

Fatality Report Summary 2014

Allegheny

January 15

A 40-year-old woman was fatally shot in the head by her estranged, 46-year-old husband, who then killed himself in the couple's Crafton home. They left behind three daughters between the ages of 8 and 11. The couple had been married for 10 years but were separated for the last six months. The perpetrator had remained in the family home, and the victim had moved into her father's home with the children. She went to the family home to check on the perpetrator, and when she hadn't returned six hours later her father went to the home and found their bodies. The victim worked as a supervisor for an organization that helps people with intellectual disabilities find jobs. The perpetrator had recently been charged with hunting without a license and violating Pennsylvania Game Commission rules. He had pleaded guilty to driving under the influence about four years earlier.

January 23

A 79-year-old Pittsburgh woman was fatally shot in the head with a handgun by her husband, also 79, in their home in the Bloomfield section of Pittsburgh. He was charged with criminal homicide. Police said he had recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer and had been in bed when his wife and her two sisters heard him "banging around upstairs." After the victim went to check on him, her sisters heard the couple arguing, heard her say, "Don't do that. Why are you doing this? I love you," and heard him say, "I am in so much pain" and "I don't want to live anymore." When one sister then went upstairs she found the perpetrator sitting on his bed pointing a handgun at the victim, who was trying to back out of the room. She said he fired at the victim moments later. Police said he also tried to shoot himself but the gun jammed. He died of cancer four days later in the hospital.

January 27

A 56-year-old man from Penn Hills was shot and killed by a Penn Hills police officer during a standoff at a home in the ten thousand block of Calvin Street. The perpetrator reportedly went to the home of his girlfriend and fired shots into the home. When police arrived, the perpetrator was inside of the house and his girlfriend ran outside to safety. As police helped the perpetrator's girlfriend, the perpetrator allegedly emerged with a gun and aimed it at officers. After ignoring several commands to put down the weapon, the perpetrator was shot. The perpetrator was taken to a hospital, where he later died. It was reported by other media outlets that the perpetrator may have been upset because he was going to be arraigned soon for an incident that occurred in October of 2013.

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April 30

A pregnant, 20-year-old, nursing student woman was fatally shot on a Pittsburgh street after spending the day planning her baby shower. Her 20-year-old boyfriend was charged with homicide and homicide of an unborn child. He killed himself two days later as police attempted to arrest him in a Pittsburgh home. A witness reported seeing the accused perpetrator emerge from an abandoned building and shoot the victim. Before he fired, the victim told him to put the gun down, and someone else tried to “talk him out of doing anything dumb,” according to the criminal complaint. He appeared about to leave when he turned around and shot the victim in the face. She screamed and collapsed on the ground, dying a short time later at an area hospital. Police said that the day before the shooting, he had threatened twice to shoot her. The victim told Penn Hills Police that he pointed two guns at her and threatened to kill, their unborn child and then himself. He damaged her cell phone so she couldn’t call 911 but eventually calmed down. After he left, the victim asked her landlord to change her locks. Later that day, she called police to report that he had called her at work to tell her he was in her apartment looking for a gun she had hidden. He again threatened to kill her and then himself. By the time police arrived at the apartment, he had disappeared. The victim retrieved a semi-automatic .40-caliber pistol from a laundry basket and gave it to police. Police said it had been reported stolen. They did not find the second gun. Penn Hills Police obtained a warrant charging the perpetrator with burglary, terroristic threats and other crimes and were still looking for the perpetrator at the time of the killing. He had tweeted “She told on me. I’m spanking her” and “I smoked her.” Four months earlier, Pittsburgh Police charged him with carrying a firearm without a license, conspiracy and marijuana possession. He was awaiting trial on those charges. Three months earlier he had pleaded guilty, in a separate case, to marijuana possession and criminal use of a communication facility.

June 9

A 79-year-old woman was beaten then stabbed to death by her 56 year old son. Police say it happened at the woman’s home on the 300 block of South Second Street in Duquesne. According to the criminal complaint, the perpetrator beat the victim in the head with a bottle of vodka, before stabbing her after they had an argument. He admitted to all of it on video. The perpetrator was being held at the county jail on a homicide charge.

June 13

A 43-year-old Etna woman fatally shot herself after critically wounding her ex-boyfriend. She reportedly was waiting in a chair on the porch of his home in Shaler and opened fire on him as he left for work. He was rushed to the hospital with three gunshot wounds. Police responded after neighbors reported hearing gunshots.

July 6

A 22-year-old Pittsburgh man was found fatally stabbed outside the Fineview apartment his mother shared with her 43-year-old boyfriend. Police charged the boyfriend with criminal homicide, terroristic threats and simple assault. Authorities allege he argued with his girlfriend, the victim’s mother, after he came home, choked her and then left their bedroom. He returned carrying a bloody butcher knife and threatened her, police said. She said she fled and saw her son leaning against the door of an upstairs apartment unresponsive. Her son was pronounced dead at the scene. Police spotted the alleged perpetrator’s car later that day and arrested him. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to serve between six to 16 years in prison.

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- July 8 An 82-year-old man strangled his wife and then suffocated himself in their Moon Township home. The couple's son, who lived across the street from them, found their bodies. Police found a note, presumably left by the husband. He had been caring for the wife, who had dementia.
- July 26 A 58-year-old Allegheny County man died after being struck in the head while trying to break up a domestic fight between his neighbors. His 30-year-old neighbor was allegedly beating his wife when the 58-year-old victim stepped in and was struck in the head. The victim was taken to the hospital and died due to injuries from the attack. The alleged perpetrator was arrested and taken to jail on a charge of aggravated assault and police say he could face a homicide charge. On May 14, 2015, the perpetrator pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter, and was sentenced to serve between 18 and 36 months in prison.
- August 15 A 32-year-old woman was killed by her 36-year-old boyfriend, who stabbed the victim in the head, neck and trunk. The victim's body was found the next morning, in the woods near the victim's McMasters Avenue home in Wilkins Township. Police say after the suspect was identified, he was found at a family member's home in Wilkesburg with a self-inflicted gunshot wound, from which he died. The victim has two daughters, ages 12 and 16.
- September 5 A 26-year-old Allegheny County Woman was shot to death by the 58-year-old father of her boyfriend. The victim was 3 months pregnant when she was standing outside an auto body shop and was shot by her boyfriend's father. The alleged perp then went around the back of the business and shot himself in the head. Both the victim and the alleged perp were taken to the hospital and succumbed to injuries a short time later.
- October 11 A 35-year-old man of East Liberty in Pittsburgh was shot and killed by his ex-girlfriend's new 25-year-old boyfriend. The victim was shot when he was trying to visit his daughter at his ex's house in Homewood, a community in Pittsburgh. It happened on the porch. The perpetrator told police that the victim threatened the lives of the perpetrator's girlfriend and the kids. But according to the criminal complaint, witnesses told police that the victim had his hands up and as the two argued, the victim pleaded to see his little girl before being shot. The perpetrator is charged with homicide and tampering with evidence. In June 2015, the perpetrator was convicted of third-degree murder.
- October 23 A 35-year-old man was stabbed once in the chest and killed by his live-in girlfriend, who is 28 years old. Police say the accused perpetrator called 911 shortly after 8:30 a.m. to report the stabbing. The couple has a child together. Police say the woman stabbed her boyfriend during a domestic dispute over child care. Police say the perpetrator told them that the victim put his hands in her face and that she punched him several times before grabbing a kitchen knife and stabbing the victim when he cornered her and slapped her in the face. The victim's family told a television news reporter that the perpetrator is lying about the alleged abuse by the victim. The perpetrator is jailed in Allegheny County.

