

Fatality Report Summary

2012

Adams

May 10

A 46-year-old Menallen Township woman was fatally shot in the head by **her 48-year-old husband**, who then shot himself in the head. Their son found their bodies in their home after not hearing from them for several days.

Allegheny

February 8

A 35-year-old Carnegie woman was found with a knife in her back and several stab wounds in the apartment she shared with her 26-year-old boyfriend. He called his father seeking help after an early morning argument with her. When the father arrived at the apartment the son told him he had killed his girlfriend, and the father called 911. The boyfriend was charged with homicide. He pleaded guilty to third-degree murder and was sentenced to 20 to 40 years in prison.

March 31

A 71-year-old Whitehall woman was beaten to death with a pipe wrench in the home she shared with her 75-year-old husband. Police found her body in the living room, with massive head trauma and the bloodstained pipe wrench near her feet. The husband had called 911 and reported that his wife was dead. When police arrived at the home he was covered in blood and holding a large bloody knife. When he refused to drop the knife, an officer shocked him with a Taser. He was taken to a hospital and then charged with his wife's murder. He is scheduled for a plea hearing on April 25, 2013.

June 13

A 19-year-old East Liberty man was fatally shot in the chest by a sheriff's deputy during a 90-minute standoff with police. Reportedly, he was distraught over the breakup of a five-year relationship with a girlfriend and was waving a gun in the middle of the street. He refused several police demands to put down the gun. He was shot by the deputy after he allegedly pointed his gun at the deputy. He died at the hospital. Later it was discovered that his weapon was actually a pellet gun.

June 26

A 55-year-old Pittsburgh man fatally shot himself after he called 911 to report that he had shot his mother and would be waiting for police to come kill him. The man then stopped speaking, and the dispatcher heard a gunshot. Police found him dead on the porch. He shot his 73-year-old mother in the eye, twice in the shoulder and twice in the torso. She survived.

July 1

A 24-year-old woman and a 23-year-old man were fatally shot as they slept in their Wilkesburg home. The woman's former paramour and the father of her 3-year-old son was charged with two counts of criminal homicide. The victims' roommate saw the perpetrator sneaking into the house early in the morning and then heard four gunshots. The female victim had previously filed protection from abuse orders claiming the perpetrator had threatened to hurt and kill her.

August 5

A 37-year-old McKeesport man was fatally shot in the head outside an after-hours club in McKeesport. A 23-year-old Braddock man, a former high school football star, was charged with criminal homicide and a firearms violation after he was caught running from the scene. Police said a friend of the accused was punched in the face by another man in a dispute over a woman. As the accused and his friend left the tavern a group of men followed them. One man in the group reportedly reached toward his waistband and said he had a "license to carry." The accused raised his gun and fired one shot into the victim and then fired a few more times at the men chasing him.

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- August 27 **A 24-year-old pregnant woman** was found fatally shot between two cars in the parking lot of the North Versailles Township apartment complex where she lived with her boyfriend. A neighbor found the victim's body in the morning. Investigators believe she was shot the night before, when neighbors said they heard gunshots. Her 20-year-old boyfriend was charged 2 1/2 months later with homicide. He was already in jail at the time of his homicide arrest for a parole violation after he pleaded guilty to simple assault and making terroristic threats 11 months earlier.
- October 15 **A 61-year-old disabled man** died from cumulative abuse in the Natrona home he shared with his brother and his family and a housemate. His 56-year-old brother and 22-year-old housemate were charged with third-degree murder, aggravated assault, neglect of a care-dependent person and conspiracy. The prosecutor said the two men probably did not intend for the victim to die, but evidence shows that the frail victim, who used hand gestures to communicate after a stroke, had suffered dozens of injuries, including broken ribs and bleeding on the brain. The victim had lost more than 60 pounds during the six months he lived in the dilapidated house. He weighed only 112 pounds when he died. The housemate reportedly told police that on the day before the victim died he had handed him a bowl of bean soup, and the victim threw it back at him. The housemate admitted punching the victim and said that the victim's brother later shoved him.
- November 4 **A 33-year-old Baldwin woman** was fatally shot in her home during a domestic dispute. Police charged her 31-year-old husband with criminal homicide and recklessly endangering another person. The accused perpetrator had been out drinking with his wife and stepbrother. When they returned home, the couple started arguing in the basement, and the stepbrother heard a shot. When he went to the basement he found the victim unresponsive on the floor. The accused perpetrator allegedly said he had killed his wife and then threatened to kill himself. The stepbrother wrestled the gun away from him, ran out of the house and called police. The accused perpetrator attempted suicide by cutting himself with broken glass but survived.
- November 14 **A 21-year-old Stowe Township woman** was fatally shot in the head with a handgun in the home she had moved out of five days earlier. She had shared the home with her boyfriend of four years, with whom she had broken up. Her ex-boyfriend is accused of shooting her and then trying to kill himself with gas fumes. He was charged with criminal homicide and risking a catastrophe. A bullet he had carved with their initials and a heart symbol was found on a chair near her body. He had reportedly told several friends in the days leading up to the killing that he had a bullet with her name on it. He had also been accusing her of cheating on him and had been threatening to kill them both or just himself. "She was ready to move on," a friend of the victim's said. "That's why he did what he did, because she was done."

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Berks

January 20

A 23-year-old Reading man and his 51-year-old father were shot dead in the street by two cousins firing from a home. Police said the dispute between the two families started two weeks earlier when someone had danced with someone else's girlfriend at a party in the neighborhood. When her boyfriend found out later he confronted the neighbors, and the dispute escalated from there. The night of the shootings the two families were arguing in the street when one of the perpetrators fired a large handgun from the porch of a home until he ran out of bullets. The other perpetrator fired a shotgun from the second floor of the home at the people across the street. One of the victims was hit on the street, collapsed and died. The father of the first victim ran to check on him and was hit in the torso. He died later at a hospital. A third person was also shot but survived. The two cousins were charged with first- and third-degree murder, attempted homicide and related offenses.

February 10

A 31-year-old Alsace man was fatally shot after an argument with a 25-year-old Boyertown man who did not like the fact that the victim and the victim's girlfriend had been arguing. They were in a group of people that had been out at several bars in Reading. First, the victim argued with his girlfriend, which the perpetrator "apparently didn't like," police said. Later, the victim argued with a friend of the perpetrator's. Then the victim and the perpetrator got into an argument. They went outside where the shooting occurred. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to third-degree murder and was sentenced to 15 to 40 years in prison.

