



## Arizona Domestic Violence Fatality Report

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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF THE ARIZONA COALITION TO END  
SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEDICATES THIS REPORT TO THE 125 PEOPLE  
KILLED IN ARIZONA IN 2013 AND TO SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE.

# CONTENTS

<b>Introduction</b> .....	4
<b>How Data Was Collected</b> .....	5
<b>Key Findings</b> .....	8
<b>Arizona Domestic Violence Related Fatalities 2013</b> .....	8
<b>Age and Sex of Deceased</b> .....	9
<b>Relationship of Perpetrator to Deceased</b> .....	10
<b>Intimate Partner Homicide</b> .....	10
<b>Suicide</b> .....	11
<b>Fatalities by Method</b> .....	12
<b>Gun Violence/Firearms</b> .....	12
<b>Fatalities by Month</b> .....	13
<b>Fatalities by County</b> .....	14
<b>Per Capita Analysis of Domestic Violence Related Fatalities by County</b> .....	15
<b>Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams in Arizona</b> .....	16
<b>Recommendations</b> .....	23
<b>Education/Training</b> .....	23
<b>Community Awareness</b> .....	23
<b>Mental Health/Behavioral Health</b> .....	24
<b>Firearms</b> .....	24
<b>Their Stories</b> .....	24
<b>References</b> .....	38

## INTRODUCTION

The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV) presents the *Arizona Domestic Violence Fatality Report*. Annually, ACESDV tracks domestic violence related fatalities of women, men, and children in Arizona and has produced fatality reports since 2005. Since 2005, over 1,000 Arizonans have lost their lives in domestic violence related incidents. These tragedies represent a small fraction of those individuals in Arizona who use violence in intimate and familial relationships. They also remind us of the potential for lethality in these relationships.

In 2013, the National Network to End Domestic Violence conducted its annual survey of domestic violence providers and in one day in Arizona 1,796 victims/survivors received services (NNEDV, 2014). Additionally, 187 requests for service went unmet, with 76% of those requests being for emergency shelter or transitional housing (NNEDV, 2014). Additionally, ACESDV's Legal Advocacy Hotline tracked the number of calls for information and referrals related to family court, protection orders, legal assistance, victims' rights, safety planning, shelters/safe housing, and more. In 2013 the hotline reported 2,630 calls, with the majority of calls coming from victim/survivors. The numbers in these two reports demonstrate the ongoing need for services for victims/survivors of domestic violence for the purpose of preventing further violence and/or fatalities.

This report focuses on domestic violence related fatalities in calendar year 2013 and identifies characteristics of these cases. In order to influence community and policy decisions, inform responses to domestic violence, and enhance services to Arizonans, we must closely examine the circumstances leading up to and surrounding these fatalities. It is the intent of ACESDV to provide as accurate a description as possible of the main events and circumstances related to each fatality, to help Arizona communities create opportunities for education and intervention, and to encourage community members to support local efforts to prevent and end domestic violence. However, this brief report cannot fully capture the individuality of each victim or the total impact of their loss on the community.

## HOW DATA WAS COLLECTED

In 2010, the ACESDV transitioned from using physical clippings from newspapers and other periodicals to Meltwater News, an online media monitoring service. Meltwater News conducts a topical keyword search utilizing Boolean logic, which allows for the combination of keywords with modifiers such as ‘and’, ‘not’ and ‘or’ to further produce additional germane results. The information for this report was gathered from local and national media sources using specific keywords including, but not limited to: violence, shooting, homicide, murder, assault, killed, stabbed, mother, father, brother, sister, husband, wife, boyfriend, girlfriend, uncle, aunt, cousin, teen, and child.

Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) 13-3601 defines domestic violence by the relationship between the victim and defendant (perpetrator) and the type of crime(s) committed. The following is a list of qualifying relationships included in statute:

- The relationship between the victim and the defendant is one of marriage or former marriage or of persons residing or having resided in the same household.
- The victim and the defendant have a child in common.
- The victim or the defendant is pregnant by the other party.
- The victim is related to the defendant or the defendant’s spouse by blood or court order as a parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother or sister or by marriage as a parent-in-law, grandparent-in-law, stepchild, step-grandchild, brother-in-law or sister-in-law.
- The victim is a child who resides or has resides in the same household as the defendant and is related by blood to a former spouse of the defendant or to a person who resides or has resides in the same household as the defendant.
- The relationship between the victim and the defendant is currently or was previously a romantic or sexual relationship. The following factors may be considered in determining whether the relationship between the victim and the defendant is currently or was previously a romantic or sexual relationship:
  - (a) The type of relationship.
  - (b) The length of the relationship.
  - (c) The frequency of the interaction between the victim and the defendant.
  - (d) If the relationship has terminated, the length of time since the termination.

In Arizona, domestic violence itself is not a crime, but rather it is a tag added to a crime, if the crime committed falls under those listed in A.R.S. § 13-3601 and the persons

involved meet the relationship requirements. For instance, an assault on a stranger will be charged as assault, but an assault by a perpetrator against a person with whom they have a specific relationship can be charged as assault per domestic violence. The only exception to this is aggravated domestic violence, which can be charged when a perpetrator commits three acts of domestic violence offenses within a period of eighty-four months (A.R.S. § 13-3601.02). There are currently thirty crimes that can be tagged as domestic violence. This list was expanded in 2010 to include homicide and manslaughter statutes as well as sexual assault, unlawful imprisonment, animal cruelty, and prevention of the use of a telephone in an emergency. Most recently, it was updated to include the unlawful distribution of private images which will be in effect starting July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

News articles were read, considered to be ‘domestic violence related’ and included in the 2013 list if they met the criteria of the relationship test as outlined in A.R.S. § 13-3601, or if the fatality occurred within the context of domestic violence. This included instances when perpetrators, bystanders, co-workers, friends, neighbors, or others were killed, possibly while attempting to assist or protect another person.

Although Arizona’s laws set specific parameters as to what constitutes domestic violence, victims/survivors, advocates, and researchers have long recognized a more comprehensive definition of domestic violence. This definition recognizes that domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that includes the use or threat of violence and intimidation for the purpose of gaining power and control over another person (Stark, 2007).

While this method of data collection creates a fairly comprehensive list of domestic violence related fatalities, the data contained in this report is limited in a variety of ways.

#### **1. Lack of available and/or reliable data**

Not all domestic violence related incidents or fatalities are reported to law enforcement or receive media coverage. For instance, incidents occurring on Tribal lands or in “Indian country” are not only underreported, but they are not regularly reported on by mainstream media sources. Native women residing on Tribal land experience domestic violence and physical assault at rates which far exceed women of other ethnicities and locations. In fact, estimates of these rates are as much as 50% higher than the next most victimized demographic (U.S. Department of Justice, 2004). At this time, data on violence against women on Tribal lands does not exist since no federal agency, Indian agency, or other organization systematically collects this information.

Two other groups who may be underrepresented in this report are same sex partners and immigrant communities. With regard to same sex partners, if the intimate partner relationship was not identified properly or did not reach media's attention, it may not have been reported as a domestic violence incident or fatality. As for immigrant communities, domestic violence may go unreported due to a fear of law enforcement, among other reasons. Both of these groups face unique challenges and this report cannot fully capture their experiences.

The scope of this report and its analysis is also limited in instances when the victim's reported cause of death fails to mention the domestic violence related circumstances that may have led to a fatality. For instance, up to 57% of homeless women report domestic or sexual violence as the immediate cause of their homelessness and some victims may die from conditions associated with living on the street (NNEDV, 2014). However, connecting a victim's death back to their experiences of domestic violence may be challenging and not always immediately apparent. Additionally, it is difficult to document the link between domestic violence victimization and suicide. Some victims may take their own lives to escape the abuse, and that information would never be reported or made public.

## **2. Measure used to collect the data**

Since data is collected primarily through electronic news sources, information from other local/state sources such as police reports, databases, etc., is not reflected in this report.