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October 26

A 22-year-old man was shot and killed at a Stowe Township home, where police say he lived since moving from Virginia in January of 2014. Police say the victim was shot multiple times around 6 a.m. at a home on Pleasant Ridge Drive. According to the police affidavit, the victim and another witness intervened in a fight between the accused perpetrator and the perpetrator's girlfriend at her home in Stowe. The accused perpetrator left, then called about three hours later and returned to the home. The accused perpetrator barged past the person at the front door, kicked open a bedroom door and started shooting. The victim came out of the bedroom and fell to the floor. The perpetrator then shot him twice more before fleeing. Allegheny County Police arrested the accused perpetrator at a home in McKees Rocks. He remains in Allegheny County Jail.

December 16

A 73-year-old woman and her 76 year-old husband were killed and dismembered by the woman's 47-year-old son. Police say the perpetrator killed and dismembered the victims, stuffing their body parts into garbage cans at their home. The Allegheny Medical Examiner's Office says the couple died from injuries inflicted by a sharp instrument, likely five bloodied kitchen knives, some with bent blades and broken handles. The victims' bodies were found, after the perpetrator's sister called police asking them to check on the victims, because she hadn't heard from them in a few days. When police arrived they found the perpetrator lying unresponsive in a bed in a locked bedroom. The perpetrator had a note in his pocket that read, "Hello Fred Thanks for house sitting and fixing up the place while we were on vacation. See you soon, tell everyone hello. Mr and Mrs Gilbert Lamar PS Don't answer the door for anyone." In 2012, police charged the perpetrator with assault after his sister told them he punched her several times when they argued. The perpetrator's father recently made the perpetrator leave his home, because the perpetrator attacked the father, choking him. That's when he went to live with the victims, his mother and stepfather. The perpetrator has been charged with homicide and abuse of corpse.

December 30

A 56-year-old woman was beaten and set on fire by her 46-year-old husband one day after a court hearing in which the victim sought a protection-from-abuse order against the perpetrator. The Allegheny County medical examiner said that the victim died from smoke inhalation and carbon monoxide poisoning. The victim's death was ruled a homicide. Police arrested her husband for the murder. The perpetrator told police that he and the victim were arguing and she came at him with an ax, so he shoved her. The perpetrator admitted to police that he knocked out the victim, bound her with wire and a bungee cord, poured vodka over her body and set her on fire. The perpetrator then walked out the back door of the home they shared. The victim's sister says she did not know the extent of the victim's troubling marriage until the victim told her family on Christmas. Over the course of the victim's 14-year marriage to the perpetrator, the victim told her family, that the perpetrator would become enraged and break items in the home. Three years ago, the victim obtained a PFA order against the perpetrator, after the perpetrator pulled the victim down stairs, injuring her ribs and hip. The last incident occurred on Dec. 12, according to the victim's PFA statement. The perpetrator is charged with homicide and arson.

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Beaver

February 22

A 51-year-old man shot and killed himself in front of his wife and a police officer, when police responded to a domestic violence call at their home. The victim says her husband, also known as the perpetrator in this case, started beating her after she tried to call the police. During the ordeal, the victim told her daughter to go to her bedroom. Police knocked on the door and the perpetrator ran to a bedroom to get a gun. Police told the victim to stay the kitchen. The perpetrator walked down the hall with the gun pointed at his temple. Police told the perpetrator to put the gun down. That's when the perpetrator shot himself in the head and died. The victim survived.

April 24

A 21-year-old West Virginia woman was fatally shot in the parking lot of a New Brighton bar by her 30-year-old aunt after celebrating the aunt's wedding earlier that day. The victim died on the way to a hospital. Police said the victim, the perpetrator and her new husband were arguing about who would be the designated driver when the perpetrator took a handgun from her husband's truck and shot the victim. The perpetrator was charged with homicide, two counts of aggravated assault and one count of reckless endangerment. Her attorney said she was just trying to move the gun when it went off.

August 15

A 53-year-old woman was found dead in her Beaver County home. Her body was discovered by her daughter. The victim's 58-year-old boyfriend turned himself into police and has been charged with criminal homicide for her murder. Police say the victim was stabbed 16 times in the neck, scalp, shoulder and back and had blunt force trauma to the head. The perpetrator was convicted of third-degree murder.

Berks

September 8

A 44-year-old Berks County man was shot in the chest by the 42-year-old ex-boyfriend of his girlfriend. The perpetrator was found a few blocks away from the shooting with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Both men succumbed to their injuries and were pronounced dead at the scene.

Blair

November 19

A 71-year-old mother was shot and killed by her 48-year-old daughter at their home in Altoona, PA. Police were called to the home on 5th Avenue for a medical emergency, but found the victim dead on the couch, covered in blood. When police interviewed the victim's daughter, who is also the perpetrator, the perpetrator told police that she "ran errands in the morning and returned and found her mother inside her residence bleeding and and called 911." The perpetrator at first denied any knowledge of what caused the victim's death. After police approached the perpetrator with evidence, the perpetrator then admitted to killing the victim. According to court documents, the perpetrator told police, "she received several voice messages from her mother harassing her. She said the harassment was ongoing." Police later found a .32-caliber revolver in the perpetrator's car. The perpetrator was taken to Blair County Prison, after hospital treatment. The perpetrator's girlfriend, who also lived at the home shared by the perpetrator and the victim, was also questioned by police. Neighbors say they have heard people arguing in that Altoona home before and police have been called to that home on several occasions in the past. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to third-degree murder.