March 18

A 23-year-old Warminster woman died in March 2012, more than three years after suffering traumatic brain injuries when she was dragged 50 to 100 feet by her boyfriend's truck in a parking lot at Kutztown University, where she was a student at the time. They had been arguing, and he pushed her from the truck. She had been in a vegetative state since the incident. "Everything points to her succumbing to the injuries that she sustained in 2008," the coroner said after her death. Her former boyfriend, who is from New Jersey, is serving a five- to 20-year sentence in state prison after being convicted of aggravated and simple assault, reckless endangerment and other charges for dragging her with his truck. He was charged with third-degree murder after her death.

March 25

An 11-year-old girl was bludgeoned to death by **her 39-year-old mother**, who then set fire to their Berks County home and killed herself. Police said she was upset over the breakup of a relationship. They found about half a dozen letters to her former lover in the home.

Blair

January 24

A 29-year-old Logan Township woman was fatally shot by **her 32-year-old fiance**, who then turned the 12-gauge shotgun on himself. The couple died in the home they shared.

November 12

A 3-year-old boy was killed when his home was set on fire by a **62-year-old Altoona man** who mistakenly thought his ex-girlfriend was inside. The boy's mother and 2-year-old sister escaped by jumping out a window but suffered burns. The perpetrator hung himself in his jail cell three weeks later.

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Bucks

January 27

A 36-year-old Nockamixon Township woman and her 43-year-old boyfriend were killed by her estranged husband. He was charged with two counts of first-degree murder for fatally stabbing her with a kitchen knife and beating her boyfriend to death with an aluminum softball bat. He pleaded guilty to avoid the death penalty and was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. He had a long history of abusing his wife and being involved in violent altercations. In 2004 she had a Protection from Abuse Order against him after he attacked her. In that case he pleaded guilty to simple assault and was sentenced to 12 months' probation and anger management classes. It was his third simple assault conviction in five years.

Butler

February 9

A 33-year-old Chicora man fatally shot himself after a police chase. Two people had called 911 to report that he was on drugs and headed to his ex-girlfriend's house, possibly with the intention of harming her. A state police trooper pulled the perpetrator's jeep over some time later. When the trooper approached the jeep the perpetrator pointed a shotgun at him and sped off. The trooper pursued him until the jeep spun out of control and hit an embankment. Several troopers urged the perpetrator to surrender but after about a 10-minute standoff he turned the gun on himself.

August 4

A 19-year-old New Castle man fatally shot himself in the head in a car in a shopping center parking lot. Police had tried to stop the perpetrator, who they said was driving 71 mph in a 45 mph zone and who appeared to be impaired. He refused to stop, and police pursued him with a second department joining the first in the pursuit. The perpetrator then turned into the parking lot and fired a single shot, killing himself. Just before the incident the perpetrator reportedly had been involved in a domestic incident in which he punched his girlfriend and another woman in an apartment. When a third woman attempted to intervene the perpetrator fired a handgun into the ceiling and fled.

Cambria

April 28

A 38-year-old Johnstown woman and her 40-year-old estranged husband were found fatally shot in the home she shared with the couple's two children. Neighbors told police they heard a couple arguing and then heard two gunshots. Authorities said the husband shot his estranged wife and then turned the gun on himself.

November 5

A 37-year-old Summerhill man died two days after being bludgeoned in the head with a baseball bat. His mother's 50-year-old boyfriend was charged with homicide, aggravated assault, simple assault, stalking and reckless endangerment. Police said the victim intervened as the accused perpetrator argued with the victim's mother and struck the victim's half-sister, the accused perpetrator's daughter, in the arm with the bat. Police said the accused perpetrator had been drinking and wanted the victim's mother to come to the courthouse the next day when he was scheduled to be sentenced for assaulting her six months earlier. He was not supposed to be there as a condition of bail on that earlier assault. He fled the home after the attack, but police found him soon after and arrested him.

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Carbon

February 24

A 77-year-old man and his 75-year-old wife were brutally beaten and stabbed in their Lake Harmony home. A day later **their 30-year-old grandson** of Jim Thorpe fatally shot himself in a car in Northumberland County after leading police on a high-speed chase. He was the only suspect in his grandparents' killing.

May 26

A 31-year-old woman was fatally shot by **her 33-year-old husband**, who then killed himself in their Nesquehoning home. Friends and relatives speculated that a pending separation because of marital problems led the perpetrator to shoot his wife and himself. A neighbor said two of the couple's four children, ages 8 and 10, discovered their parents' bodies and ran for help.

Chester

February 20

A 51-year-old Caln Township man was shot multiple times with a .38-caliber Smith & Wesson revolver during an argument with his 26-year-old son. "This was a family argument. At worst, it should have ended with bruised feelings," the district attorney said. "Instead, a father is dead and a son has been arrested for murder." Police say the son, who was unemployed and living with his parents, blamed his life circumstances on his father. The son was charged with first-degree murder, reckless endangerment and weapons offenses.

March 25

A 37-year-old mother of four children was brutally stabbed in the parking lot of the Upper Uwchlan convenience store where she worked. Her 45-year-old estranged husband was charged with murder. Her attorney said she had expressed fears that her estranged husband would kill her or one of their young children months before her death. The perpetrator told police he had arranged to meet the victim in the parking lot to exchange letters, which was a ruse. When she reached into her van to grab the letters he stabbed her multiple times, and then left the knife protruding from her stomach. He said he had bought the knife the day before and had been contemplating killing her for a few weeks. He kept a journal chronicling his intentions, police said. The couple had three children, ages 1 to 6, and the victim had a 15-year-old daughter from a previous marriage. "This was a cold-blooded, pre-planned killing. The defendant executed his wife ... with casual efficiency," the district attorney said. "Those four children are now left without a mother and with a father charged with murder." Five months earlier he had been sentenced to 24 hours of community service and drug and alcohol evaluation, after pleading guilty to disorderly conduct for stalking the victim. He also had agreed to have no contact with her until 2014. He agreed to plead guilty to first-degree murder if prosecutors agreed not to seek the death penalty. Three months later he sought to withdraw his plea, but the judge denied the motion because the perpetrator had told others he wanted to go to trial to speak about his marriage and tell "his side of the story," rather than to contest the charges against him. He is serving a life sentence in prison without the possibility of parole.

