



Domestic Violence Homicides in Massachusetts

January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Domestic Violence Homicide Victim Deaths

January 9, 2017: Eugenia Gomes Monteiro, 30, of Brockton was found unresponsive by her brother after allegedly being shot by her former boyfriend, Matais Andrade. She died at the scene. Andrade, 38, of Braintree was found dead from an apparent suicide the next day. Monteiro had recently restarted a dating relationship with Zezito Alves. She had texted Alves that she was afraid Andrade would kill her and Alves if he learned about the relationship. Monteiro was the mother to two young children and was described by Alves as “the most wonderful person [he’s] ever seen in [his] life”.

January 23, 2017: Maria Morton, 32, of Lawrence was strangled to death by her fiancé, Tony Ventura, in their home. Family reported that the couple’s decade long relationship included a history of abuse, and Morton’s sister reported hearing a fight the day Morton was killed. Ventura has a long criminal history: he had three restraining orders out against him, including two from Morton, and was on probation for assault and battery, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, malicious destruction of property, and attempting to commit a crime. Ventura suffered from lead poisoning as a child and had been receiving disability benefits from the age of 4. He had been diagnosed with depression and was in rehabilitation from heroin addiction. According to police, Ventura confessed to the killing. Morton is survived by the couple’s two children, ages 6 and 9, and many loving friends and family members.

February 28, 2017: Mary “Molly” Fratantonio, 35, of Cotuit was stabbed to death by her husband, Christopher Fratantonio, 36. Police responded to multiple calls that reported a violent incident and discovered Christopher Fratantonio at the scene. There he admitted to police that he thought he killed his wife. The couple’s two small children were home at the time of the incident. Fratantonio pled not guilty to murder and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and was held without bail. Molly Fratantonio worked with special needs children at Barnstable High School. She was loved by the family, friends, peers and students.

April 16, 2017: Aracelys Valdez Deleon, 40, of Lowell, and Jazmin Patrocino of Lawrence were both shot while leaving the La Cava nightclub in Lawrence. They were referred to as companions by the prosecutor of the case. Deleon died as a result of the shooting, and Patrocino was transported to the hospital where he was reported to be in stable condition. They were allegedly shot by 24-year old Luis Rodriguez of Haverhill, an ex-boyfriend of Deleon. Rodriguez fled to Texas, where he was eventually arrested in Sulfur Springs and held without bail as a fugitive. He was charged with murder, assault and battery with a firearm, and illegal firearm possession in Massachusetts. He refused extradition, so the District Attorney sought a warrant from the Governor of Texas.

April 30, 2017: Brenda L. Hatheway, 43, of Webster was found unresponsive in the street near her home. She was quickly rushed to Harrington HealthCare, where she was pronounced dead a few hours

later. Hatheway's live-in boyfriend, Joseph Kenadek, had knocked her unconscious and left her in the street. Later Kenadek reported to the police that they had been using drugs (heroin) that night as well. Neighbors report the couple had begun arguing at 3 AM, and that this was a common occurrence for them. They were both arrested in June of 2016 for a domestic dispute. When police asked Hatheway why she returned to Kenadek at that time, she said that they had been together a long time, and she wanted to return home. The couple had been dating for 10 years and had a child together. Kenadek was given probation for the 2016 incident, and eventually the case was dropped. Kenadek was arraigned and pled not guilty to assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and domestic assault and battery. He is being held on \$200,000 cash bail while he awaits trial. Hatheway's family displayed empathy and signs of support for Kenadek, shouting "Stay Strong, Joe" and "We love you, Joe" in the courtroom. Hatheway had poured her heart into finding her daughter, Sabrina, who had been missing for 2 years; Sabrina's boyfriend is awaiting trial for allegedly burning down the house where the couple had lived in 2015.

May 11, 2017: Nicole White, 44, of Lowell died from gunshot wounds after being assaulted and shot by her boyfriend, Ross Elliot, 51. Police were immediately notified, but White later succumbed to her injuries at a local hospital. Elliot killed himself the next day after police had been searching for him. Elliot had a history of domestic assault, including stabbing a previous girlfriend in front of their 3 year old daughter in 1990, strangling and stabbing a different former girlfriend in 2004, and brutally beating the same woman in 2005. Collectively he was charged with and plead guilty to two charges of armed assault with intent to murder, felony assault, two charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and kidnapping. He had been sentenced to 9 ½ years in prison, and was on probation when the homicide occurred. White is survived by her three children, and as a friend of White said, "she loved [them] with all her heart".