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Bucks	
March 31	A 73-year-old Bristol Township man was found dead of head trauma in his home. The medical examiner said he suffered at least four blows to the back of the head that caused a large skull fracture. The victim's 44-year-old son, who lived in his father's home, was charged with murder. He told police they had been fighting and his father fell and hit his head on a dumbbell weight. The perpetrator was convicted on May 6 of third degree murder and sentenced to spend 20 to 40 years in state prison.
April 8	A 59-year-old Bensalem woman died of carbon-monoxide poisoning in what police suspect was a murder and attempted suicide. Her 30-year-old son ran a generator in her small apartment while they both lay in a bed. She had health problems and was found unconscious by police, who were called by neighbors reporting fumes coming from the apartment. She was pronounced dead at a local hospital. He was conscious and let the first responders into the apartment. He was charged with homicide, risking a catastrophe and related offenses.
August 31	A 59-year-old man was shot and killed by his 63-year-old brother-in-law. Police say the two were arguing, when the perpetrator grabbed a loaded 12-gauge shotgun and shot the victim twice. A 7-year-old child was in the room and saw the shooting. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to third-degree murder and reckless endangerment of another person. He was sentenced to 10 to 32 years in state prison.
October 22	A 2-year-old boy was killed when he overdosed on painkillers his 39-year-old father gave him. Prosecutors have charged the perpetrator with murder, after hearing from the perpetrator's fellow inmate, who told police that the perpetrator confessed to killing his son to get back at his wife. The inmate told authorities that the perpetrator said he killed his son, because he didn't believe he was the boy's father. A bench trial is scheduled for November.
December 31	A 58-year-old man was fatally stabbed by his 24-year-old nephew on New Year's Eve. The deadly stabbing happened at the 100 block of North Bellevue Avenue, where the perpetrator lived with his sister, aunt and uncle, who was killed. The perpetrator's sister told police that the perpetrator was intoxicated and went into his bedroom upset and picked up a hunting knife. The noise woke the victim, who had been sleeping. The victim went into the perpetrator's bedroom and tried to talk him into putting the knife down, but the perpetrator refused. The perpetrator tried to leave the room to go to the bathroom and the victim tried to stop the perpetrator. After the two continued talking, the victim still refused to move. "Then stab me," the victim told the perpetrator, who then plunged the knife once into the victim. The victim appeared to have a severe stab wound to his abdomen. After the stabbing, the perpetrator then threatened to stab himself. State Police used a stun gun to subdue the perpetrator and took him into custody. The perpetrator told police, "But I didn't mean to stab (the victim). I meant to stab (another person)." The perpetrator is charged with criminal homicide and possession of an instrument of a crime. The victim was taken to a hospital where he underwent surgery for his wound, but he was pronounced dead shortly before 8 a.m. New Year's Day. The perpetrator plead guilty to third-degree murder and was sentenced to serve 13 to 26 years in state prison.

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2014

Butler	
August 6	A 47-year-old Butler County woman was shot to death by her 52-year-old estranged husband, who then killed himself. The couple's 18-year-old son found them both dead in their home.
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Cambria	
March 21	A 51-year-old Windber man fatally shot himself after shooting his girlfriend in the head and getting into a standoff with police when they tried to arrest him on warrants. The girlfriend survived.
May 10	A 20-year-old woman, the mother of a young son, was fatally shot in the head in the Dale Borough apartment she shared with her 25-year-old boyfriend. Police charged him with criminal homicide, aggravated assault and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. They said the couple had been arguing, when the perpetrator removed a handgun from underneath the pillow on their bed and shot the victim. Police said they found the perpetrator standing over the victim's body, a handgun lying next to her. The perpetrator allegedly told police he shot her and that he was sorry. The perpetrator pleaded no contest to third-degree murder for shooting the victim while her child was present. The perpetrator was sentenced to serve 6-12 years in prison.
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Carbon	
July 11	A husband and wife, both 44-years-old, were found dead in their Carbon County home. Police arrived to the home after a report of a domestic disturbance. The victim was found with multiple gunshot wounds, and the perp with a single, self-inflicted gunshot wound. A 9mm semi-automatic handgun and ammunition was found at the scene. According to police, the perp has been arrested multiple times in the past for allegedly shooting out the windows of his wife's car and allegedly assaulting her.
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Chester	
November 3	A 42-year-old Chester County man shot and killed his 41-year-old estranged girlfriend, also of Chester County, before turning the gun on himself. The victim was leaving her job at a Chester County YMCA when she was shot by her estranged boyfriend who, according to police, "laid in wait in an ambush-style attack in the parking lot of the facility." Police immediately responded to reports of gunshots and the YMCA was placed on lockdown for about two hours. When police arrived the perpetrator was still at the scene and police ordered him to show his hands. "He then fired a shot into his own head, killing himself," said Chester County District Attorney. Both the victim and perpetrator were rushed to a nearby hospital, where they were pronounced dead. Law enforcement officials said there was no recorded history of domestic violence between the couple.

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- November 4 A three-year-old boy was beaten to death by his mother's boyfriend, while his mother and her boyfriend's wife watched. The abuse happened over the course of three days. The perpetrator used a homemade whip, a piece of aluminum siding and his fists. Police say the victim had been hung upside down by his feet and spent time taped to a chair for the beatings. The victim's mother and her other son had moved into the perpetrator's home with the perpetrator estranged wife and their 11-month-old daughter. The estranged wife said she knew about the beatings but never called police. She faces child endangerment charges. The victim's mother and her boyfriend are charged with murder. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty.
- November 8 A 70-year-old Philadelphia man died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound less than 24 hours, after he shot and wounded his 49-year-old son. Police say the victim and perpetrator had an argument over financial matters. The perpetrator was found a short time after the shooting, at a nearby house. When police arrived, the perpetrator fired shots with his .38-caliber revolver and then shot himself in the head, police say.

Clarion

- May 4 A 26-year-old East Brady man shot his estranged girlfriend's 59-year-old mother in the leg as she fled from the living room and fired another round toward his estranged girlfriend's 61-year-old father, who was approaching him. The father was able to disarm the perpetrator but was injured in the altercation. The perpetrator then fled back to his home where he killed himself with a shotgun blast. Both of the injured victims survived.

Clearfield

- December 24 A 50-year-old woman was severely beaten by her 53-year-old husband, who thought she was dead and then fatally shot himself. This happened on Christmas Eve. The woman survived.

Dauphin

- March 23 A 44-year-old Harrisburg woman was fatally strangled by her 46-year-old boyfriend who told police they were "wrestling around," as they often did, when the situation got "a little crazy." He added that, "it happened so fast." The victim, who died at a hospital after being revived twice, had bruising around her neck, a broken arm and a black eye. The perpetrator was charged with homicide. He was on one year probation, which included batterers' counseling, at the time of the killing, for simple assault charges from the previous year. The perpetrator pleaded guilty and a judge sentenced him to serve 25 years in state prison.
- April 25 A 28-year-old man was bludgeoned to death in a Harrisburg home after getting into an argument with his former girlfriend's boyfriend. The 47-year-old boyfriend was charged with homicide. According to the girlfriend, the victim was playing hide and seek with the 8-year-old daughter they share. He chased the girl into the bedroom his former girlfriend shared with the accused perpetrator. This angered the accused perpetrator, and the two men argued until the accused perpetrator hit the victim over the head with a large piece of wood. The victim was pronounced dead at a hospital.
- June 25 An 83-year-old woman was beaten to death by her 50-year-old estranged boyfriend, who was also her roommate. The perpetrator was arrested ten months after the victim was found dead. Authorities say the victim died from physical trauma she suffered; traumatic head, neck and chest injuries. The perpetrator is charged with criminal homicide.

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- August 19 An 18-year-old man was fatally shot by his 15-year-old cousin. Police say the victim was shot while driving. The victim left behind four kids, who were all under the age of two at the time of his death. The perpetrator was convicted of first-degree murder in March of 2016 and will be sentenced on June 27.
- September 14 A 60-year-old Dauphin County man was shot to death after he broke into the home where his estranged wife was at the time and opened fire. The perpetrator shot and wounded his estranged wife's boyfriend in his rampage. The 23-year-old nephew of the perpetrator's estranged wife was also at the home at the time and shot and killed the gun-wielding man during his shooting spree. According to police, the perpetrator had been threatening his estranged wife's boyfriend for several weeks.