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Clarion

July 17

A 79-year-old Sligo man died at a hospital two days after his 54-year-old son assaulted him during a heated argument in the home they shared. Police, who were called to the home for an assault in progress, found blood splattered throughout the living room, kitchen and TV room. The victim was found lying on a couch with profuse bleeding from his nose and face. The victim told police that his son hit him, jumped on him after he fell to the floor and threatened to kill him. The father had walked into the son's room and found him having sex with his girlfriend. After the father told him "not in my house," the two men brawled in the hallway. The son wrestled his father to the ground, straddled him and repeatedly punched him, yelling "I'll kill you." The son's girlfriend pulled him off the victim. The son was originally charged with aggravated assault, terroristic threats and harassment. After authorities concluded that the victim, who had leukemia and bled easily, died of blunt force trauma to the head, his son was charged with first-degree murder. That charge was later dropped to third-degree murder.

Clinton

October 15

A 25-year-old Lewisberry man was fatally shot twice in the torso by his 67-year-old father-in-law while visiting his Lock Haven home. Police said they had become embroiled in a domestic dispute. The victim's wife was injured. The perpetrator reportedly warned the victim to stop the assault before shooting him twice. The district attorney has not decided yet whether the shooting was justified. The father-in-law has not been charged.

Columbia

May 15

A 35-year-old Benton woman was fatally shot in the abdomen with a high-powered rifle outside the Sugarloaf Township home she shared with her boyfriend. Her 38-year-old boyfriend was charged with criminal homicide. He also shot himself in the chest, but survived. Authorities say he shot her and himself after she told him she planned to return to her estranged husband and three children in Washington state.

Crawford

May 17

A 20-year-old woman, who was a student at Youngstown State University, was brutally beaten, bludgeoned with a shovel and buried alive in the woods near the Cochran home of the two accused perpetrators. State police said the accused perpetrators, ages 18 and 20, were lesbian lovers and admitted to the killing. The victim and the 18-year-old accused perpetrator had once dated. The two women are accused of luring the victim to their home and then into the woods, where they punched and kicked her, put a rope around her neck and strangled her, hit her in the head with a shovel, pounded her head against a stump, rolled her into a shallow grave they had dug before the assault and then smashed her face and poured water into her nose and mouth when they found she was still breathing. A state trooper testified that one of the accused perpetrators told him she could see the victim's brain protruding from the gaping wounds in her head. The victim's body was discovered after her family reported her missing two days later. The accused perpetrators were charged with criminal homicide, conspiracy to commit murder and tampering with evidence.

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Dauphin

August 20

A 52-year-old Williamstown man was shot in the heart by his ex-wife with whom he shared a home. His ex-wife told state police that she had to shoot him with her .22-caliber revolver during an argument because he was threatening her with a knife and cleaver. Police said their investigation disproved that claim and her claim that she tried to resuscitate him. "Our theory is that she shot him when he was not armed and then placed the knife," the prosecutor said. She was charged with homicide. Prosecutors speculated that she killed him so she would become the sole owner of the house they shared or that she shot him because she was having relationships with other men in the community.

September 6

A 45-year-old Susquehanna Township man was shot, chased and then shot two more times outside his home. The perpetrator, **a 43-year-old Camp Hill man**, then had a brief altercation with his wife, who had been in the victim's home, before shooting himself in the head in the back yard. The victim died at the scene. The perpetrator died a short while later at a local hospital. The perpetrator's wife was injured and hospitalized but survived. A neighbor reported hearing multiple gunshots and a woman yelling "help me, help me, help me." A man driving by saw the victim's body in the front yard, backed up and called 911.

December 20

A 21-year-old Harrisburg woman was fatally shot in the head in her apartment with her 4-month-old baby and the baby's grandmother present. A man with her also was shot in the head but survived. The woman's ex-boyfriend, the father of the baby, was charged with homicide. Police said he shattered a window and entered the apartment about 6 a.m. He cut himself and left a trail of blood when he fled. Later he turned himself into police. A witness at the scene told police that the accused perpetrator said, "If I can't have you, nobody will," just before firing his gun. Two months before the shooting he was charged with simple assault and a week before the shooting he was charged with harassment, stalking, physically striking someone and damaging personal property.

Delaware

February 19

A 22-year-old woman was fatally shot outside a seafood store in Chester. Her cousin's 21-year-old boyfriend is accused of first shooting his girlfriend and his brother inside the store, going outside to shoot the cousin, returning inside to shoot his girlfriend again and then going to the back of the store where he shot himself. He, his girlfriend and his brother survived. Police said he was at odds with his girlfriend, who is the mother of his child. He was charged with first- and third-degree murder, aggravated assault and related offenses.

February 22

A 47-year-old Upper Darby woman was found dead in her bed with her 51-year-old husband unconscious beside her. They had scarves tightly wrapped around their necks. Their 24-year-old son found them after receiving a garbled telephone call from his father asking him to come home. The father was taken to the hospital and regained consciousness. He told police that the couple had entered into a suicide pact, and his wife killed herself. Checks written out to each of their three children and letters were found at the scene. Investigators said the letters indicated that the husband and wife, both of Indian descent, entered into a murder-suicide pact because one of their adult daughters ran off with a Pakistani man against their wishes. Police charged the husband with first- and third-degree murder. He pleaded guilty to third-degree murder and was sentenced to 25 to 30 years in prison.

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April 18

A 35-year-old Upper Darby barber was fatally shot in the head as he cut a customer's hair in his shop. A 27-year-old Philadelphia man, who was in a relationship with the victim's former girlfriend, was charged with criminal homicide, robbery, aggravated assault, theft and related charges. Police said he entered the barbershop dressed in the garb of a Muslim woman and asked for money. The perpetrator allegedly told police he went to the shop to scare the victim, and his gun fired accidentally. A jury acquitted him of first- and second-degree murder charges but found him guilty of third-degree murder. He will be sentenced on June 3, 2013.

December 5

A 34-year-old woman was fatally shot multiple times by her 38-year-old husband in their Tincum Township home. The husband, an unemployed prison guard on disability, then tried to turn the gun on himself but it malfunctioned. He went to his local police station wearing bloodstained pants and asked police to put him in handcuffs because he had done something bad. He reportedly confessed that he shot his wife after she "told him to act like a man" during an argument. Police said the couple had a history of domestic trouble. He was charged with first- and third-degree murder and possession of an instrument of crime. The couple have three children, two teenagers and an 8-year-old with special needs.