May 22, 2017: Kristina Reis, 36, of Fall River was pronounced dead at Charlton Memorial Hospital after being stabbed by Scott Rego, 26, her boyfriend, earlier that night. The couple was living together at the time, and a neighbor reported witnessing an argument during the previous week. Rego sustained a chest wound during the attack and was arrested at the hospital; he was later charged with murder. Reis was close with her parents and siblings and was a loving mother to her son.

June 21, 2017: Leah Penny, 31, of Malden was strangled to death by her boyfriend, Ryan Power, 32. Penny was found unresponsive by her mother. Power was arrested in New Hampshire that same day and was initially charged with strangulation, assault and battery on a family member, and a fugitive warrant, but charges were upgraded to murder. He waived his extradition rights and was sent back to Massachusetts. The couple had two children and were living together at the time of the murder. Power had been to family probate court in 2015 for a case related to custody and visitation. Neighbors report that they had seen a lot of police activity over the months leading up to this case. Power is currently being held without bail. He is due back in court for a bail hearing on July 7. Penny has two children, ages 1 and 2, who were home at the time of the attack.

June 24, 2017: Scott Benoit, 52, of Brockton was fatally stabbed by his live-in girlfriend, 53-year old Kirsten Smith. Smith stabbed Benoit with a knife at approximately 1 p.m., and was pronounced dead when emergency responders arrived at the scene shortly after. Smith struggled with alcoholism and was not currently in treatment. Family and friends report that they recently had to call the police when she threatened them if they refused to buy her alcohol. Smith put forth a defense that she acted out of self-

defense when Benoit attempted to strangle her. Prosecutors raised questions since she did not call police for up to two hours after stabbing him and leaving him to die from the wounds. Benoit was the father to five children, who love him dearly. His eldest daughter says that they all loved and respected Smith and are hoping she receives the help that she needs. He was an addiction counselor and worked at a local homeless shelter.

July 5, 2017: Amanda Glover, 48, of Wendell, was shot and killed in front of her adult son shortly after midnight by her boyfriend Lewis Starkey III. Starkey proceeded to flee and later shot a coworker at a trucking company approximately 50 minutes away. The victim was suspected to survive. Glover's son escaped the home and called 911. After four days on the run, Starkey was arrested and charged with murder, assault to murder, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Family described Glover as a loving mother, sister, daughter and aunt with a passion for making handmade quilts.

July 9, 2017: Corrinna L. Santiago, 42, of Fitchburg, was found strangled by her boyfriend, 49-year-old James P. Vaillancourt. According to investigators, Vaillancourt reportedly "had a fetish for strangling females during sexual intercourse." On the evening of July 9, Vaillancourt went to the HealthAlliance Leominster Hospital Emergency Room and turned himself in for "hurting someone." Police went to his home, where they found Santiago strangled with a tie. Vaillancourt was initially charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, which was later upgraded to murder; he entered a not guilty plea. Santiago's mother, Virginia, and her two daughters, miss her deeply, and spoke about her generosity and kind spirit. Her mother said that her life revolved around her children, ages 16 and 20.

July 16 (approx.), 2017: Joseph Shaw, 44, of Brockton, was allegedly stabbed to death by his girlfriend, 33 year old Kathryn Podgurski. A friend of Shaw's reported him missing on Monday, July 17, a day after anyone had last seen him. On the following Friday, July 21, Podgurski told her sister that some men had entered her apartment and stabbed her boyfriend. Her sister called the police, who discovered Shaw's body in the closet, partially dismembered. Police reported that Shaw appeared to have suffered from multiple, severe stab wounds, and was killed about a week prior to the report. The knife used to stab him, some bedding with blood on it, and cat litter to absorb blood was in the closet, leading police to believe the murder was intentional and not a robbery gone awry. Podgurski was arrested the next day and charged as an accessory to murder. This was later upgraded to murder, and she was ordered held without bail pending a probable cause hearing in August. Shaw was a father to three children, worked in construction and loved sports. His niece reported that Shaw was one of the kindest people she knew and was always looking out for others.