Delaware

- January 12 A 48-year-old Wayne woman was fatally shot by her 49-year-old husband in the pool house adjacent to their family home. The husband called 911 to report that someone had been shot and then killed himself. A .357 Magnum handgun and an envelope that police believe the perpetrator left were recovered at the scene. Police said the contents of the envelope indicated that there had been marital strife. The couple's 8-year-old son was alone in the house at the time of the shootings.
- July 26 A 26-year-old Delaware County Man shot and killed his 5-year-old son and wounded his son's mother, before fatally turning the gun on himself. Mother and son attended a children's birthday party when the father arrived and shot his son. When police arrived, the 5-year-old boy was laying in the grass. The father fled the scene by car and when officers caught up with him down the street, he turned the gun on himself. The child's mother survived.
- August 3 A 38-year-old Delaware County woman was found strangled to death in her Upper Darby home. Just as police arrived at the scene, before even identifying the victim, they received a call from the Jacksonville, Florida Sheriff's Office stating that a man heavily under the influence of drugs had driven into the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office parking lot. The man was later identified as the boyfriend of the victim and stated that, "he found his wife dead," a few days prior. The perpetrator has since been charged with murder in the case. Later during the trial, it was revealed that the victim was granted three PFA orders against the perpetrator between 2012 and 2014. The perpetrator was convicted of first-degree murder.
- August 7 A 28-year-old Delaware County woman was shot and stabbed to death by her 32-year-old husband. Neighbors called police shortly after they heard loud arguing coming from the residence. The alleged perp left in his car with his two children. He left his two children with relatives. Police caught up with the alleged perp who then shot and killed himself.

Fatality Report Summary 2014

December 15 A 40-year-old woman was shot and killed by her 32-year-old ex-boyfriend, a police officer, just three hours after police served the perpetrator with a court order to stay away from the victim and days before he was due in court on separate stalking charges. Three hours before the shooting, when police served the perpetrator with a court order to stay away from the victim, they took away his service weapon and asked if he had any other weapons, but the perpetrator told them he didn't. Police believe he used a private weapon in the attack. In August, the victim reunited with her husband and broke off her relationship with the perpetrator. The victim told a reporter that the perpetrator then started calling and texting the victim with threatening messages. On Dec. 15, Monday night, the perpetrator came to the victim's home she shared with her husband and teenage daughter on Glenfield Avenue in Glenolden and kicked down the door. The perpetrator started firing, shooting and killing the victim and injuring her teen daughter in the arm, before the victim's husband returned fire, hitting the perpetrator. The victim's husband is a police officer, but was off duty at the time. He wasn't shot. Then the perpetrator called 911, phoning in the shooting telling dispatchers, "I am the actor." The victim's teen daughter, who was hiding in a room, came out and saw the perpetrator bent over with a gun near his head. That teenager kicked the gun out of the perpetrator's hand and ran from the house. At the time of the shooting, Philadelphia Police were working on an arrest warrant for the perpetrator, after he allegedly keyed the victim's car while at Center City garage. Before the fatal shooting, the perpetrator called his police department and resigned. The perpetrator was taken to a hospital for treatment. He is charged with murder and attempted murder. Earlier this year, the perpetrator - who was a police officer then - was placed on administrative leave, after his former fiancé filed a protection from abuse order against him. At that time, the perpetrator also had his service weapon taken away as well. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty.

Erie

February 15 A 41-year-old woman was shot and killed by a man believed to be her boyfriend, who then fatally turned the gun on himself. It happened at a home at 1713 Plum Street, in Erie. Some family members were inside the home when this happened. The coroner says the victim and perpetrator died instantly from a gunshot wound to the head. The perpetrator used a 9mm handgun. "The shooting was preceded by a domestic argument between the man and the woman," said police.

March 14 A 54-year-old Millcreek Township woman was fatally stabbed multiple times in her home. Dispatchers said a caller identifying himself as her son reported a woman covered in blood at the home and threatened to kill himself if police didn't respond quickly. The victim's 18-year-old son was agitated when police arrived and was arrested about an hour later and charged with criminal homicide, aggravated assault and possession of an instrument of crime.

July 31 A 45-year-old woman was shot and killed by her friend's boyfriend, who then turned the gun and killed himself. The coroner says each had been shot once. The gun used belonged to the perpetrator. The murder-suicide happened in the victim's bedroom in the upstairs apartment. All parties lived together. Children were sleeping during the shooting. The victim's friend called 911.

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Fayette

May 22

A 32-year-old man fatally shot himself in the head after shooting his estranged wife once in the face and twice in the chest. The couple had separated a few weeks earlier. The perpetrator showed up at his father-in-law's house and began arguing with the victim, police said. He pulled out a handgun, shot her, took a shot at her mother but missed, and then shot himself. He died at the scene. She was taken to a nearby hospital where she underwent surgery. She survived. The couple's 5-year-old daughter was home at the time and placed napkins and stickers over her mother's injuries to try to make them better. Her aunt said the child was upset because her father had broken his promise to her: "She knew daddy had a big surprise, but he said it wouldn't hurt mommy."

June 14

A 19-year-old Smithfield woman was fatally shot by her 29-year-old boyfriend, who then shot and killed himself, in his home in Georges Township.

Franklin

April 6

A 57-year-old Antrim Township man killed himself after shooting and seriously injuring **his ex-wife's boyfriend**. The boyfriend died of his injuries the next day. The perpetrator and his ex-wife shared a home. When the perpetrator discovered the victim visiting the perpetrator's ex-wife a scuffle ensued between the two men. The perpetrator shot the victim with a .25-caliber handgun and then turned the gun on himself. The woman was unharmed. According to media reports, the perpetrator had been placed on parole four days before the shooting after being jailed since late 2013 for driving under the influence and carrying a firearm without a license. One of the terms of his parole was that he not possess a firearm.

Huntingdon

June 13

A 58-year-old man shot and killed himself, after incapacitating his girlfriend. The victim survived. No other details are available.

Lancaster

May 2

A 27-year-old Lancaster Township woman, the mother of five children including infant twins, died at a hospital after being stabbed multiple times in her apartment. Police charged her husband, also 27, with criminal homicide. A neighbor said she saw the victim's sister and another neighbor try to pull the wounded victim out her front door, but her husband had a knife in his hand and threatened them. Then he dragged the victim back inside, and the neighbor said she saw him stab the victim twice in the head or neck area. Police said they found him and the couple's twin babies covered in the victim's blood when they responded to the scene. The victim's sister also was in the apartment at the time of the stabbing. She and the twins were uninjured. The sister ran next door to a neighbor to summon help, yelling, "help me! Help me! He killed my sister. He's going to kill the babies!". While the neighbor called 911, the sister returned to her sister's front door, banged on it, and screamed, "open the door! Open the door! Let the babies go!" The victim's three other children were at school at the time, according to neighbors. The perpetrator was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison.

Fatality Report Summary 2014

December 24 On Christmas Eve, A 34-year-old woman was beaten and axed to death by her 36-year-old husband. Police say the perpetrator and victim started arguing on Christmas Eve. The perpetrator punched the victim in the face. When the victim fell to the ground, the perpetrator took a knife and slit the victim's throat, then grabbed an axe and hit the victim in the back of the head repeatedly before hiding the victim's body in a shed near the perpetrator's house. The perpetrator then celebrated Christmas day with the two children that the perpetrator and victim shared. After the celebration was over, the perpetrator then turned himself into police, telling police what he had done to the victim. The couple's two children are both under the ages of 10 and are now being cared for by their grandparents. The perpetrator is in Lancaster County Prison, charged with homicide, abuse of corpse and tampering with or fabricating evidence. After the murder, the victim's niece told reporters that the victim described her marriage to the perpetrator as 'perfect.' The victim's niece says she saw no signs of violence. Two months later, the perpetrator hanged himself in prison and died by suicide, according to the coroner.