Erie

April 12

A 31-year-old Erie man was fatally shot at least twice in his apartment while his 6-month-old son lay in a crib in a nearby room. His 30-year-old girlfriend told police she and the victim had gotten into a physical altercation, and she shot him in self-defense. She was charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault, recklessly endangering another person and possessing an instrument of crime. A jury found her guilty of third-degree murder, and a judge sentenced her to 18 to 40 years in state prison.

November 27

A 51-year-old Erie woman was killed in an assault in her apartment during a domestic dispute. Her 51-year-old boyfriend, also of Erie, was charged with homicide. The coroner was unable to determine the manner of her death but said she died of lack of oxygen to the brain. The autopsy report showed she suffered blunt-force trauma to the head, face and trunk, rib fractures and multiple abrasions and contusions. A neighbor testified that she had heard sounds from the victim's apartment and was asked by the victim to call the police because her boyfriend was beating her up and wouldn't let her leave. An Erie police officer found the victim lying face down on her bathroom floor with the accused perpetrator lying on her lower legs. She died three days later in a hospital.

Fayette

May 13

A 28-year-old man died in a West Virginia hospital after he was shot at a Uniontown housing complex. An ex-boyfriend of the victim's girlfriend was charged with criminal homicide and weapons offenses. Authorities allege the 27-year-old perpetrator had sent his ex-girlfriend text messages expressing dismay that she was dating the victim. In one text message he threatened to kill the victim.

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Franklin

July 27

A 25-year-old Waynesboro woman, her new boyfriend, age 28, and his mother, age 55, were fatally shot by the woman's estranged husband. He had gone to the boyfriend's home in Quincy to check on the welfare of his 4-year-old daughter. Once there, he quarreled with his wife and her boyfriend in front of the child. They told him to leave, but instead he opened fire. Then he fled to Ohio with his daughter, where he was arrested in a motel parking lot. The child was unhurt. He was charged with three counts of criminal homicide, kidnapping, interfering with the custody of a child, unlawful restraint of a minor, endangering the welfare of a child and two counts of unlawful possession of a firearm. He told police he "messed up." The boyfriend's father said his ex-wife, the boyfriend's mother, was a nurse. "We think she died running to help her son," he said. The perpetrator's estranged wife had complained that he held a gun while they argued at a custody exchange a few weeks earlier. In court documents, she also alleged that he threatened her by text message during their contentious separation and made harassing phone calls to her work, which forced her to quit her job. The boyfriend's father said his son had complained to state police about threatening text messages from the perpetrator but was told there was nothing they could do. The prosecutor is seeking the death penalty.

Indiana

June 1

A 6-year-old girl and her 11-year-old sister were killed by their father in his South Mahoning home. He slit the throat of the younger girl, who was his biological daughter, with a hunting knife after they returned from her kindergarten graduation because she mentioned that her mother, his estranged wife, had talked to a man. The 40-year-old perpetrator waited for the older girl, his stepdaughter, to return home and then slit her throat in the living room. After buying a soft drink at a convenience store and visiting his bank, the perpetrator then stalked **his 33-year-old estranged wife**, following her from her job to her East Mahoning home where he strangled her and slit her throat with a kitchen knife. He also killed the family's pets -- a dog, goat and pony. The perpetrator then set fire to both homes. A neighbor rescued him from the fire in his home. Police charged him with three counts of homicide, two counts of arson and three counts of animal cruelty. The couple had recently separated and shared custody of their daughters. The father and grandfather of the victims said his daughter had turned down a dinner date with her estranged husband the day before the killings. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to three counts of first-degree murder to avoid the death penalty. He was sentenced to three consecutive life terms in prison.

June 3

A 55-year-old Rural Valley man was fatally shot in the neck by his son-in-law who then went after his estranged wife, the victim's daughter, in an upstairs bedroom. Her mother and four children were hiding in the attic. The estranged wife, who had just filed for divorce and had a protection from abuse order, heard her father begging for his life and then heard a shot. She ran for her gun and shot the perpetrator in the arm as he entered the bedroom. He is charged with homicide, aggravated assault, receiving stolen property and burglary. Police said the father-in-law and mother-in-law were staying at their daughter's home because they were afraid their son-in-law would hurt her. The father-in-law had attempted to defuse the situation by putting his own gun in his pocket and talking to his son-in-law, who was armed with a rifle and handgun. But the perpetrator shot him with the handgun. He then went room to room searching for his estranged wife, police said. His attorneys plan a mental-infirmity defense.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

Jefferson

September 1

A 54-year-old New Bethlehem woman was fatally shot in the head by her long-time boyfriend. **The boyfriend, 46**, then killed himself the same way. The couple had traveled to a friend's camp for Labor Day weekend. People riding all-terrain vehicles discovered their bodies in a car along an abandoned rail line in a remote area of Oliver Township.

Lancaster

January 9

An 86-year-old Lancaster man died the day after firefighters pulled him from the burning row home he shared with his wife. His 59-year-old wife was severely burned in the blaze that police say she set on the first floor. She told police the fire was a suicide attempt, but police say she ignored the fact that her husband was on the second floor of the home at the time. She escaped the blaze on her own but tried to get back inside when she realized her husband was still in the smoke-filled home. Neighbors restrained her to prevent her from going back. She was charged with criminal homicide and arson. She was seriously burned in the fire and spent five weeks hospitalized in a burn center before being jailed.

April 15

A 62-year-old Lititz woman and her 48-year-old husband were found dead of single gunshot wounds to the head in a bedroom of the home they shared. Police said the woman was killed by her husband as she slept. He then killed himself. They were married 15 years, and there were no prior reports of domestic violence in their home, police said.

