home to collect some belongings, Remy attacked Martell with a knife. Two neighbors attempted to pull Remy off of Martell while he was strangling and attacking her. Remy was charged with murder, assault and battery, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

November 3, 2013: Shirley Ju, 64 of Natick, was killed in an apparent murder-suicide by her husband Chester Ju, 64 in their home they had lived in for 22 years. One news source reported that the couple was in the midst of a divorce. They had two children, ages unknown. No information was available on the cause of death pending autopsies.

November 18, 2013: Mei Kum Jones, 43, and her sons Colt and Cameron, almost 1 year old, of Arlington, were killed by her husband Scott Jones, 43, in an apparent murder-suicide. The couple was in the process of getting a divorce, and Mr. Jones had moved out of the house just a few days prior. In recent months, she had posted on a social media seeking advice for raising twins without a father and asking for a referral for a divorce attorney. The media also reported that Mr. Jones had a history of alcohol and substance abuse as well as depression and suicide attempts and threats. His former wife had taken out a restraining order for her herself and their two children. He recently filed a suit against his former employer who he said fired him after he complained about the quality of their equipment. Initial reports indicate that she was strangled and the boys throats were slashed.

November 30, 2013: Colleen Butler, 60, of Sutton, died after allegedly being hit by her live-in boyfriend, Thomas O. Starefos, 49. Police responded to a 911 call by Mr. Starefos around 11 PM stating that he had hurt Ms. Butler. According to initial media reports, they had gotten into an argument and he claims that after she attacked him, he hit her several times and then blacked out. Starefos was charged with manslaughter and domestic assault and battery and held without bail pending a dangerousness hearing.

Domestic Violence Perpetrator Deaths

April 13, 2013: Despite an active restraining order, Caroles Gonzales-Lageur went to an ex-girlfriend’s home armed with stolen guns and over 200 rounds of ammunition. During the two-hour standoff, a police officer and one witness were injured by gunshot wound and Gonzales-Lageur was found dead with a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The ex-girlfriend and her 8 year old escaped free of injury.