Lawrence

July 11 A 60-year-old Wayne Township man was fatally shot multiple times in the head, neck and chest with a .40 caliber handgun by his 29-year-old stepson. The stepson then fatally shot himself in the head in front of his mother. Police said the shootings occurred after an argument.

December 7 A 57-year-old Beaver County man was beaten to death by his ex-wife and her son. Police say the two perpetrators used a club to kill the victim, after luring the victim to a loading dock area behind a grocery store. Police say the victim and his ex-wife " had long-running domestic issues." According to reports from Pennlive, there was a long history of domestic turmoil in the family. Back in March, police charged the victim's ex-wife with trying to slice the victim's genitals with a box cutter. Those charges were later dropped.

Lehigh

January 31 A 35-year-old woman was strangled by her 26-year-old boyfriend, after she reneged on plans to drive him to a child custody hearing. Police say the perpetrator also stole the victim's credit card and used it to buy items to dispose of her body. The perpetrator is charged with first-degree murder. A jury found the perpetrator guilty of first-degree murder. He was sentenced to life in prison plus eight to 16 years.

March 11 A 65-year-old Allentown man was fatally stabbed multiple times in the apartment he shared with his 21-year-old granddaughter and her girlfriend. The granddaughter was charged with criminal homicide. Police said she stabbed him until he stopped moving, aiming for his neck because she knew that would be fatal. His body was found covered in sheets, with his head wrapped in a black plastic bag. Handcuffs and rope were used to drag his body into a bedroom, police said. The accused perpetrator allegedly told police that she discovered her grandfather masturbating outside the bathroom door while her girlfriend was inside, and he had a history of barging into the bathroom and making inappropriate remarks to the girlfriend.

September 14 A 51-year-old Lehigh County man fatally shot himself after shooting and killing his 36-year-old estranged/ex-wife. The first-cousin of the perpetrator told police that the couple immigrated from Syria about 15 years ago and has a 12-year-old son. The couple's son was not at the home at the time of the shooting.

Fatality Report Summary 2014

November 21 A 92-year-old woman with Alzheimer's was shot and killed by her 92-year-old husband, who then fatally turned the gun on himself. The perpetrator died inside the home, but his wife was taken to a hospice in Northampton County, where she died six days after the shooting. Police say the couple's son called Allentown Police around 6:15 a.m. on Nov. 21, to report his father called to say he was tired of seeing his wife in her condition and was going to end her suffering. The son told police he was pleading with his father, when his father, who is also the perpetrator, hung up the phone.

Luzerne

March 28 A 78-year-old Luzerne County woman died due to injuries after her 34-year-old niece threw porcelain figurines at her head and face. Police arrived and found the alleged perp hanging over the front railing of the house and had to use a stun gun on her when she attempted to flee. The victim was laying on the sidewalk bleeding from the head and face. Police arrested the alleged perp on a charge of aggravated assault. The victim was taken to the hospital where she died 11 days later.

April 21 A 73-year-old man and his 43-year-old son were fatally gunned down in their Hunlock Township home. The father was shot four times in the torso, and the son was shot five times in the back. Police charged a 31-year-old man and his 39-year-old girlfriend with the killings. The male perpetrator allegedly was jealous of a former relationship between his girlfriend and the older victim. While watching a movie at their Sweet Valley home, he became upset when one of the characters reminded him of the older victim. He stood up and said, "he needs to go." The two perpetrators then drove to the victims' home where the female perpetrator allegedly lured the older victim to the door, and the male perpetrator shot him multiple times with a .22-caliber rifle. The older victim's son then came out, yelled at the male perpetrator and ran back inside while being chased by the male perpetrator, who later told police he believed the younger victim was armed when he fired multiple times at him. Both perpetrators face charges of criminal homicide. The female perpetrator was found guilty. The male perpetrator was convicted and sentenced to two life sentences.

April 28 A 32-year-old man was shot and killed by his girlfriend's 16-year-old son, who was trying to stop the man from physically abusing his mother. The 16-year-old had fired a warning shot to stop the perpetrator, but when the perpetrator aggressively advanced towards the victim and her son, the son shot him in the abdomen. After an investigation, State Police said the shooting was justified and cleared the 16-year-old son. The investigation revealed the perpetrator's history of domestic violence - PFAs had been filed against the perpetrator by his mother and former girlfriend.

August 31 A 51-year-old Luzerne County woman was fatally shot by her 55-year-old husband in their Hazleton home. Police believe he shot himself immediately after. The couple was found in the same room of the home by their daughter who called 911. They were both pronounced dead at the scene.

Fatality Report Summary

2014

Lycoming

December 14

A 40-year-old man, the perpetrator, was shot and killed during a domestic dispute he was having with the victim, his girlfriend, in a car. On their way home from a bar, the perpetrator began to call the victim names and hit her face and head with his hand, so the victim reached for her pistol she kept in the a dashboard opening beneath the radio. A struggle ensued. The pistol discharged. After the weapon dropped into the center console, the perpetrator leaned over and started choking the victim. The victim told police she then reached for the gun and fired at the perpetrator, who sat back down and tried to open the door while the vehicle was in motion. The perpetrator disconnected his seat belt and then fell out of the vehicle. The perpetrator suffered a bullet wound under the chin and numerous abrasions, police said, likely were caused by him being dragged about 400 feet by the vehicle. He was pronounced dead at the scene. A pistol was found in the kitchen of the home the perpetrator and victim shared. No charges have been filed. The victim survived.

Mercer

April 30

A 32-year-old man was fatally stabbed in the Hermitage apartment he shared with his 37-year-old girlfriend. She was charged with criminal homicide. Police said the couple had been arguing when the victim attempted to leave with a cell phone they shared. The accused perpetrator then grabbed a kitchen knife and stabbed him, according to police.

Monroe

June 9

A 19-year-old man was fatally stabbed by his brother. The attack took place at a home in Monroe County, Pa., but the perpetrator's address is listed in central Florida. Police made the arrest more than one year after the murder, on Nov. 20, 2015. The perpetrator admitted to being in a "physical altercation" with his brother and that he pulled a folding knife to intimidate him. The perpetrator has been charged with criminal homicide and is in Monroe County Prison.

Montgomery

June 10

The body of an 88-year-old Plymouth Township man was found wrapped in a tarp in Susquehanna County. Police charged his 59-year-old son, also of Plymouth Township, with third-degree murder, theft, conspiracy, evidence tampering and abuse of a corpse and his 20-year-old grandson with conspiracy, evidence tampering and abuse of a corpse. Authorities allege that the victim's son struck him in the head with a flashlight after the victim threatened to kick him out of the house, and then the victim's son and grandson dumped his body in a wooded area near the New York border. The body was found nearly three weeks later by workers clearing brush. Authorities also allege that the victim's son stole and sold items belonging to the victim. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to third degree murder, abuse of corpse and fraud charges and was sentenced to 15-35 years in state prison.