June 15

A 56-year-old Upper Leacock Township woman and her 22-year-old daughter were killed in their home. The daughter's 22-year-old boyfriend, who had lived in the home for two years, was charged with two counts of criminal homicide, theft and abuse of a corpse. He had fled to a Wildwood, N. J., motel, where police arrested him. An older daughter found the mother dead in the laundry room of her home and called police. The mother had been wrapped in blankets and towels and a plastic bag was over her head. She had been bludgeoned to death with a hammer. Police found the younger daughter's body in a second-floor bedroom. She had been strangled with a belt. Both women were sexually assaulted after death. A photo posted on the mother's Facebook page from the previous Christmas showed the younger daughter and the accused perpetrator hugging with the caption "This is my daughter and 'adopted son,' Gary! God sent him to us." People who knew the victims and accused perpetrator said he had been acting erratically in the weeks before the killings and struggling with depression. The older victim had told her boss that the accused perpetrator was on medication but would stop taking it because he didn't like the way it made him feel. He had run away on a few occasions, after which the older victim had taken him to Lancaster General Hospital's psychiatric unit for an evaluation. He was there for a few days before being discharged because he was deemed a "low risk," according to the older victim's boss. A friend of the older victim said she brought him back to her home because she said, "I just don't feel like I have a choice. Where else is he going to go?" The friend concluded, "Her heart of compassion always (won) out." The district attorney said he will seek the death penalty.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

August 2

A 42-year-old New Providence woman who had recently passed the test to become an EMT, died after being pushed down a flight of stairs, allegedly by her 33-year-old live-in boyfriend. They had been arguing after the victim's 12-year-old daughter refused to eat her dinner. Two young boys also were in the home at the time. The victim's daughter heard slapping and hitting sounds, brief arguing, and someone falling down the stairs. She saw the accused perpetrator standing one step down from the top of the staircase. She couldn't see her mother. The accused perpetrator then allegedly turned to her and said, "I hate you, bitch" and tried to punch her. She ducked, and he then allegedly kicked her. The girl ran downstairs and saw her mother lying at the bottom. She then ran to a neighbor's house who then called police. Police found the accused perpetrator lying beside the victim on the living room. He had blood on his hands and chest, and the victim had blood on her face. He was charged with one count of criminal homicide and one count of simple assault for kicking the 12-year-old girl in the mouth.

December 4

A 17-year-old girl was smothered by her 19-year-old boyfriend after he allegedly drove intentionally into a guardrail while going approximately 100 mph., police said. The boyfriend was charged with criminal homicide for allegedly getting out of the car, going over to the passenger side and sitting on his badly injured girlfriend who was lying face-down in the grass. Police allege he sat on her head and torso to finish her off. A witness heard the girl repeatedly yell, "Get off of me, get off of me!" When another witness asked a 911 dispatcher if he should move the couple, the dispatcher told him not to move them, that help would be arriving soon. Police on the scene observed the accused perpetrator sitting on his girlfriend, closing his eyes and moaning as if he was injured. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene. She had allegedly told a friend that the accused perpetrator regularly tried to scare her while driving and had threatened to kill them both in a crash. The district attorney called it one of the most complicated cases he's ever seen.

Lawrence

April 8

A 53-year-old Ohio man fatally shot himself outside the burning home of his ex-girlfriend in North Beaver Township. He held firefighters, who had arrived at the home to put out the fire, at bay with a shotgun. When state police arrived a short time later he shot himself. A state police fire marshal is investigating the blaze and trying to determine if the perpetrator set it. The woman living in the home, who was unhurt, had previously gotten a protection from abuse order against him.

June 13

A 36-year-old New Castle woman was fatally stabbed 23 times in her home. A neighbor called police and reported that his neighbors had been fighting all day, and the woman was screaming for help. The neighbor called police again after he went outside and found the woman's husband covered in blood. The husband told the neighbor, "You don't have to worry about my wife any more," police said. Officers found the husband on his front porch with an injured right hand. He directed police inside, saying they better hurry up because his wife needed help. He reportedly told police, "I killed her. She's dead. But she stabbed me first." He was charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault and recklessly endangering another person.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

Lebanon

January 1

A 31-year-old Lebanon woman was found strangled to death on a couch in the home she shared with her 25-year-old boyfriend. Police said he admitted to a relative that he strangled her over the New Year's weekend during an argument. He pleaded guilty to third-degree murder and aggravated assault and was sentenced to 12 to 25 years in state prison.

December 29

A 30-year-old Campbelltown man killed himself with a handgun after driving away from a domestic violence incident in which he was involved at his home and threatening to harm himself. Police spotted his vehicle a short time later and pulled it over in a traffic stop. As officers approached the car the man shot himself. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Lehigh

March 29

An 81-year-old Upper Macungie Township woman was killed by her husband, also 81, who then fatally shot himself. The wife had worsening dementia. The couple had been married for 61 years. An autopsy revealed that the wife died of a toxic combination of over-the-counter drugs and medication prescribed to her husband. Their family called the murder-suicide an act of "deep devotion and profound love."

May 11

A 64-year-old Allentown woman was fatally stabbed two days before Mother's Day in the living room of the home she shared with her 38-year-old son. He was charged with criminal homicide. Police answering a domestic violence call at the home found the victim on the floor. She had been stabbed multiple times. Her son was treated at a hospital. Neighbors said a man had been acting erratically outside the home earlier in the day.

August 11

A 36-year-old Whitehall Township man was found fatally stabbed on the landing outside the apartment he shared with his 31-year-old fiancée eight hours before they were to marry. The fiancée was charged with criminal homicide. The coroner said the victim died of two stab wounds that punctured his heart. There were four children inside the apartment at the time of the killing. Reportedly, one of the children removed the knife from the victim's body and took it to the kitchen. At her arraignment, the accused perpetrator told the judge "you got to check again" after learning that her fiancée was dead. When the judge told her that the victim had been pronounced dead earlier, she covered her face in her hands, rocked back and forth and wailed, "I want my family back. I want to go home." She also said, in a halting voice, "I ... did ... not ... kill ... him ... on ... purpose."

August 21

A 77-year-old Bethlehem woman died of head injuries a day after being severely beaten in her home. Her 78-year-old husband also was badly beaten but survived. Their 51-year-old son walked out of the house with blood on his hands and told responding police, "I had to kill them." Both victims had been punched and kicked in the head and suffered bleeding on the brain, according to authorities. The son was charged with homicide, attempted homicide, aggravated and simple assault and reckless endangerment. He has a history of mental health and substance abuse problems going back 20 years.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

- September 8 **A 31-year-old Allentown woman** was fatally stabbed in the apartment she shared with her boyfriend. A family member called police, who had to force their way into the apartment because no one responded when they arrived. They found the victim's body near the kitchen and her boyfriend in the bedroom with a knife. When he refused police demands that he drop the knife they tasered him. He was taken to a hospital because police said he swallowed a substantial amount of prescription drugs. He was charged with criminal homicide. Neighbors say the couple had two children.
- September 15 **A 31-year-old South Whitehall Township man** was fatally stabbed by his 23-year-old half-brother during a brawl. The brothers were drinking with two friends when they got into a fight. The perpetrator said the victim choked him and punched him in the side of the face. The perpetrator then pulled a knife from his boot and stabbed the victim several times in the torso. Police found the victim unresponsive and bleeding from the stomach on the kitchen floor of his mother's home nearby. The perpetrator was charged with criminal homicide. He pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 3 1/2 to 10 years in prison.