## **3. Access to people, organizations, and documents**

ACESDV appreciates our partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation to collect information on domestic violence related fatalities on Tribal lands. However, because so many cases from Tribal communities were not captured in previous years, this report is unable to compare and discuss trends in this area.

## KEY FINDINGS

In 2013, ACESDV tracked 100 domestic violence related incidents, which resulted in at least 125 fatalities. Arizona consistently ranks among the states with the highest homicide rates of women murdered by men; in fact, between 2001 and 2011, Arizona was ranked seven times among the top ten states for highest rates of women murdered by men. Most recently, in 2011, Arizona was ranked fifth in the U.S. for homicide rate among women murdered by men (Violence Policy Institute, 2013).

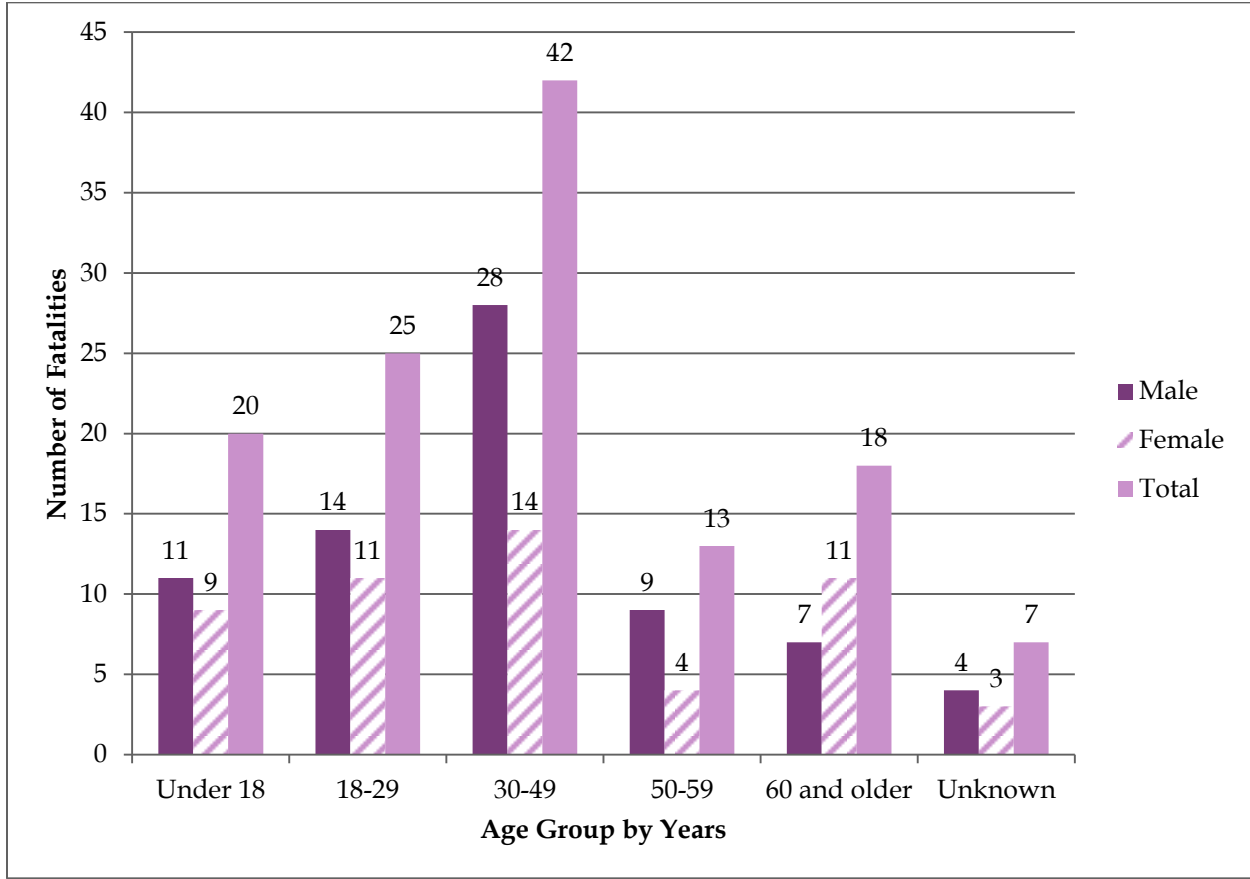
The following tables provide a snapshot of the numbers and characteristics of victims, perpetrators, methods of fatalities, and more. Some data in the tables may still be unknown due to the nature of how data was collected and what may have been reported on the incident.

### ARIZONA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED FATALITIES 2013

Overview	2013
Domestic violence related incidents	100 incidents, which resulted in 125 deaths
Incidents of fatal intimate partner violence (one current or former spouse /dating partner killed the other)	39 incidents, which resulted in 60 deaths
Fatalities with guns or firearms	75
Domestic violence related incidents with two or more fatalities	22
Total suicides (excluding law enforcement intervention)	23
Perpetrator fatalities/suicides by law enforcement intervention	12
Deceased females	52
Deceased males	73
Deceased children/minors	20
Female perpetrators	15
Male perpetrators	75



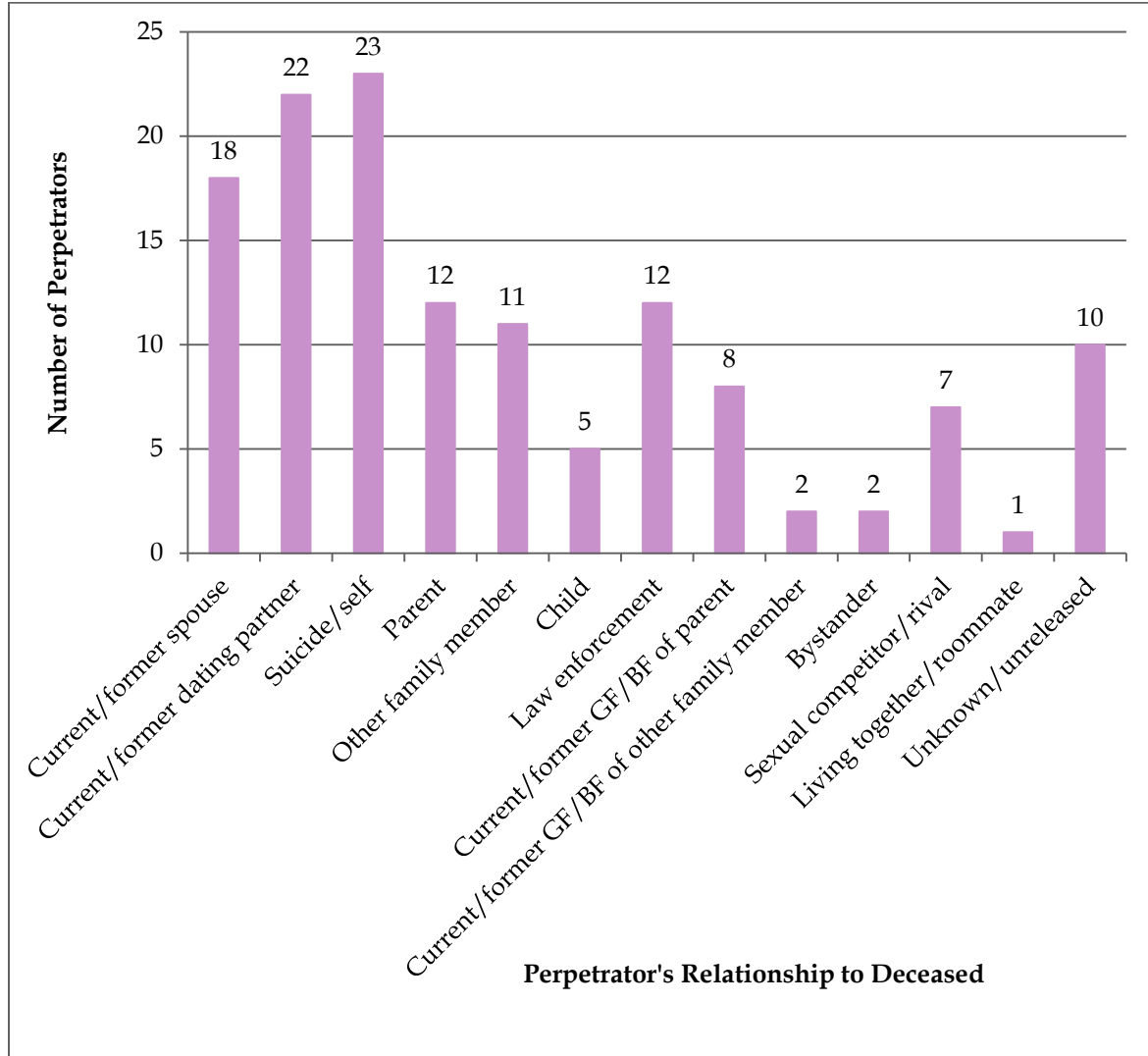
## AGE AND SEX OF DECEASED



The lives of at least 125 people were lost in the context of domestic violence. Of these there were:

- 52 female victims (41.6%).
- 73 male victims (58.4%).
- 20 child/minor victims (16.3%).
- 3 female and 4 male victims' ages were unknown or unreleased (5.6%).
- There were more male than female fatalities in each age group, including unknown/unreleased, with the exception of the 60 and older age group.
- The most fatalities by occurred in the 30-49 age group (42).

## RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO DECEASED



### ***INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE***

Intimate partner homicides comprised approximately 41 of the 125 homicides, or 33% of the total homicides in 2013. Of those 18 were a current or former spouse and 22 were a current or former dating partner. These numbers do not reflect intimate partners who may have killed other members of their partner’s family, children they have in common, bystanders, in addition to partner or former partner, or if the intimate partner committed suicide after the homicide. In comparing gender of the fatalities, females

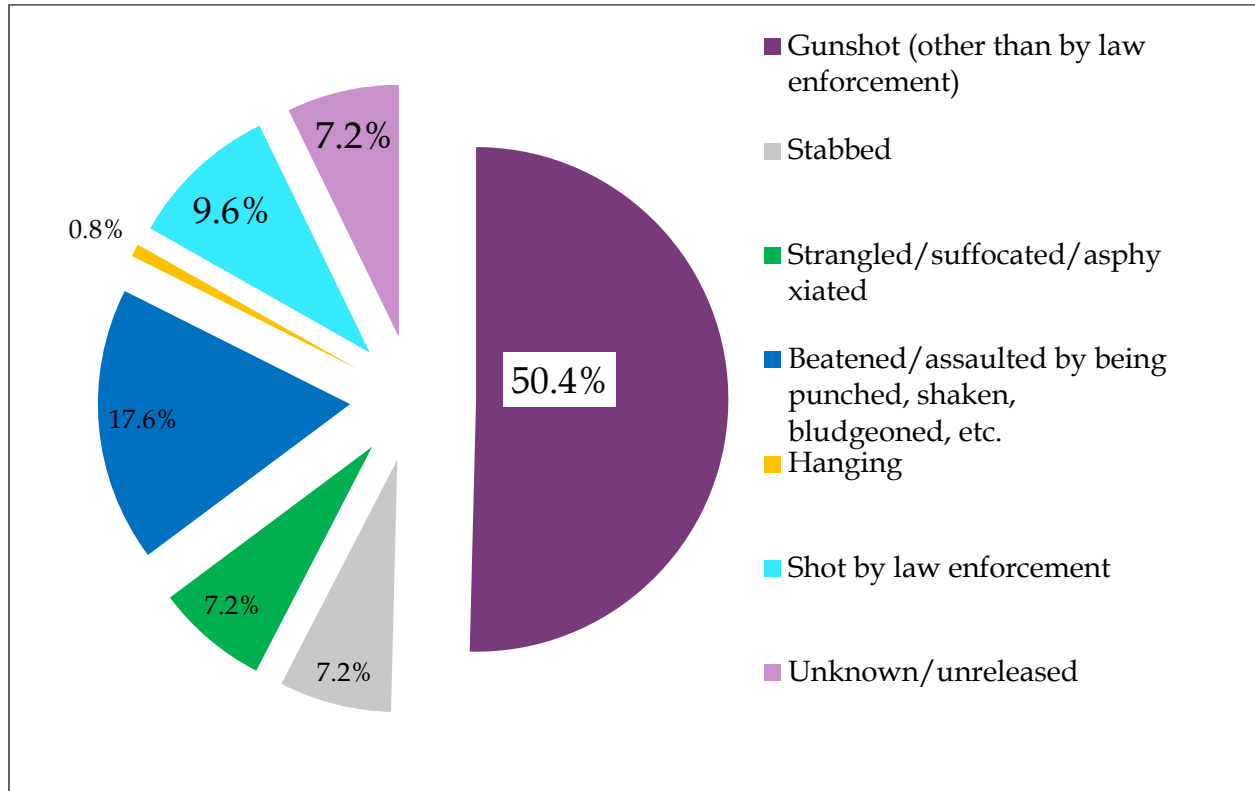
comprised 80% of all intimate partner homicides (33) and males comprised 20% (8) of the homicides.

### ***SUICIDE***

Suicides made up 18% of all the domestic violence related fatalities reported for 2013. Males overwhelmingly made up the demographic with 92% as opposed to 8% of females who committed suicide. 79% of the suicides we have reported related to domestic violence in 2013 were committed after the person allegedly committed domestic violence homicide.

- 12 men killed their current or former intimate partner before committing suicide
  - 1 man killed his father before committing suicide
- 1 man killed his current or former intimate partner and her child before committing suicide
  - 1 man killed his former partner's new partner before committing suicide
    - 4 males and 1 female committed suicide only
- 1 female killed her current or former intimate partner before committing suicide
  - 1 male kill his child before committing suicide
- 1 male killed his current or former intimate partner, child, and brother-in-law before committing suicide