June 15

A 58-year-old woman and her 57-year-old husband were found fatally shot in their Plymouth Township residence. An autopsy conducted by the coroner's office determined that the woman died from two gunshot wounds, one to the back and one to the head and the man died from a single gunshot wound to the head. Upon investigation by the county district attorney's office, the deaths were ruled a homicide and a suicide.

Fatality Report Summary 2014

December 15

A Montgomery County man went on a shooting and cutting rampage killing his ex-wife and five of her family members. The perpetrator was found dead in the woods about 200 yards away from his home. The coroner believes he was dead for 12 hours and says that the perpetrator died from combined drug intoxication, or drug overdose, suicide. The perpetrator and ex-wife had been battling for custody of their two children since their divorce in 2009. The girls were not hurt in the shootings. The victims include: the perpetrator's ex-wife, her mother, grandmother, sister, brother-in-law, and niece. The ex-wife's nephew was hurt and had to be hospitalized, but is expected to recover. The perpetrator was married with a young child. They were not hurt. One year ago, the perpetrator had agreed to give up his guns when he was sentenced for drunken driving. A week before the shooting the perpetrator persuaded a Veterans Affairs psychologist he was neither suicidal nor homicidal. The perpetrator is an Iraqi war veteran. The investigation continues.

Northampton

July 11

A 36-year-old Nazareth man was fatally stabbed by his girlfriend's 24-year-old ex-boyfriend. The victim and his girlfriend had been involved in a domestic dispute with her ex-boyfriend. The ex-boyfriend was charged with a single count of homicide. He told the first police officer on the scene that the blood on his face came from an earlier fight he had with his brother, according to court records. But police said he later admitted to going to the property with a knife to talk to the victim and his ex-girlfriend "about a personal relationship matter" and stabbing the victim after a scuffle and dispute. The victim's girlfriend told police she and the victim were inside the garage when they heard a knock on the door. The victim answered the door, she heard a scuffle, and then saw him staggering. Her boyfriend said "he stabbed me." The perpetrator is charged with homicide. The perpetrator was convicted of first-degree murder and was sentenced to life in prison.

November 21

A 33-year-old mother of three from Whitehall Township was murdered by her stepfather and then police say he had sex with her lifeless body. State police say the perpetrator shot and killed the victim and then videotaped himself having sex with the victim's remains. The victim's body was found buried behind a shed on the Allen Township property that the perpetrator shared with the victim's mother. The victim's mother was out of town the week of the murder. The perpetrator was described as an avid hunter with several firearms in the house. Authorities say the perpetrator helped in the search for the victim, when no one could find her and then admitted to police that he shot her in the back of the head. Later, police found marijuana in the basement of the perpetrator's home, an amount consistent with marijuana dealing and a large amount of cash. Police say they didn't find anything to suggest the perpetrator and victim had anything other than a parental relationship. A jury found the perpetrator guilty of first-degree murder and abuse of corpse. He was sentenced to life in prison.

Fatality Report Summary 2014

November 24

A 37-year-old New York City man died from a stab wound to his chest, after his estranged 31-year-old girlfriend threw two knives at him. Police say the victim was in the Pennsylvania town for a parent-teacher conference scheduled for that Monday. The perpetrator has three children, one of them is the victim's child. The perpetrator's children - ages 6, 9, and 11 - were in the home at the time of the killing. The perpetrator told police that she argued with the victim and while in the kitchen, the perpetrator says the victim was "coming towards her" and the perpetrator grabbed two knives and threw them at the victim. The perpetrator called 911. According to reports, the perpetrator moved to Bethlehem to get away from the victim, who lived in New York City. Friends say that the victim was controlling and that the relationship between the victim and perpetrator was complicated. Two weeks prior to the murder, the perpetrator pleaded guilty to charges filed in 2012 that she bit and scratched Bethlehem police officers and paramedics when they found the perpetrator intoxicated walking near her home. The perpetrator is charged with homicide. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to the killing and was sentenced to serve between six and 15 years in state prison.

Philadelphia

February 22

A 31-year-old woman was shot and killed by her 40-year-old husband. Police say the perpetrator was arrested.

March 7

A 20-year-old man was fatally stabbed by his 23-year-old girlfriend. Police arrested the perpetrator.

March 30

A 21-year-old man was stabbed and killed by his 23-year-old girlfriend during a domestic dispute. The victim died on the street. The perpetrator was arrested and charged with murder. A friend of the perpetrator testified in court that she was watching TV at the perpetrator's house before the deadly stabbing happened. The witness testified that the victim came into the house acting "aggressive" and asked where the perpetrator was. The victim then walked over to the perpetrator, who was in cooking in the kitchen, and then the victim allegedly began attacking the perpetrator. The witness says the perpetrator yelled for the victim to stop and that's when the perpetrator ran. The victim ran after the perpetrator, and that's when the perpetrator drew a knife and stabbed the victim in the left-shoulder collarbone area. The perpetrator called 911 after performing CPR on the victim. The perpetrator was arrested several weeks after the murder took place. The perpetrator elected a waiver - or nonjury - trial and was acquitted of murder, but found guilty of voluntary manslaughter and a weapons count. The perpetrator was sentenced to served 5-10 years in prison.

April 4

A 26-year-old Delaware County woman was found dead in her apartment after being brutally beaten. Her 26-year old boyfriend claimed he found her dead in bed, naked and brutally beaten. A few days after the incident, detectives charged the alleged perp with murder and possession of an instrument of crime and was held without bail.

April 20

Fatality Report Summary 2014

- May 6 A 59-year-old mother of four and grandmother to five was fatally shot four times, as she sat on her sister's couch watching television, by her estranged husband who just walked in the door, pointed the gun at her and fired. He then fatally turned the gun on himself, shooting himself in the head. Members of the victim's family witnessed the shootings. The victim, who had recently separated from her husband of 30 years, was a nurse who put her children through private school and college. She had just been honored, on the day she died, at the VA Medical Center in West Philadelphia, where she was an assistant nurse manager, for becoming certified as an operating-room nurse. "She really worked hard," her daughter said. "She always was going above and beyond and set a good example, a great foundation. She will be very, very dearly missed."
- July 6 A 28-year-old man was shot and killed by a 27-year-old woman. Police are not specifying the nature of their relationship, but do say that this death was domestic violence-related. The perpetrator has been arrested.
- July 12 A 56-year-old man was shot and killed by his 55-year-old brother. Police say it happened during a quarrel the brothers were having at the home they shared. Police went to the house at the 1000 block of Levick Street at 6:35 a.m. and found the victim unresponsive inside the front door with a single gunshot wound to the head. Police arrested the victim's brother and charged him with murder.
- July 20 A 40-year-old Philadelphia man was fatally shot by his 34-year-old paraplegic brother, following a family dispute. According to police, the paraplegic brother of the victim shot him after attacking their 38-year-old sister. The victim underwent emergency surgery at a local hospital, but succumbed to his injuries. The perpetrator has been charged with murder, possession of firearm prohibited.
- July 22 A 41-year-old man was shot and killed by his stepson. Police list the victim's stepson as a suspect, but have not made arrests.
- August 5 A 46-year-old woman was found dead in a local park. Her 48-year-old husband was arrested and charged with murder after he allegedly strangled her and left her body. According to police, the victim left her home to go on a walk and her husband followed her in his car. He allegedly pulled up beside her and the two began to argue. Police say he followed the victim into a local park and an argument ensued. The alleged perp told police his wife began to slap him which caused him to snap and he then strangled her to death. On May 26, 2015, the perpetrator pleaded guilty to third-degree murder and will serve between 20 and 40 years in prison.
- August 10 A 26-year-old woman was gunned down by her 24-year-old boyfriend, who then fatally turned the gun on himself. The victim attended Jefferson's nursing school, began her career there as a nurse extern and was hired as a staff nurse in August. Police say the perpetrator had a long criminal record including; aggravated assault, robbery and making terroristic threats. Neighbors tell reporters that the victim was trying to break up with the perpetrator.