Luzerne

- April 20 **An 82-year-old Wilkes-Barre Township woman** was fatally shot outside a skilled nursing facility by **her 87-year-old husband**, who then killed himself.
- December 14 **A 32-year-old Hazleton woman** was found strangled and entombed in tape and plastic in her apartment's attic a few days before Christmas. Her family had reported her missing after she failed to pick up her two children at school. Police found her ex-boyfriend's fingerprints on the tape that covered her and on the padlock that secured the attic door. She had recently broken up with him. Coworkers said that when he showed up at his job to pick up his check and quit, he had scratches on his face and arms. He told coworkers he had fought with his girlfriend and was leaving town because police were looking for him. Police filed an open count of criminal homicide against him. He was last seen crossing into Mexico from Texas. Friends said the victim feared for her life. One coworker told the media that "She would always ask friends to watch her go into her apartment and wait until they saw her in the window. She was afraid of something or somebody, we just don't know what it was." A neighbor said, "No woman should be afraid to go home. We know she was but we don't know why. She was always such a nice person. She was always with her kids."
- December 17 **A 41-year-old woman** and **her 51-year-old estranged husband** were found fatally shot in their Butler Township home. The couple's son and the victim's father found their bodies. The wife, a teacher, had filed for a protection from abuse order a few months earlier, alleging that her husband had threatened to kill her and then himself. The husband filed for divorce a few weeks before the shootings. Police and the coroner said it was a murder-suicide but they have not yet announced who the shooter was.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

Monroe

June 13

A 53-year-old woman was found dead in the kitchen of her Polk Township home. She had been choked and stabbed. Police said her 21-year-old son admitted he killed her because he didn't like her rules and what she said to him. She had just finished making beef stew and invited him to come get some when he walked up behind her, put her in a choke hold, wrestled her to the ground and stabbed her twice in the back with a kitchen knife. He was charged with criminal homicide. He committed suicide in his prison cell on Jan. 20, 2013.

Montgomery

January 15

A 40-year-old Springfield woman was strangled, bound and gagged in the bedroom of the home she shared with her 31-year-old boyfriend. He called 911 twice saying he wanted to turn himself in and report a crime. He told dispatchers, "I choked my old lady out, tied her up and robbed her." Police found the victim with both her hands and feet bound. They said the killing followed an argument between the couple. He was charged with first-, second- and third-degree murder, robbery, theft and unlawful restraint. He pleaded not guilty and is awaiting trial.

February 2

A 31-year-old Pottstown woman was found dead at the foot of the basement stairs of the home she shared with her 32-year-old boyfriend. The coroner ruled that she died of strangulation. Police said the victim's boyfriend became angry with her after they argued about smoking and racial slurs, choked her and pushed her down the steps. Her two children, ages 7 and 12, were asleep in upstairs bedrooms at the time. The boyfriend then called his ex-wife to say that he may have killed his girlfriend, police said. He was arrested five days later in the parking lot of a casino in Hollywood, Fla. He had driven the victim's car there. He was extradited to Pennsylvania to face murder charges. He pleaded guilty to third-degree murder, theft and access device fraud. He is awaiting sentencing.

October 31

A 79-year-old woman was found dead in her son's Lansdale home at the bottom of a flight of basement stairs in a pool of blood next to a knife with a seven-inch blade. She had multiple stab wounds on her wrists and a slash wound to her throat, police said. Her 58-year-old son had walked into the borough's police station, picked up the intercom phone and informed the police dispatcher that he had just killed his mother. He gave his name three times and spelled his surname twice. He then told police he had stabbed his mother and pushed her down a flight of stairs. They saw blood on his right sneaker and wrist watch. He was charged with first-degree and third-degree murder and possession of an instrument of crime. His attorney said he is mentally ill.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

Northampton

March 15

A 38-year-old Williams Township man was fatally shot multiple times as he slept in his home hours before he was due in court for a custody hearing. His 16-year-old daughter found his body when she went to wake him to take her and her twin sister to school. His ex-girlfriend -- and the mother of his four children -- was charged with first-degree murder. Police said she used her key to the home to sneak in and shoot him with a handgun she had stolen from him. In a recorded conversation she told a friend she had worn earplugs during the shooting because "I didn't want to hear him scream." Nine months before the shooting the victim had filed a protection from abuse order against the perpetrator, accusing her of being physically abusive to him and their twin daughters, including stabbing one of the girls in the chest with a pencil. The next day the perpetrator filed a PFA against the victim, accusing him of threatening her and breaking her hand. She had also filed a PFA against him in 2007, saying he was physically violent and mentally abusive. All three PFAs were dismissed. She pleaded guilty to first-degree murder in exchange for a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole rather than the death penalty.

March 20

A 24-year-old Catsauqua man was fatally shot by his brother-in-law in the perpetrator's Bethlehem home because he was arguing with and acting aggressively toward his sister, the perpetrator's wife. The perpetrator is accused of going to another part of the home, finding a shotgun, pointing it at the victim and shooting the victim once in the upper body. He was charged with one count of criminal homicide. He pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 3 1/2 to 10 years in prison.

Northumberland

May 22

A 69-year-old Watsonstown woman was fatally shot by **her 85-year-old boyfriend** of 30 years, who then killed himself in their Delaware Township home. Police said the victim was in the process of moving out when her boyfriend killed her. She had rented an apartment nearby earlier in the month.

Philadelphia

January 25

A 45-year-old Philadelphia woman was fatally shot in the head and chest by **her 34-year-old boyfriend**, who then turned the gun on himself. Police found the deceased perpetrator sitting in a wheelchair with a handgun nearby.

January 31

A 26-year-old Germantown model and the mother of three children was fatally shot by **her 31-year-old live-in boyfriend**, who then turned the gun on himself. She had driven him to the train station. As they sat in her vehicle, he shot her once with a handgun and then himself. She had recently told him she wanted to move out.