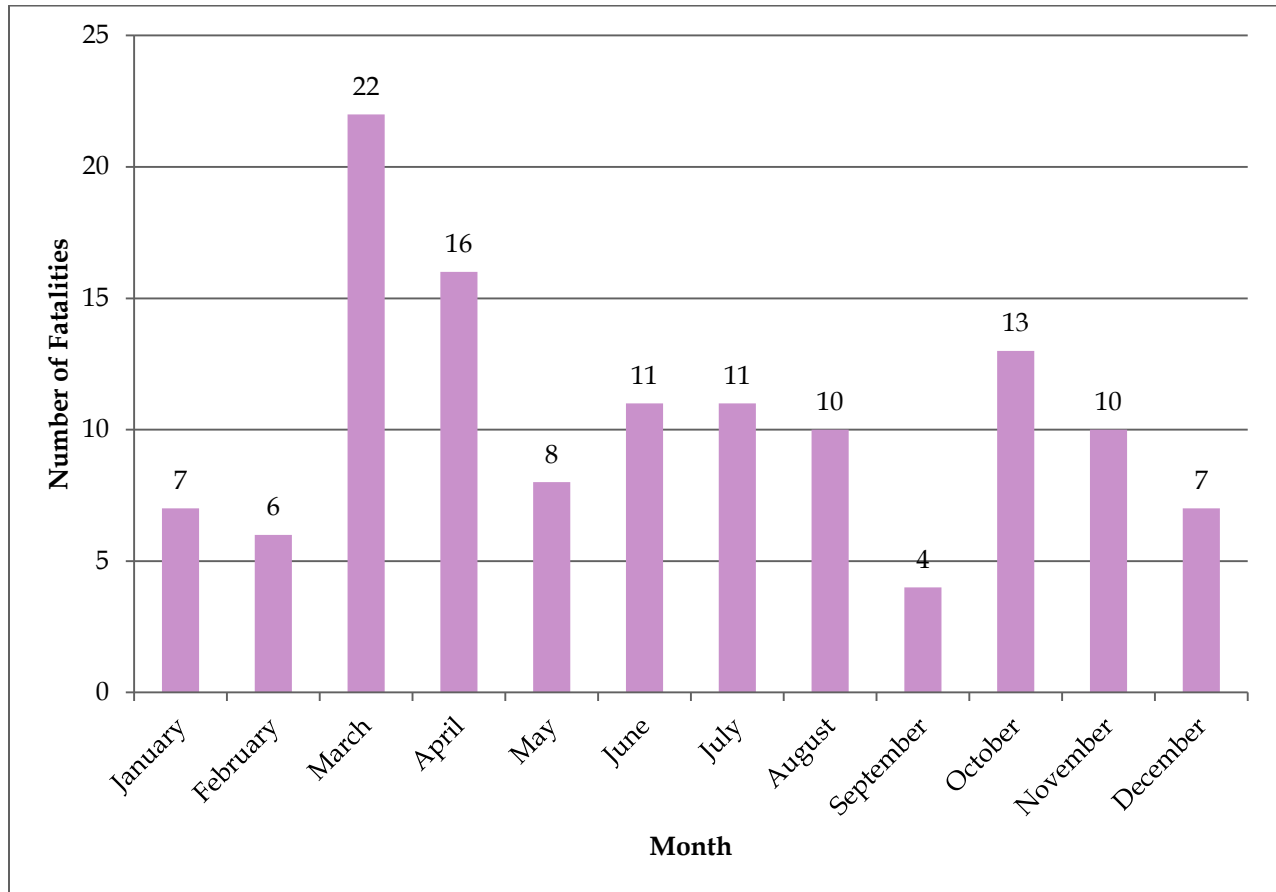
## FATALITIES BY METHOD



### ***GUN VIOLENCE/FIREARMS***

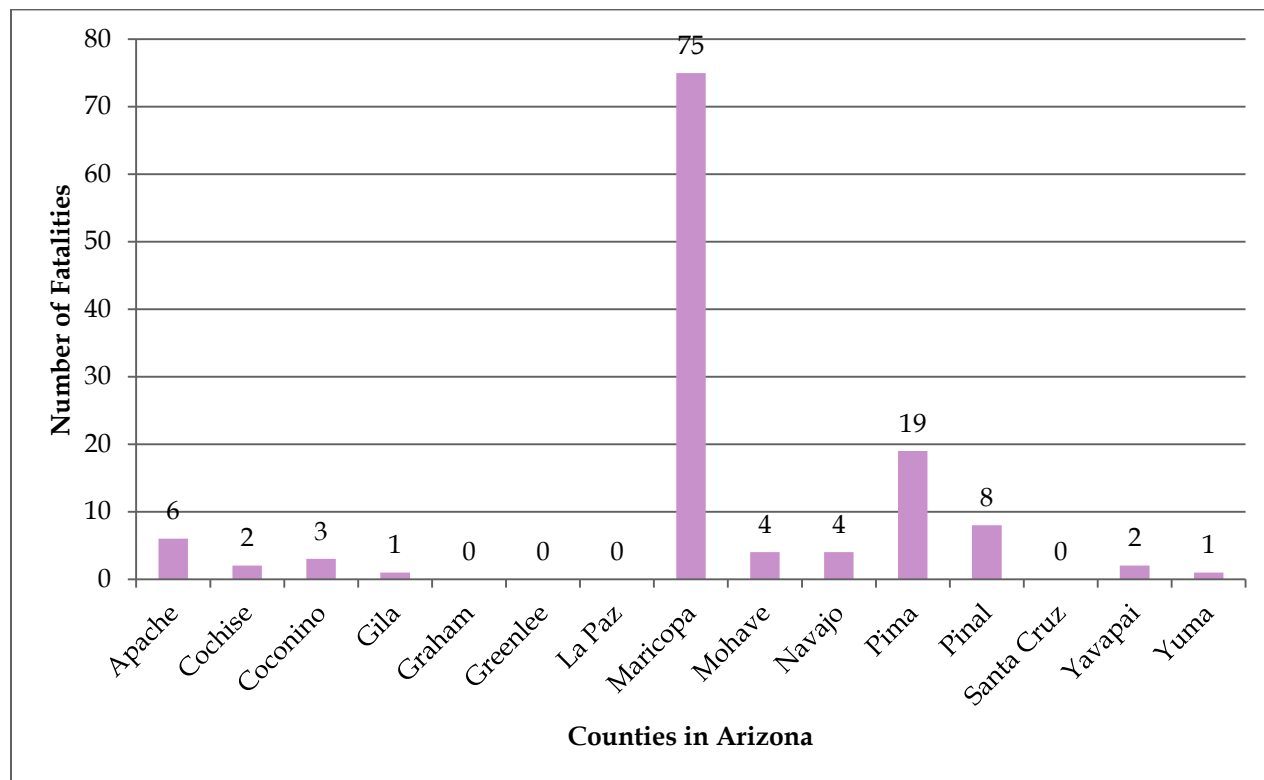
Firearms continue to be the most common method of homicide in domestic violence cases. 60% of all domestic violence fatalities in 2013 were the result of a firearm, which 50.4% involving the perpetrator's use of a firearm, and 9.6% being law enforcement's use of a firearm. Nationally, firearms are the primary weapon utilized by perpetrators in domestic violence homicides (When Men Murder Women, 2013). Access to firearms increased the risk of domestic violence homicides, which is further enhanced when victims/survivors are attempting to leave (Campbell, J.C., Webster, D., Koziol-McLain, J., et al., 2013). Research shows that keeping firearms out of the hands of perpetrators reduces the risk of homicide (Campbell, J.C., et al., 2003a, 2003b). While state and federal law requires that those convicted of felony domestic violence, qualifying misdemeanor domestic violence, or who are the defendant on an Order of Protection, be listed as prohibited possessors, perpetrators are often able to still obtain firearms.

## FATALITIES BY MONTH



Fatalities occurred throughout 2013, but the data demonstrates that the highest number of deaths occurred in March (22), followed by April (16) and October (13). In the months of June, July, August, and November the number of deaths ranged from 10-11; the remaining months of January, February, May, September, and December showed 4-8 deaths per month. There was an average of over ten domestic violence related fatalities per month (10.42) in Arizona in 2013. In the previous year, there were over 11 domestic violence fatalities per month (11.58).

## FATALITIES BY COUNTY



In 2013, the data shows that two counties, Maricopa County and Pima County, have the highest number of domestic violence related fatalities while four counties had none reported (Graham County, Greenlee County, La Paz County and Santa Cruz County). Maricopa County accounted for approximately 60% of all domestic violence fatalities in Arizona, with more fatalities than the other fourteen counties combined.

While this section of the report mainly identifies geographic information rather than a per capita analysis, consideration was given to the demographics for each county in which domestic violence related fatalities occurred.

**PER CAPITA ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED FATALITIES BY COUNTY**

<b>County</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Number of Domestic Violence Related Fatalities</b>	<b>People Killed in Domestic Violence Related Incidents</b>
Apache County	71,518	6	For every <b>11,919</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Apache County resident was killed.
Cochise County	131,346	2	For every <b>65,673</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Cochise County resident was killed.
Coconino County	134,421	3	For every <b>44,807</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Coconino County resident was killed.
Gila County	53,597	1	For every <b>53,597</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Gila County resident was killed.
Graham County	37,220	0	There were no domestic violence related fatalities in Graham County.
Greenlee County	8,437	0	There were no domestic violence related fatalities in Greenlee County.
La Paz County	20,489	0	There were no domestic violence related fatalities in La Paz County.
Maricopa County	3,817,117	75	For every <b>50,894</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Maricopa County resident was killed.
Mohave County	200,186	4	For every <b>50,046</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Mohave County resident was killed.
Navajo County	107,449	2	For every <b>53,724</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Navajo County resident was killed.
Pima County	980,263	19	For every <b>51,592</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Pima County resident was killed.
Pinal County	375,770	8	For every <b>46,971</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Pinal County resident was killed.
Santa Cruz County	47,420	0	There were no domestic violence related fatalities in Santa Cruz County.
Yavapai County	211,033	2	For every <b>105,516</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Yavapai County resident was killed.
Yuma County	195,751	1	For every <b>195,751</b> residents, <b>ONE</b> Yuma resident was killed.