Fatality Report Summary 2014

- September 8 A 32-year-old Philadelphia County man shot and killed his 32-year-old girlfriend. Police responded to reports of gunfire and discovered smashed furniture and overturned TVs inside the couple's home. Police also found a semi-automatic pistol and six spent shell casings within inches of the woman's body. The alleged perpetrator turned himself into police and faces murder charges.
- September 8 A 40-year-old woman was shot and killed by her sister's estranged 42-year-old boyfriend. The perpetrator also shot and wounded his estranged girlfriend's 21-year-old son and then turned the gun on himself. He was not successful at his suicide attempt and was - at last check - listed in extreme critical condition at a hospital. The 40-year-old victim died of a gunshot wound to the head. The 21-year-old remained in critical, but stable condition. It all started around 12:30 that afternoon, when the perpetrator in search of his estranged girlfriend went on a rage-fueled rampage outside a home in Juniata Park. Police say the perpetrator and his estranged girlfriend - who was not home at the time of the shooting - had ongoing domestic issues and had recently separated. At the time this was written, police had not yet released the name of the perpetrator. Police say a number of people witnessed the argument outside of the house, which led to the gunfire.
- October 5 A 41-year-old man was shot and killed by his 23-year-old stepson. Police say they responded to a home on the 3100 block of Holly Road in Northeast Philadelphia, just after 12:45 p.m. Monday to find the victim lying in a pool of blood in a second floor bedroom. Paramedics pronounced the victim dead a short time later. Authorities say the victim sustained two gunshot wounds to his face. Later that same day, police arrested the perpetrator and charged him with murder. Authorities say the motive for the fatal shooting was an argument.
- November 26
- November 27 A 30-year-old man was stabbed to death on Thanksgiving morning by a 28-year-old man in what police call a "lovers' quarrel." It happened at an apartment home on Arlington Street near 54th in Overbrook. Police say they found the victim lying on his back in a first-floor apartment hallway. The victim died at the hospital. Police say the victim was stabbed more than 20 times in the chest and arms. No further details are available.
- November 29 A 54-year-old woman was stabbed and beaten to death by a 52-year-old man. Police say paramedics found the victim lying face down, covered with a blanket, on the floor of the perpetrator's second-floor bedroom and declared dead at the scene. The perpetrator is charged with murder. The perpetrator is a repeat offender with 32 prior arrests including for such crimes as robbery, drunk driving, terroristic threats, assault, theft and false imprisonment.
- December 7 A 38-year-old woman was killed by her 42-year-old live-in boyfriend. Police say neighbors tell them they heard fighting at their home and then her body was found in the trunk of a car, parked at a hotel about 30 miles away in New Jersey. The perpetrator has been arrested and charged with concealment of human remains and murder.
- December 30 A 43-year-old woman was fatally stabbed by her 38-year-old boyfriend. No other information is available at this time.

Fatality Report Summary

2014

Potter

April 20

A 37-year-old Ulysses man was fatally shot in the head with a rifle as he lay in his bed with a woman. The woman's 27-year-old boyfriend was charged with murder and reckless endangerment after driving to Lancaster County to have breakfast with his father and then turning himself in to state police there. According to media reports, the accused perpetrator, who lived in Coudersport, and his 35-year-old girlfriend who had just moved in with him, went to the victim's home for dinner and a camp fire. The three began drinking and became intoxicated. The accused perpetrator disappeared, and the woman told the victim she was tired. He invited her to sleep in his bed. The accused perpetrator later entered the bedroom, found her and the victim "making out," and shot the victim, according to the woman's report to police.

Schuylkill

April 29

A 38-year-old woman was fatally stabbed by her 41-year-old ex-boyfriend. Neighbors told police they were aware of prior domestic disputes between the couple. The perpetrator faces criminal homicide, murder, aggravated assault, voluntary manslaughter and related charges. A jury found the perpetrator guilty of first-degree murder, criminal homicide and aggravated assault.

Somerset

May 31

A 23-year-old pregnant woman was fatally shot in the Windber apartment she shared with the 25-year-old father of her young son. Their baby daughter, Aubrianna, was delivered by emergency cesarean but died three weeks later in the hospital. The accused perpetrator was charged with two counts of criminal homicide, aggravated and simple assault and reckless endangering. He called 911 after the shooting and told responding police that the couple was arguing when she broke his shotgun into two pieces. He said he was trying to show her the barrel assembly when the gun fired, shooting her in the face. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to two counts of third-degree murder and was sentenced to spend between 30 and 80 years in prison.

Read More at: <http://www.wjactv.com/news/features/top-stories/stories/windber-man-pleads-guilty-murder-7476.shtml>

Fatality Report Summary

2014

Susquehanna

October 17

State Police say a 22-year-old woman was shot and killed by her 34-year-old ex-boyfriend, as she sat in her car, outside of her home in Susquehanna Borough. Police say they found nine expended 9mm casings at the scene. Police say the morning of her murder, the victim's ex-boyfriend followed her home from a bar. When she arrived home and opened her car door, the man allegedly shot her multiple times and then left the scene in his vehicle and drove home. Six hours later, the man was captured at his Thompson home after a standoff, where he threatened to take his own life. Police say the victim's ex-boyfriend had planned on killing the victim for the past several months and he purchased two firearms specifically to kill her. He told police he killed the woman over a soured relationship, which ended in May of 2014. Witnesses include the victim's father, who heard a neighbor yell his daughter's name. Police say the victim's father was sleeping on the couch, when he heard about 10 gunshots and jumped up to see what was happening. Other witnesses include; the victim's ex-boyfriend's neighbor, who called 911 reporting that the victim's ex-boyfriend was trying to kill himself. Troopers arrived on scene and say they saw two women and a young man at the door of the ex-boyfriend's top-floor apartment and the three people were yelling, " Don't do it, Jon!" The victim's ex-boyfriend eventually agreed to leave his guns in the apartment and was apprehended. Police say two 9mm handguns were located in the kitchen area of his apartment. After the victim's ex-boyfriend was captured, one of the neighbors at the scene told police she tried to get him to put the gun down earlier, but he allegedly pointed the gun at her and told her to get out. The victim's ex-boyfriend is being held without bail in the Susquehanna County Correctional Facility. The perpetrator will spend the rest of his life in prison after pleading guilty to murder.