February 3

A 50-year-old Wissinoming man was fatally stabbed by his 49-year-old cousin during an argument in the apartment they shared. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene. The accused perpetrator was charged with murder, possessing an instrument of crime and related offenses. He has a record of at least 10 arrests for a variety of offenses, including aggravated assault, but he had never been sentenced to jail time.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

- February 16 **A 24-year-old South Philadelphia woman, who was six months pregnant** with her third child, was shot in the head with a handgun in the basement of her home. Her mother found her. Neighbors said the victim's mother bolted out of the home screaming, "My daughter's dead! My daughter's dead!" The victim's two young children, an 8-year-old son and a preschool-age daughter, and other family members were in the house at the time of the shooting. Police said they arrested her 19-year-old boyfriend because "he was upset with the fact that she was pregnant with his baby, and killed her as a result." He had reportedly tried to convince her to have an abortion, but she refused.
- March 10 **A 28-year-old woman was fatally shot with a handgun by her 31-year-old boyfriend**, who then killed himself. They were arguing on a baseball field at a Philadelphia recreational center.
- March 14 **A 22-year-old Philadelphia man** was fatally stabbed by his 22-year-old girlfriend. No further details were available.
- March 18 **A 19-year-old West Philadelphia man** was stabbed during an argument with his girlfriend in their home. He died the next day. She was charged with murder.
- March 21 **A 56-year-old Philadelphia woman** was fatally shot in the face with a handgun in her home by **her 57-year-old husband**, who then killed himself. A friend said they had just gotten back together. The couple had three children. A daughter found their bodies.
- March 24 **A 31-year-old West Philadelphia woman** was savagely stabbed in the neck and chest and shot with a handgun in the right eye. Her 22-year-old boyfriend was charged with murder, abuse of a corpse, evidence tampering and weapons charges. Police said he killed her during an argument.
- March 31 **A 46-year-old man** was fatally stabbed in the chest by his 60-year-old brother in the North Philadelphia rowhouse they shared. The brothers had been arguing. The perpetrator was charged with murder.
- April 1 **A 33-year-old Philadelphia woman** was found dead in a car that was on fire in Hunting Park. Two bullet holes were found in the front passenger side door. Her 30-year-old ex-boyfriend was charged with murder, arson and related offenses. The couple had been together for ten years and apart for two years, family members said. They shared two children together, a son age 5 and a daughter age 10. "We basically knew it was him," the victim's stepfather said. "He's done things to her before. He's a violent guy. ... He's destroyed our family."
- May 6 **A 57-year-old Philadelphia woman** was fatally shot with a handgun. Her 54-year-old husband was charged with murder and firearms offenses. No further information was available.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

- May 24 **Eighteen-month-old twins, a boy named Adam and a girl named Eve,** were allegedly killed by their 41-year-old mother in the family's Philadelphia home. Police said they were both poisoned and then one twin was drowned and the other twin was suffocated. The mother, who worked as a nurse at a nursing home, then attempted suicide by cutting her wrists. Her husband, a city corrections officer, found her and the children and called police. Police allege she attempted to poison her 4-year-old daughter, who was hospitalized. The mother was charged with two counts of first-degree murder. In the days before, the perpetrator changed her Facebook profile photo to that of a car spray-painted with the words "Hope she was worth it." She also listed her status as divorced. Sources said she flew into a rage and snapped because her husband was having an affair with one of her close relatives. "She thought that the best way of getting back at, or making a point to her husband, was to take the lives of their children," the assistant district attorney said.
- June 14 **A 43-year-old man** was fatally stabbed on a street in North Philadelphia. His 32-year-old girlfriend was charged with third-degree murder and possession of an instrument of crime. No further information was available.
- July 9 **An unidentified man** who was a suspect in **his mother's boyfriend's** shooting death in Philadelphia, shot and killed himself in York later. Police say the homicide was a result of "domestic discord." A landlord discovered the victim's body on July 16 in a second-floor apartment in Philadelphia. Police believe the murder had taken place up to a week earlier.
- July 18 **A 21-year-old Collingswood, N.J., woman** was found fatally shot in the head in a South Philadelphia home. Police believe that **her 22-year-old boyfriend**, who lived in the house, shot her and then killed himself.
- July 22 **A 22-year-old Philadelphia man** was fatally shot in the head and chest during an argument with his sister's 29-year-old boyfriend. The two men shared a residence in Olney. The sister's boyfriend was charged with murder and related offenses.
- September 9 **A 24-year-old pregnant woman** was found fatally strangled in an East Germantown apartment. Probation agents doing a routine check on her boyfriend found her body a day after she was killed. Her 28-year-old boyfriend was charged with murder, homicide of an unborn child and abuse of a corpse. Police said an argument led to the killing. The accused perpetrator was on probation at the time, after pleading guilty to simple assault the previous year.
- October 1 **A 52-year-old neighborhood handyman and former professional boxer** was fatally shot in the mouth in North Philadelphia, allegedly by an 82-year-old man. Neighbors said the accused perpetrator believed the victim was talking to his girlfriend. He was charged with murder.
- October 5 **A 34-year-old South Philadelphia man** was beaten to death in the basement of the row house he shared with his boyfriend. The 35-year-old boyfriend was charged with first-degree murder, theft and related offenses. Neighbors said the two men had recently argued over money.
- October 20 **A 46-year-old woman** shot with a handgun in 2008. She died in 2012. Her 33-year-old boyfriend was charged with murder and firearms offenses.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

October 21 **A 30-year-old Philadelphia man** was fatally stabbed in the chest in a Lawncrest home. His 25-year-old girlfriend was charged with murder. Police said the couple had argued before the killing. The couple's child was home at the time but was not harmed.

November 27 **A 27-year-old woman** was fatally shot in the Hunting Park apartment she shared with her 33-year-old boyfriend. She was shot at least five times in the chest, torso and arms with a handgun. Police found her body in a second-floor bedroom. Her 6-year-old daughter and 3-year-old cousin were sleeping in the next room. Neighbors said they heard a loud domestic argument followed by multiple gunshots, and then they saw a man fleeing the scene. Her boyfriend, who had a lengthy criminal record and was out of jail less than a year, was charged with murder and several firearms violations.

Potter

December 2 **A 53-year-old elementary school music teacher** was fatally shot as she played the organ in her church during a Sunday service. Her 52-year-old ex-husband, also an elementary school music teacher, was charged with first-degree murder and other charges. Witnesses say he entered the church, shot his ex-wife, exited the church, returned and shot her again before congregants and the pastor were able to subdue him until police arrived.

Schuylkill

December 25 **A 28-year-old woman and her 37-year-old husband** were found shot to death in the kitchen of their Mahanoy City apartment early Christmas morning. The husband had called his ex-wife and told her he had killed his current wife and said he wouldn't be able to spend the rest of his life in jail. She called 911. When police responded they found them both death. Police ruled it a murder-suicide. Friends said the couple had been at a party together on Christmas Eve and appeared happy when they left.