July 23, 2017: Sonia Rios, 42, of Leominster, was reportedly stabbed to death by her boyfriend, Jose Cortes, 58. Police discovered her body after receiving a 911 call from Cortes' daughter, saying her father had stabbed his girlfriend. They allegedly had an argument the morning of her death, and Cortes claims he does not have any memory of what happened after he grabbed a knife. Cortes was separated from his wife, and unemployed. Rios and Cortes had been living together for approximately one month. Police arrested Cortes, who was ordered held without bail. On July 24, 2017, another man, Nelson Matos of Leominster was due in court on charges of physically assaulting Rios back in May; there was no information available about whether Rios was going to testify against Matos.

July 24, 2017: Celeste Kordana, 39, of Pittsfield died due to blunt force trauma, after an alleged attack by her partner, John Kordana, 51. The body of John Kordana was found at the same time, and

the autopsy revealed that he died of self-inflicted stab wounds. Police went to their home on July 31 to perform a well-being check and found the bodies. Police currently suspect that John Kordana killed himself and his wife in a murder-suicide.

July 25, 2017: David Carlson, 54, of Worcester was found dead after a fire in his apartment. An autopsy revealed that he had died of blunt force trauma prior to the fire being set. That same night, Brayon Flores, 28, was arrested by local police for shoplifting. He reportedly had a relationship with Carlson, and the police had responded to domestic violence incidents at their home on previous occasions. He was initially arrested and released on personal recognizance for his shoplifting offense, but was arrested the following Friday for aggravated assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, as well as a charge of assault and battery on his brother, Sergio Flores. The assault against his brother happened the same night as the murder, in Carlson's apartment. The judge ordered Flores to be held without bail, pending a dangerousness hearing that is scheduled for August 7. Carlson had five sisters.

August 19, 2017: Michele Clarke, 33, of Weymouth was found dead in her apartment, allegedly killed by her former boyfriend, Cornel Bell, 44. Bell uses multiple aliases and has not been found by police; a warrant is out for his arrest and is considered armed and dangerous. Clark suffered sharp trauma injuries. Her young son, age 6, was not home at the time of the murder, and is now living with his father and Clarke's former partner, Andlee Cribb. It was Cribb who contacted police for a well-being check when he heard Clark being attacked while talking to her on the phone. Clark worked as a bartender and as a medical assistant at a retirement community.

September 17, 2017: Juan Roman, 45, of New Bedford was allegedly stabbed by his former girlfriend Zaishary Gonzalez, 23. Gonzalez was charged with murder, witness intimidation and malicious destruction of a motor vehicle and held without bail. According to reports, Roman was homeless. Gonzalez has two young children, 7 and 3.

September 21, 2017: Anthony "Tony" Scaccia, 6, of Foxboro was shot to death by his father, William Scaccia, 49, who then took his own life in an apparent murder-suicide. Three days earlier William Scaccia was in court on criminal charges, including illegal firearms possession. Anthony was at home with his grandmother, who contacted the police about the incident, and successfully stopped a fire that Scaccia had started. Tony's mother was not at home at the time. William Scaccia had a history of domestic violence allegations, was divorced from his wife, did not currently live with his son, and was in court regularly regarding child support and visitation matters. His recent attempt to get a firearms license was denied; it is unclear where he obtained the gun used. According to court records, Tony's mother had feared for her safety and that of her son and had taking out restraining orders since back in 2013, writing that William Scaccia had threatened "he would kill Anthony and himself" if she did not agree to grant him equal custody.

September 23, 2017: Vanessa MacCormack, 30, of Revere was allegedly killed by her husband Andrew MacCormack, 29. The initial investigation suggests that he tried to clean up the home and hide evidence before contacting 911 on Saturday requesting assistance. Vanessa was a beloved school elementary school teacher in Lynn. They shared one child.