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW TEAMS IN ARIZONA

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Teams (DVFRTs) analyze fatalities that can be traced to domestic violence. DVFRTs collect information about the parties, the relationship, and systemic involvement to identify gaps in the system and make recommendations to close them. They operate on a “no-blame, no-shame” principle, and instead acknowledge that an imperfect system sometimes leaves victims’ needs unmet.

A.R.S. § 41-198, enacted in 2005, provides confidentiality for the cases reviewed and the local government resolutions enables entities such as law enforcement, prosecution, advocates, defenders, medical personnel, etc. to participate in these reviews for the sake of effecting true community change.

Six of Arizona’s DVFRTs completed case reviews in 2013. One team reviewed twenty-six murder suicides that occurred from 2004 to 2012, three teams reviewed domestic violence homicides, two teams reviewed homicide/suicides, and one team reviewed a near death. Four teams did not complete case reviews as they were either in the process of completing a review or anticipated beginning a review in the near future. Key findings and recommendations from these cases are summarized below.

## **City of Phoenix DVFRT**

### *Cases Reviewed*

- 26 murder-suicide cases that were intimate partner relationships

### *Key Findings*

- From 2004-2012, guns/firearms were used in over half of the domestic violence homicides, and in nearly 90% of murder-suicide cases.
- Victims’ attempts to manage their abusers became the norm in their relationships, but may cloud their judgment of lethality.
- Orders of Protection (OPs) were used infrequently in these cases.
- The presence of other friends or family members did not provide for safety in the murder-suicide cases reviewed.
- A decline in finances appeared to be a factor in the relationship for more than one-fifth of the cases reviewed.



### *Recommendations*

- Increase community awareness activities regarding the dynamics of domestic violence and the resources available to victims of domestic violence
- Provide education for all participants in the court system, family lawyers and victim advocates related to lethality indicators, safety planning, and obtaining OPs.
- Increase education for victims on OPs, the criminal justice system, and safety planning.

### *Implementation*

- A need for increased use of lethality assessments by law enforcement to improve the usage of resources: In June 2011, the Phoenix Police Department implemented a program that reviewed cases for coercive control and grouped cases accordingly. Coercive control is viewed as an indicator of heightened lethality and cases are prioritized accordingly by investigators. The twenty-six murder-suicide cases were evaluated for coercive control, given the information available in reports or through interviews, with half of the cases found to have coercive control behaviors. This research-based protocol is utilized with each domestic violence investigation to evaluate the potential lethality of the case and to connect victims with victim advocates in all cases that contain coercive control.
- Increase the use of forensic medical exams in domestic violence cases: In July 2012, a protocol for forensic medical exams in domestic violence strangulation cases was implemented. More than 452 exams have been provided in the City of Phoenix since that time with a resulting increase in felony case filings from 14% to 62%. In addition, the victims that receive strangulation exams are evaluated for injury and the need for immediate and long-term medical and domestic violence intervention. This protocol was not in effect for the majority of the cases reviewed for and as such is not represented here.

## **Coconino County DVFRT**

### *Cases Reviewed*

- One domestic violence homicide
- One near-fatality

### *Key Findings*

- In the domestic violence homicide case:
  - There was a lengthy history of violence in the relationship and the victim believed that her husband, who also owned guns, would eventually kill her.

- Friends and family were unsuccessful in their attempts to convince her to leave the relationship.
- The victim and children were financially deprived as a result of the husband's drinking and drug use.
- In the near-fatality:
  - There was a lengthy history of violence in the family, but little law enforcement intervention or police reports.
  - Both partners were alcohol and drug users, and there may have been a history of mental health issues.

### *Recommendations*

- Misdemeanor domestic violence cases should be treated more seriously on the Navajo Nation. An initial 36-hour detention would allow for a thorough review and appropriate charging.
- Training to ensure that domestic violence incidents are properly identified in the Navajo Police Department data collection system, as well as utilizing the Habitual Offender Statute accompanying the Violence Against Family Act as a deterrent for repeat offenders.
- A victim specialist should work with domestic violence victims to explain the law, the system, and OPs as well as working with surviving family members to provide information and support throughout the prosecution process.
- Ensure that firearms are removed from homes where domestic violence has been documented.
- Enhance collaborative responses and improve the quality and availability of mental health services, and link domestic violence, mental health, and substance abuse treatment when appropriate.
- Increase educational programming in the schools about domestic violence and provide avenues to reach out to children living in violent homes.
- Continue education with first responders to help identify victims of intimate partner violence when responding to victims in their homes and in other settings.
- Recognize the multiple dimensions of domestic violence, including the simultaneous, dual roles of victim and offender that are present in many domestic violence situations. The assumption of a “good guy” and a “bad guy” does not adequately capture the complexity of some domestic violence cases.

### *Implementation*

- Flagstaff Medical Center (FMC) has agreed to conduct screenings for domestic violence on all emergency room admissions and accepted a screening tool. FMC

is currently in the training phase for this policy. Members of our team are working with FMC to improve the consistency of screening.

- The Flagstaff Police Department (FPD) developed and is implementing a risk assessment tool that will assess the level of risk in all domestic violence cases. This new instrument gathers important information that was not standardized in previous report writing, such as the presence of children in the home. The Coconino County Sheriff's Office will adopt a similar tool following the initial implementation phase by FPD.
- The Coconino County Coordinated Community Response Team to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault compiled a Domestic Violence Survivor's Handbook and printed shoe cards in English and Spanish with basic information for victims. They also continued to provide training through Northern Arizona and to coordinate the work taking place among various agencies.
- Victim Witness Services of Coconino County now has a triage advocate housed in the FPD who can accompany officers to the scene and provide immediate support to victims. This advocate also provides support to the Coconino County Sheriff's Department. Victim Witness has opened a satellite office in the Flagstaff City Attorney's Office to help assist with more efficient victim contact.
- Based on last year's audit of OPs, FPD has improved the quality of forms used to track orders and to monitor prior histories of violence through I-Leads. Victims are now notified of attempts to serve orders and when orders have been put into effect.

## **Cochise County-Sierra Vista Regional DVFRT**

### *Cases Reviewed*

- One murder-suicide

### *Key Findings*

- Several incidents witnessed by friends, family and coworkers, including physical abuse and stalking, were not reported to law enforcement. This may have been partially due to their lack of knowledge about available resources.
- The victim stayed one night in a domestic violence shelter and believed that the finalization of the divorce would be the "end all" to the problems she was experiencing with her estranged husband.
- The victim may have benefitted from being connected to various resources, such as lethality screening and an OP.
- The victim did stay one night at a local domestic violence shelter. However, it is unknown if a lethality assessment was completed.

### *Recommendations*

- Through the use of local outreach services such as Cochise Victim Awareness, provide domestic violence training to major employers in the county to raise awareness of lethality indicators, as well as provide resources for friends, family and coworkers of victims.
- Provide training in the areas of lethality screening, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), safety planning and investigations to local groups and agencies doing domestic violence related work.

### *Implementation*

- Cochise Victim Awareness has committed to providing informational presentations to major employers in Cochise County. Plans have been made to begin this in 2014.
- The in-service and roll call training conducted within the Sierra Vista Police Department (SVPD) as a result of last year's recommendation is being expanded to a regional level. In March 2014, the SVPD hosted "Advanced Domestic Violence Investigations", an eight hour course that covered lethality assessment, strangulation, and stalking. Additionally, a subject matter expert in the area of PTSD will be teaching a module on PTSD and domestic violence. Entities throughout southern/southeastern Arizona will be invited to this training event.