Somerset

September 14 **A 19-year-old Meyersdale woman** was strangled near the Great Allegheny Passage biking and hiking trail. A hiker found her remains buried there in a shallow grave nearly two months after she was last seen in that area with her 23-year-old boyfriend. Police said he told them he had ended his relationship with the victim and admitted being with her in that vicinity the day she died. He left the area after being interviewed by police and became a fugitive from justice. He was captured at his former girlfriend's home outside New Orleans and returned to Pennsylvania where he was charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault and abuse of a corpse.

Susquehanna

August 31 **A 46-year-old Thompson woman** was fatally shot in her driveway. Her 51-year-old husband was charged with criminal homicide. Initially, he reportedly told police that his wife, who had left him eight weeks earlier, had fired at him first. Later he allegedly admitted that wasn't true. He had called her and told her to come to the house to discuss bankruptcy. After she arrived they argued. He allegedly retrieved a .38-caliber handgun from the house and shot her in the head. Their 27-year-old son was charged with hindering prosecution for allegedly putting another gun in his mother's hand afterwards in an attempt to make it look like she had fired first.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

Venango

October 7

A 67-year-old Sandycreek Township woman and her 69-year-old husband were found fatally shot in their home. Police charged their 13-year-old grandson with the killings. They said he was upset with his grandparents for talking poorly of his mother. He allegedly waited until his grandfather left the home, found bolt cutters and snapped the lock off his grandfather's handgun. He then put earplugs in and shot his grandmother in the back. He waited until his grandfather returned, met him at the door and shot him, police said. Then he stole his grandparents' car, drove to Oil City, disposed of the gun in a storm drain and drove to his cousins' home. He is being charged as an adult.

Washington

January 11

The body of **a 21-year-old Baldwin woman** was found in a wooded area in Mt. Pleasant Township. Her parents had reported her missing the night before. An autopsy revealed that she died of knife wounds. Her 22-year-old estranged boyfriend, of Pittsburgh, was charged with homicide, aggravated assault, abuse of a corpse, tampering with evidence and other offenses. She had obtained a Protection from Abuse Order against him a few weeks earlier because he had reportedly assaulted her and threatened her family on Facebook. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty because he has a "significant history of felony convictions involving the use or threat of violence."

Wayne

August 20

A 29-year-old woman was fatally shot in a Damascus Township home by a **56-year-old man** who shot another man in the arm and then killed himself. The wounded man made it to a nearby home to seek help. The district attorney said the shootings appear to be a case of domestic violence.

September 9

A 52-year-old Dreher Township woman died in surgery after being shot in her Newfoundland home. Her 59-year-old husband was charged with criminal homicide and a firearms violation. He told police he had been drinking all day and that he was unloading a .22 rifle when it went off, accidentally shooting his wife. He admitted the two had been arguing earlier that day, that their arguments had become physical in the past and that once he had pointed a loaded gun at his wife. He has previously been convicted of aggravated assault and several other felonies and was not allowed to possess firearms due to those charges. Police said more than 50 beagles, mostly puppies, were seized from the home after the killing. The perpetrator also was charged with 50 counts of animal cruelty.

Westmoreland

February 18

The body of **a 37-year-old middle school teacher** who had been strangled was found wrapped in plastic in a wooded area near the Arnold Palmer Regional Airport in Unity Township. Her father had reported her missing three days earlier. She was supposed to be at her Hempfield Township home recovering from surgery. Police charged her 41-year-old husband with criminal homicide. He did not report her missing and previously was charged with harassment for pushing her. She had gotten a Protection from Abuse Order against him in 2007. Police said he told them he argued with his wife at their home before killing her. He is awaiting trial.

Fatality Report Summary 2012

York

- January 17 **A 57-year-old Windsor woman** was fatally shot by **her 57-year-old husband** in their home. He then called 911 to report that he had shot his wife and was planning on killing himself. His body was found in a field behind the house. The chief deputy coroner said the wife may have had a medical condition that prompted the shooting.
- March 29 **A 24-year-old woman, who was 19 weeks pregnant**, was fatally stabbed in the chest in a Manchester Township motel in front of her 5-year-old daughter. A security video showed the victim, who was bleeding to death, trying to comfort her daughter. The victim gave birth to a baby boy before she died. **The baby died** less than an hour later. The victim's 28-year-old boyfriend was charged with homicide and homicide of an unborn child. The prosecutor is seeking the death penalty.
- June 8 **A 53-year-old Manchester Township woman** was found dead, wrapped in a sheet, in the master bathroom, by a friend who was checking on her because she had not been to work for several days. The victim's estranged boyfriend also was in the home, covered in blood and holding a knife. He told the friend to leave, and she did. Then she called police. When police arrived the perpetrator threatened to shoot them. After a five-hour standoff, the perpetrator surrendered and said he was "sorry." Police found evidence of a struggle with blood in the bedroom and hallway. They also found a notebook with notes handwritten by the perpetrator saying he loved his parents, sister and life "but my true love is gone got to join her." Another note said he tried to kill himself with pills but failed. An autopsy revealed the victim died of blunt force injury to the head. Police said the perpetrator had a long history of domestic violence against his on-again, off-again girlfriend. He had been charged three times with crimes against her, including taking her hostage, assaulting her, setting a fire at her home and breaking into her home and threatening her with a fire poker. Each time he would post bail and return to her home. He was on house arrest at the time of the killing but the alarm system hadn't been set up yet. Prosecutors said they will seek the death penalty.
- June 15 **A 29-year-old North Carolina man** was fatally shot in his ex-girlfriend's York home. Police said he had gone to her home the day after breaking up with her to retrieve his cell phone. He was upset to find another man sleeping in the home. That 20-year-old man told police he awoke to find the ex-boyfriend beating him in the head. So he pulled a gun from under the pillow and fired multiple times. He was charged with homicide. His attorney said he will be exploring a self-defense defense.
- June 28 **A 41-year-old woman** was fatally shot by **her 42-year-old husband**, who then killed himself. A family member found their bodies in their North Codorus home after the perpetrator called the relative to say he was going to kill his wife and himself. The couple had a 7-year-old son, who police said was not at home at the time. The victim had three daughters from a previous relationship. The couple was having marital problems, people who knew them told police.