Perpetrator Deaths = see next page

Perpetrator Deaths

May 22, 2017: Kelly Pastrana, 38, of Chelsea died from an abdominal bullet wound and thermal injuries from a fire he set after a domestic violence incidence. Earlier that night he assaulted his girlfriend, threatened her and their daughter with a gun, and then fired shots into the home where they were seeking refuge. Upon returning to his home, he saw that local police had been called, and proceeded to fire on them and hide inside his home. He set a fire, but the Chelsea Fire Department could not enter the home to put it out because of the danger Pastrana posed. Once the fire was deemed fatal, firefighters were able to enter and discovered Pastrana's body.

July 1, 2017: Antonio Goncalves, 47, of Brockton, was found dead from an apparent suicide. He had allegedly stabbed his wife, and then fled the scene the night before. She was in critical but stable condition, and her identity was not being released for safety reasons.

July 9, 2017: Austin Reeves, 26, of Hingham, apparently died from a self-inflicted gunshot after police and a SWAT team responded to a call from his father who was concerned that he was distraught and had barricaded himself in his room with a firearm. Reports have come out that Reeves had recently threatened to kill his ex-girlfriend and her new boyfriend and had sent a photo of the gun to his ex-girlfriend.

July 23, 2017: Walter Lynde, 49, of East Brookfield was killed in a standoff with police after they responded to a call about domestic violence. Police arrived and spoke with the female domestic violence victim who said Lynde had left. Police advised her to seek a restraining order from the Western Worcester District Court in East Brookfield. When the officer left, he saw Lynde driving back towards the home. He attempted to pull Lynde over, but Lynde took off and a chase ensued, going as fast as 80 MPH. Lynde led them back to the home, and got out of his vehicle holding a gun. When he refused to drop it, the officer fired, hitting Lynde in the back. The officer attempted CRP before the ambulance arrived. Lynde was taken to UMass Memorial Medical Center- University Campus in Worcester, where he later died. He had a history of perpetrating domestic violence, leading to multiple standoffs with the police. In 2014, he had a 16-hour standoff with Myrtle Beach police in South Carolina after he showed up at his girlfriend's office and initiated an argument with her. In 2001, Lynde was reported for drunk driving and ended up in a police chase from Sturbridge to North Brookfield before ramming a police cruiser. In that case, he served two concurrent terms of one year in the House of Corrections.

September 1, 2017: Daniel Gillis, 36, of Pittsfield was shot seven times by a police officer who had responded to a domestic violence call for assistance that afternoon. According to reports, Gillis had been fired from his job that day and came home intoxicated. When the police arrived, Gillis refused to allow the police to enter the home and took up a knife. His girlfriend was home at the time and managed to get the knife and throw it outside. Gillis then got another knife and allegedly charged at officers who shot him.

CASES WE ARE TRACKING: INFORMATION INCOMPLETE

March 2, 2017: Joanne Ringer, 39, of Clarksburg went missing sometime before that evening when she was scheduled to work as a taxi driver in Easthampton. The police suspect foul play, and are treating

her case as a homicide. Ringer's husband, Charles "Chad" Reidy, 41, was the primary suspect in the case, and took his own life on April 7th, 2017. Reidy's former girlfriend, Laura Reidy, was charged with three counts of misleading a police officer in connection with Ringer's disappearance and is being held on \$1,500 bail. Ringer's car was found abandoned in Easthampton, a 5-minute walk away from Reidy's home. Police believe that Reidy left the car there in an attempt to mislead authorities. Ringer's family reports a history of domestic abuse, including threats to her pets and her life. Ringer was loved by the family, especially her daughter Savannah. In a candlelight vigil held June 21st, Savannah said "she wasn't just my mom, she was a mom to all". The vigil was held on the solstice because her friends and family knew she loved the sun, and this was the longest day of the year. She was also an avid motorcycle rider, and had two English Mastiffs.

April 10, 2017: Delilah Santiago, 18, of Holyoke was shot by Roberto Santiago and died at the scene. Roberto Santiago proceeded to flee and purchased an airplane ticket to Puerto Rico from the Bradley International Airport in Connecticut. He was arrested there and arraigned on fugitive charges the next day. Originally held on \$1,000,000 bail, Santiago was extradited to Massachusetts, charged with murder, and held without bail. The relationship between Delilah Santiago and Roberto Santiago is unclear, but they were not related. Delilah Santiago loved fashion and her family. She is deeply missed by her mother, sister, aunts and uncles.