### **East Valley Police Chiefs Association DVFRT**

#### *Cases Reviewed*

- One murder-suicide

#### *Key Findings*

- There is currently no "one stop shop" for domestic violence victims to receive information and referral services in Maricopa County.
- Police officers responding to domestic violence incidents may be unaware of previous calls for service or contacts from other jurisdictions with the suspect at the time of the incident.
- Police officers responding to domestic violence incidents are inconsistent with how to assess a victim's risk of future lethal violence against them.

### *Recommendations*

- Creating an awareness campaign to educate the public about the 2-1-1 services and other 24-hour hotlines, other than 911.

- Utilization of regional information systems (CopLink, internal records management databases, etc.) by police agencies to research the parties involved at the time of, or prior to leaving for, the domestic violence call for service.
- Training for police officers to utilize a domestic violence lethality assessment and conduct immediate follow-up, if necessary.

### **Mohave County DVFRT**

#### *Cases Reviewed*

- None completed, anticipated that team will begin meeting and actively participating in review of closed cases

### **Navajo County DVFRT**

#### *Cases Reviewed*

- None completed, anticipated that team will continue first case review

### **Pima County DVFRT**

#### *Cases Reviewed*

- One domestic violence homicide

#### *Key Findings*

- Unclear if any domestic violence services were offered to the victim.
- The victim endured the perpetrator's threats and manipulation while he was incarcerated due the Department of Corrections' (DOC) limitations in monitoring inmates' outside communication.
- The perpetrator was never mandated to attend batterer intervention services.

#### *Recommendations*

- Pima County develops community education for victims of abuse across the socio-economic spectrum.
- Ongoing training regarding prosecution and sentencing of domestic violence cases.
- DOC to develop a system of prohibiting inmates from contacting victims.

#### *Implementation*

- Community awareness and education
  - Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse is implementing a domestic violence education program through Tucson Medical Center to reach across the socio-economic spectrum.

- The Pima County Sheriff's Department will develop a domestic violence training program for employers and conducts multi-disciplinary training programs for employers.
- Training for prosecutors
  - The Pima County Attorney's Office will encourage all prosecutors in the domestic violence unit to incorporate a term of probation following DOC incarceration to ensure defendants receive batter intervention services, as well as supervision following incarceration.
- DOC monitoring
  - The Pima County DVFRT will present their report and findings to the DOC and request a review of policies prohibiting inmates from contacting victims.

### **West Valley DVFRT**

#### *Cases Reviewed*

- None completed at the time this report was finalized, but the team is currently reviewing a case.

### **Yavapai County DVFRT**

#### *Cases Reviewed*

- None completed at the time this report was finalized, but the team is currently reviewing a case.

### **Yuma County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team**

#### *Cases Reviewed*

- One domestic violence homicide

#### *Key Findings*

- Friends and family knew that the perpetrator was controlling and “aggressive”. They may have been pressured or otherwise influenced to not tell, or they may not have known it was domestic violence and how to respond.
- The victim came into contact with the mental health system. The provider(s) may not have recognized the intersection of domestic violence and depression, or may not have known the available resources in order to provide a referral to the victim.

#### *Recommendations*

- Conduct outreach activities to outlying and “self-reliant” communities.
- Incorporate domestic violence screening into behavioral health assessments.

- Partnering with schools so that information about domestic violence can be made available to students and obtained in a confidential manner.

The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence commends our state's DVFRTs and surrounding communities in working together to examine these cases. By opening various agencies' files and records to investigate and explore domestic violence fatalities and near-deaths/fatalities, we can continue the work of creating/improving system responses to domestic violence in our communities.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Several themes emerged from the findings and recommendations of the fatality review teams across the state. This section will serve as a summation of the recommendations from the review teams and will look at the common themes among the various teams.

### **EDUCATION/TRAINING**

Nearly every review team identified education and training as a whole as one of the recommendation at the conclusion of the case review. Many of the review teams included specific examples of who needed to be trained and what type of training they needed. The spectrum ranged from training to the court system on domestic violence, education for law enforcement, training and education in the schools on domestic violence, as well as, specific education on lethality assessments. Additionally there were recommendations to increased education for victims/survivors on protective orders, the court system, safety planning, and support services.

### **COMMUNITY AWARENESS**

Similar to education and training, community awareness of domestic violence was a common trend in the recommendations from the review teams. Community awareness recommendations ranged from the need for more activities and events to provide resources on domestic violence, community awareness events at schools to provide more information about domestic violence to that demographic. The overall theme of community awareness is to bring more attention to the issue and ensuring that all victims/survivors know where to get help should they need it.

## **MENTAL HEALTH/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Identified in a few of review teams recommendations were specific considerations for mental health/behavioral health services and collaboration. Particularly the recommendations highlight the need for those interacting with victims/survivors to understand the link between mental health and domestic violence and the need to be more trauma-informed. One review team in particular recommended that domestic violence screening be added to behavioral health assessments.

## **FIREARMS**

While only one review team mentioned the need for removal of firearms from domestic violence perpetrators, it is important to note that the removal of firearms continues to be an ongoing systemic issue in domestic violence cases. As was already stated in the section on firearms, if a felony act of domestic violence, qualifying misdemeanor domestic violence act, or there is an active order of protection in place, the perpetrator of domestic violence is a prohibited possessor. There still remain issues as to who is to reform the firearms from the perpetrator and how the removal of firearms can be enforced. Identifying how to enforce the firearm prohibition was a recommendation by a review team last year and may continue to be recommendations of teams until policy or legislative change occurs.

## **THEIR STORIES**

### **Apache County**

***Marlene Tom, 49, Sanders – January 1, 2013***

***Sullivan Tom, 51, Sanders – January 1, 2013***

Sullivan Tom, 51, shot his wife, Marlene Tom, in the head, killing her. He then shot himself in the head with the same rifle.

***Tisheena Kanuho, 25, Red Valley – March 15, 2013***

Varian Yazzie, 28, confessed to beating Tisheena Kanuho, 25, to death and burying her.

***Sheldon Bahe, 22, Many Farms – April 5, 2013***

Renfo Woody, 29, shot and killed his nephew, Sheldon Bahe, 22. Woody then shot himself in the chest, but survived his injuries.

***Kenneth Barber, 50, Cove – August 22, 2013***

Kenneth Barber's wife called 911 to report that she had been stabbed by Barber. She had five stab wounds, four to her head and one to her shoulder, none of which were life threatening. When police arrived at the residence, they found Kenneth Barber lying near a neighbor's house. He was dead, holding a rifle in his hands, but the bolt to the rifle was missing.



***Eric Reed, 25, Window Rock – September 6, 2013***

Upon responding to a domestic violence call at the Navajo Fairgrounds, police yelled out for Eric Reed, 25, to put down his weapon and get on the ground. As police cleared the vehicles, they encountered Reed, officers fired 7 times and Reed was disarmed and secured. Reed was transported to a hospital where he later died. One of the rounds fired by police struck a woman sleeping in her vehicle. Her injuries were non-life threatening.

**Cochise County**

***Richard Phillips, 62, Unknown city – February 23, 2013***

***Scott Phillips, 36, Unknown city – February 23, 2013***

Scott Phillips, 36, is believed to have shot and killed his father, Richard Phillips, 62, before taking his own life.

**Coconino County**

***Shizhoni Dougi, 4, Coalmine – January 29, 2013***

Shizhoni Dougi, 4, was in the care of her aunt's boyfriend and died as a result of trauma.

***Harry Nez, 46, Red Lake – May 23, 2013***

Emmerson Joe, 39, intervened while Harry Nez, 46, was beating up his girlfriend (Joe's sister). Harry Nez died from his injuries.

***Greylene Boone, 25, LeChee – July 21, 2013***

Greylene Boone, 25, made a police report regarding her massive injuries due to domestic violence. She was taken to a hospital and released. Two days later she committed suicide by hanging herself.

**Graham County**

*None*

**Gila County**

***Nathaniel Lopez, 3, Globe – March 26, 2013***

Nathaniel Lopez, 3, was badly beaten by his mother's boyfriend, Kyron Grow, 37. The three year old died as a result of trauma.