Venango

March 4

A 39-year-old Venango County woman shot and killed her 49-year-old boyfriend following a domestic dispute. The alleged perpetrator's son was at the home at the time of the incident and called police after hearing a gunshot. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene and the alleged perpetrator has been charged with one count of criminal homicide.

Warren

December 4

State police say a Warren County man fatally shot himself, after stabbing his 42-year-old girlfriend in the back. Police say this happened around 11:30 a.m. on Thursday Dec. 4, at the victim's Pittsfield Township home, where the perpetrator lived on-and-off. The victim was flown to UPMC Hamot Hospital for treatment. At last check, her condition was not available. Police say the victim was able to call 911 and told dispatchers that the perpetrator shot himself.

Fatality Report Summary 2014

Washington

March 25

A 49-year-old woman was found with a fatal gunshot wound to the head on the dining room floor of the North Strabane townhouse she shared with her 50-year-old husband. He was cradling her body when police responded to reports of gunfire. They also found a spent shell casing and a live round on the floor near the body. They recovered a .380-caliber handgun hidden inside a pool table pocket in the home. Police charged the victim's husband with homicide and tampering with evidence. The accused perpetrator, a home health care physical therapist, had been arrested three times for domestic violence-related crimes since 2001 against the victim and a previous girlfriend. A month before her death, the victim had called police and reported that he had attacked her after she returned home from caring for her mother, who has Alzheimer's disease. He smashed her cell phone, threw her to the ground, pulled rings from her fingers and bit her on the arm, police said. He was charged with simple assault and harassment in that case.

December 15

A 47-year-old woman's boyfriend shot and killed her and then turned the gun on himself, fatally wounding himself. The boyfriend was 49-years-old and thought to have a blood illness. This happened at the trailer home the couple rented at the 100 block of Patterson Run Road in West Bethlehem Township, Washington County. The victim was found on a bed and the perpetrator was found dead on the floor nearby. The couple was found by a friend who forced their way into the home through a window. The victim's daughter says she believed the couple to have a good relationship, but hadn't seen the victim for one year. The perpetrator kept several weapons in the home, including a handgun, which is believed to have been used to kill the victim. In 2011, the perpetrator pleaded guilty to two counts of disorderly conduct after he shot at a utility worker, who was stopped by a road. The perpetrator was given 6 months of probation.

Westmoreland

January 19

A 56-year-old Greensburg woman died of blood loss after **her 41-year-old boyfriend** cut her throat, including her jugular vein, in the hallway of the apartment building where she lived. Five police officers and two state troopers, responding to a report of a domestic incident, confronted the perpetrator outside the apartment complex. He ignored repeated commands and stun guns were ineffective in subduing him. When he lunged at a trooper with a knife, the trooper shot and killed him. A cousin of the victim said the couple had been in a tumultuous relationship for about five years. "He abused her, ... beat her, but she just could not shake him. She'd leave, but then get back together," the cousin said. "We cut contact off with her for awhile because we knew he was bad for her, and thought it might get her to leave him."

Fatality Report Summary 2014

May 9

A 52-year-old woman was bludgeoned to death inside the home she and her boyfriend were sharing on Locust Road in Laurel Mountain Borough, Westmoreland County. Prosecutors allege that the live-in boyfriend battered the woman with a wine bottle and hammer more than two dozen times in May. Police went to the home to check on the woman between May 6 and 8, after family members said they had not heard from her for days. Police say the home was locked and no one answered. When officers returned May 9, the door was open and they went inside and found her body in the back of the home. The woman's boyfriend was arrested in Robinson Township, at the home of a former girlfriend. A judge dismissed charges against the boyfriend at a preliminary hearing. Prosecutors re-filed the charges and a witness came forward. The witness says he met the victim's boyfriend when the two were being housed in the Westmoreland County Jail. The witness says the boyfriend admitted to beating the woman to death. The victim's boyfriend's murder charge was held for trial. He is being held in jail without bond.

November 17

A 37 year old woman was shot multiple times in the abdomen and killed by her estranged husband on the porch of a Monessen home in Westmoreland County. The perpetrator then shot himself in the head. He died as a result. The perpetrator also shot the victim's brother in the abdomen during a confrontation, which happened at the home owned by the victim's mother. Officer's found a 12-year-old boy who said, " My dad is shooting my family," according to the affidavit. The victim's second brother, who wasn't hurt, called 911. On Sept. 24, 2013, the victim was granted a temporary protection-from-abuse order and temporary custody of their child. On Oct. 7, 2013, the victim withdrew the petition. Three days later, the perpetrator was charged with simple assault and reckless endangerment. The victim had told police that the perpetrator " approached her from behind and put a plastic bag over her head." The victim was a school cafeteria worker and her supervisor said she " Loved her work." The victim had started course work to become a certified nursing assistant. Neighbors describe the victim as " a very good mother."

December 10

A 42-year-old woman was shot and killed by her 45-year-old husband, who then turned the firearm on himself, sustaining a fatal self-inflicted gunshot wound. The perpetrator used a handgun. Both were shot in the head. Police say it happened at the 100 block of Clinton Street in Lower Burrell, Westmoreland County. A family member of the victims called police after finding the bodies in an upstairs bedroom. The couple had been married for 19 years. Police said the victim had recently begun to move out of the home and that the couple may have had domestic issues. The victim was described as a longtime employee at Valley Veterinary Association, who always had a positive attitude.

York

January 22

A 24-year-old New Freedom woman was fatally shot in the chest as she tried to flee the Red Lion home of her 24-year-old boyfriend after a domestic dispute. She was in a car outside the home with the perpetrator's stepmother and stepbrother but could not start the vehicle. He came out with a shotgun, shot her while she was in the car and then dragged her into the home. When police arrived they came under gunfire from the home. For more than an hour the perpetrator fired numerous shots at them. At one point, an officer returned fire. After several hours, officers entered the home and found the victim dead of her gunshot wound and the perpetrator dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to his head.

Fatality Report Summary 2014

- February 16 A 34-year-old York woman was beaten to death in her apartment. Her 23-year-old boyfriend was charged with criminal homicide. The perpetrator pleaded guilty to third-degree murder and was sentenced to 20 to 40 years in state prison.
- April 24 An 81-year-old woman was fatally shot in the head with a shotgun by her 57-year-old son in an upstairs bedroom of the son's Warrington Township home, where she had been living for some time because she could no longer live by herself. She had health problems, including dementia. The son then shot himself in the head. The victim's daughter-in-law and the perpetrator's wife was downstairs at the time of the shootings, heard the shots and called 911. She was not injured.
- December 9 A 45-year-old man died, while in a fight with his ex-girlfriend's new boyfriend. It happened at the first block of South George Street in York. Police say the victim's ex-girlfriend and her new boyfriend were lying on the floor, when the victim let himself in through an unlocked door. The victim and new boyfriend started to fight. The ex-girlfriend said the victim threw the first punch. The new boyfriend grabbed the victim around the waist and pushed the victim out of the apartment. The victim's ex-girlfriend called 911. Before officers could arrive, the new boyfriend yelled, "He's not breathing!" The ex-girlfriend told reporters, "I opened up his eyes and there was nothing there. I shouldn't even care, but I do...We did have a volatile relationship." The ex-girlfriend alleges that the victim physically abused her in the past, while they dated for about one year. Police reports support her allegations. How the victim died remains unclear. No one has been charged.