**Greenlee County**

*None*

**La Paz County**

*None*

**Maricopa County**

***Teresa Beltran, 38, Laveen – January 24, 2013***

***Mario Ramirez, 41, Laveen – January 24, 2013***

Mario Ramirez, 41, shot Teresa Beltran, 38, twice before firing at deputies and then turning the gun on himself. More than 20 were fired.

***Unreleased female, 87, Phoenix – February 8, 2013***

***Unreleased male, 87, Phoenix - February 8, 2013***

An elderly man shot to death his dementia-stricken wife of 66 years before turning his gun on himself at a senior living facility. The woman had Alzheimer's disease and the husband had taken care of her for a long time. The woman's dementia was severe and she may not have known what was happening.

***Steven Gibson, 39, Peoria – March 1, 2013***

Michelle Dawn Gibson, 41, is being held on suspicion of conspiring to commit murder, conspiracy and hindering prosecution to the murder of her husband, Steven Gibson, 39. The couple's teenage son was previously taken into custody with connection with the death. Police allege that Gibson's wife and son plotted the murder. Court documents show there were previous domestic violence incidents involving Gibson and his wife.

***Alexis Garcia, 20, Phoenix – March 6, 2013***

***Fabian Valenzuela, 17, Phoenix – March 6, 2013***

Richard Luzania, 24, Alexis Garcia's former boyfriend, confessed to killing Garcia and Fabian Valenzuela, 17, with Christian Arguelles, 20.

***My Hao Thi Nguyen, 44, Mesa – March 7, 2013***

***Hanh Van Nguyen, 55, Mesa – March 7, 2013***

The couple was married, but were separated and having marital problems.

***Christina Wilson, 42, Phoenix – March 10, 2013***

***Vanessa Wilson, 14, Phoenix – March 10, 2013***

***Michael Blanco, 41, Phoenix – found March 12, 2013***

Michael Blanco, 41, was wanted for questioning in the killing of Christina Wilson, 42, and Vanessa Wilson, 14, at their home. Blanco shot himself at a hotel.

***Daniel Barraza Gomez, 39, Mesa – March 15, 2013***

Vanessa Mendoza, 27, was among those taken into custody after the Daniel Barraza Gomez's burned body was found in the desert. Mendoza's boyfriend, Genaro Silva, 31, admitted to killing Gomez at Mendoza's apt. Silva walked into Mendoza's apt to find Mendoza & Gomez together. Silva picked up a hammer & struck Gomez several times, killing him.

***William Alfred Shaw, 46, Phoenix – March 17, 2013***

William Alfred Shaw, 46, was shot by police when responding to a domestic violence call. Shaw was with his wife, damaging items inside the apartment, and told police to leave when they arrived. Shaw had a handgun equipped with an activated laser, which he then aimed at one of the officers. After an exchange of gunfire, Shaw was shot and his wife, as well as the woman who answered the door, got out of the apartment safely.

***Valentina Wilson, 30, Mesa – March 21, 2013***

Travis Lafel Zah, 35, was booked into jail on suspicion of 2nd degree murder. Witnesses say they saw a man and woman fighting before seeing the woman run across the street and collapse in a neighbor's front yard.

***Linda Cohn, 60, Scottsdale – March 27, 2013***

Michael Jay Cohn, 61, called 911 and claimed he had strangled his wife, Linda Cohn, 60, at their home. The emergency operator asked Cohn several times whether his wife needed treatment, to which he replied it was “too late” and that paramedics “can try”. When police arrived, Cohn opened the door and was detained. They were both psychologists and married more than 26 years.

***Amanda Encinas, 18, Mesa – March 28, 2013***

Matthew Walsh said he accidentally shot Amanda, not realizing that the handgun was loaded when he pulled the trigger. Amanda was shot in the hip, the bullet hit an artery and she was later pronounced dead at a hospital. Walsh had bought the gun in a casino parking lot three days earlier and was living with Encinas and her mother at the time. He was on unsupervised probation and was prohibited from possessing firearms.

***Deborah Courtney, unknown age, Chandler – March 29, 2013***

According to the police report, detectives found that Deborah Courtney had blunt force trauma to her head, several bite marks, and bruising on her chin, throat and ribs. Detectives believe Courtney was dead for some time before her boyfriend, Gerald Culverson, 57, called 911. As of April 2014, police said that Courtney's cause of death could be either homicide or natural causes.

***Richard Lee Swann, 42, Phoenix – March 31, 2013***

Steven Lomax Jr., 33, admitted to shooting and killing his brother-in-law, Richard Lee Swann, 42. Lomax lived with Swann and his wife, Debra Swann (Lomax's sister), instructed others in the home to take a walk, retrieved a handgun, entered Swann's bedroom and shot him multiple times. Debra Swann called 911 and reported Lomax confessed to killing her husband. Lomax also got on the phone and shot the victim a subsequent time. Lomax later told police that he was tired of Swann physically and verbally abusing his sister, saying it was the only way to end the abuse he says his sister endured for years.

***Maria Saucedo, 31, Aguila – April 1, 2013***

Jose Zarate, 25, shot Maria Saucedo, 31, because she denied his request to date her 13 year old daughter. Sometime during the argument Zarate shot Saucedo in the chest with a rifle. The first deputies on the scene performed CPR on Saucedo until paramedics arrived, but she was pronounced dead at the scene.

***Antonio Raizola, 36, Phoenix – April 5, 2013***

Antonio Raizola, 36, who may have been impaired, started physically fighting with his wife and 15 year old son. At some point, the father got a knife and held it in a threatening manner towards them. The son got the knife away from his father and then stabbed him. Police questioned and released the teenage son, who they believe was acting in self-defense.

***Janet Maraventano, 63, Goodyear – reported April 6, 2013***

***Bryan Maraventano, 27, Goodyear – April 6, 2013***

Eugene Maraventao, 64, told police "I killed my wife and I killed my son, I can't kill myself." He told police he may have contracted HIV or other diseases and passed them on to his wife, so he decided to kill her. He decided to kill his son because he played video games all day, had no girlfriend and must have been handicapped because he couldn't get a job. Eugene Maraventao then attempted suicide.

***Maya Koistinen, 6 days, Phoenix – April 8, 2013***

Police were called to the home after receiving a call from Koistinen's husband, Bradley Koistinen, saying that the child was not breathing. Nina Koistinen, 37, initially told detectives that she had fallen asleep

nursing the child and that she had suffocated under her arm. Maya was taken to a hospital where she was pronounced dead. Nina Koistinen was not arrested at the time and a review of past CPS records was conducted and revealed that she made statements about wanting to smother her children and have them go to heaven. In another interview, she admitted to police that she suffocated her 6 day old daughter, Maya Koistinen.

***Margaret Deckard, 86, Glendale – April 8, 2013***

***George Deckard, 86, Glendale – April 8, 2013***

George Deckard, 86, left a handwritten note behind in which the details are consistent with evidence found at the scene, which revealed George Deckard shot his wife, Margaret Deckard, 86, and then took his own life. Police said that they were both dealing with various medical issues.

***Unreleased female, unknown age, El Mirage – April 13, 2013***

Philbert July, 53, went to the police to confess to killing his girlfriend at their home. Officers visited the home and found July's girlfriend dead inside. July told detectives that the two had been drinking and that she was killed during an argument.

***Jesus Antonio Torres, 29, Phoenix – April 13, 2013***

Jesus Antonio Torres, 29, was killed by officers after firing about 100 shots using both an assault rifle and a pistol, with gunfire hitting six houses. Police had responded to a domestic violence call for this incident. Torres was reportedly depressed over child custody issues.

***Jonathan Pimentel, 31, Phoenix – April 20, 2013***

Police responded to a call about a suspicious person and observed Johnathan Pimentel, 31, getting into a cab. Officers recognized Pimentel, who was being sought in connection with the shooting of his girlfriend. Pimentel reached for something in his waistband as he sat in the backseat of the squad car, and when he got out he turned toward officers, ignored their commands and pointed a gun at them. Two officers shot and killed Pimentel. Pimentel's girlfriend's injuries were non-life threatening.

***Rebecca Kasper, 19, Tempe – April 23, 2013***

Luis Soltro, 23, walked into a police station and told officers that his girlfriend was dead at his apartment. Rebecca Kasper, 19, had been beaten over the head with a dumbbell and was found in a bathtub covered with blankets and coffee grounds, and had a plastic bag over her head. The couple had broken up about two weeks before Kasper was killed.

***Blake Alvarez, 2, Phoenix – May 1, 2013***

Darnell Moses Alvarez, 24, beat his 2 year old son to death for wetting his bed. The mother, Davieanna Marlana Blake, 21, said that she and Alvarez argued earlier that day and Alvarez struck the child with a belt after discovering that he had wet the bed. Blake did not intervene for fear of upsetting Alvarez more and left to go to work. When Blake returned, she said the child was lethargic, had multiple bruises, and stopped breathing while she and Alvarez argued over taking him to a hospital. An autopsy showed the child suffered a lacerated liver, severe internal bleeding and multiple bruising throughout his body, inconsistent with being struck with a belt only, according to the documents.

***Unreleased male, 28, Phoenix – May 13, 2013***

An unidentified 28 year old man was found dead after shooting himself and shooting his 24 year old ex-boyfriend. The shooter went to where his ex-boyfriend worked and shot him twice. He then went straight to the hospital where the victim was going to be treated, handed a nurse a suicide note, and shot himself

in the head. He had been arrested the previous month on suspicion of stalking, violating an order of protection, threatening, and criminal damage.

***Isreal Celis, 32, Phoenix – May 21, 2013***

Isreal Celis Sr., 32, sexually assaulted his ex-wife and mother of his child at gunpoint and duct taped her, then grabbed his son and took off, according to police. Celis also took with him his 13 year old and an 8 year old who was not his. He kept the children at another house for house and eventually released two of them before taking his own life. His wife had filed for divorce earlier that year and there was a child custody hearing the week prior to Celis' suicide.

***Maria Gomez, 45, Mesa – June 10, 2013***

Jose Gonzalez-Esparza, 34, called police to report his girlfriend, Maria Gomez, 45, was lying unconscious in their home. Esparza admitted beating her to death by punching her four times in the face and then eight times in the face with a baseball bat as she tried to escape. Earlier that day Gomez called her daughter, saying that she wanted to leave Gonzalez-Esparza and would do so in the coming days. Shortly thereafter, the daughter received a call from Gonzalez-Esparza telling her he found her mother dead. Deputies say Esparza and Gomez were together for at least 2 years and had no prior records of domestic violence.

***Barbara J. Mahowald, 56, Ahwatukee – June 10, 2013***

***Stanley E. Mahowald, 61, Ahwatukee – June 10, 2013***

Stanley E. Mahowald, 61, placed a call to family members just a short time before he shot his wife, Barbara J. Mahowald, 56, and then himself.

***Rusty Grey, 3 days, Phoenix – June 14, 2013***

Rusty's father severely beat his mother while she was 9 months pregnant with him. She was flown to Phoenix to where she delivered Rusty full term. He lived three days and died from the injuries sustained before his birth.

***Annovedwin Begay-Barakzai, 23, Tempe – found June 15, 2013***

Douglas Ray George, 27, is charged with murder and abandonment of Annovedwin Begay-Barakzai, 23. Begay-Barakzai had been beaten and stabbed multiple times and then dumped, naked, in the street. She died of blunt force trauma and suffered multiple rib fractures as well as a lacerated liver. George had been arrested on 6/4/14 for suspicion of a domestic violence assault on her.

***Unreleased male, unknown age, Mesa – June 19, 2013***

Police said a man shot his brother, and then himself. The shooter had non-life threatening injuries.

***Todd Allan Ferguson, 34, Phoenix – July 6, 2013***

Todd Allan Ferguson, 34, had been drinking and reportedly threatened to kill his father at an apartment, according to police. When police met Ferguson outside they say he came at one of the officers with two butcher knives. The officer fired several rounds and Ferguson died of his injuries at the scene.

***Judy Scism, 48, Phoenix – found July 19, 2013***

***Edwin Russell, 49, Phoenix – found July 19, 2013***

Edwin Russell, 49, and Judy Scism, 48, were found dead inside a Phoenix home in an apparent murder-suicide. Police were called to the home on 7/19/13 to conduct a welfare check on the couple. They say the man and woman appeared to have been dead for several days.

***Louis Des Coteas, 45, Scottsdale – July 23, 2013***

***Scott Jablonsky, 47, Scottsdale – July 23, 2013***

Scott Jablonsky, 47, shot his estranged wife's boyfriend and then shot and killed himself. After killing Louis Des Coteas, 45, Jablonsky drove half a mile to the office complex where his estranged wife worked and shot and killed himself in the employee break room.

***Sabrina Santos-Vasquez, 8 months, Phoenix – July 24, 2013***

Sabrina Santos-Vasquez, 8 month, died after being burned with a cigarette lighter and being violently shaken. At the hospital, doctors found at least 8 separate burn marks on Sabrina's face, body and hands and were unable to revive her. Adrian Ponce, the mother's fiancé, admitted to burning the child with the open flame of a cigarette lighter while she was in his care. Later that night, the child was crying, presumably from the pain of the inflicted burns, and Ponce also admitted to shaking the baby in an attempt to quiet her.

***Warren G. Cipriano, 30, Gila Bend – July 28, 2013***

Warren G. Cipriano, 30, and his girlfriend were arguing on the street and Cipriano was threatening her with a baseball bat. A deputy who was the first to arrive on the scene commanded Cipriano to drop the bat. Cipriano charged at him in an aggressive manner and the deputy, fearing for his life, shot Cipriano once in the chest. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

***Zachary Rodriguez, 21, Tempe – July 30, 2013***

Zachary Rodriguez, 21, was shot and killed in his car by his ex-girlfriend's current boyfriend, Moises Gutierrez, 22. The ex-girlfriend and Gutierrez had driven to Rodriguez's neighborhood looking for Rodriguez. He got into a car with and drove away. As they drove, Gutierrez got into the backseat, loaded his rifle and aimed it at Rodriguez's vehicle, authorities said. Rodriguez was sticking his head out the passenger window and waving at Gutierrez's car, according to court documents. Gutierrez shot Rodriguez as the victim appeared to be climbing out of his vehicle. Police said Gutierrez also shot at the driver's side of the SUV where the woman was seated. The ex-girlfriend and the victim also had a child in common.

***Tobias Torres, 35, Phoenix – August 5, 2013***

Tobias Torres, 35, who was known to carry large knives, showed up at his ex-wife's apartment and started threatening her. The ex-wife's roommate escaped and called the police, letting them know that Torres had threatened them with a machete in the past and that four children were also inside the apartment. Two officers entered the apartment and made contact with Torres, who then attacked them with a machete. Officers shot Torres multiple times and he later died at a hospital. All four children were found physically uninjured.

***Earlene Rudolph, 73, Sun City – August 7, 2013***

Deputies said 911 dispatchers received what they described as a "curious" call just before 9am from an occupant of a home. When deputies arrived, they forcibly entered the home and found the body of an elderly woman, Earlene Rudolph, 73. She was found dead with multiple gunshot wounds. The woman's husband was in the home and was immediately taken into custody and questioned. Howard Allen Rudolph, 78, told deputies "he had to do it because she was sick," and was charged with first degree murder.

***Raymond P. Majors, 37, Phoenix – August 21, 2013***

Phoenix police shot and killed a man they say slammed into a patrol car with a large U-Haul. Police had been looking for him for several weeks. Officers got a tip on a suspect wanted in connection with a domestic violence aggravated assault. Police said detectives were told the suspect was armed and if contacted and if contacted by police he would either kill himself or engage in a shootout.

***Joseph Mavis, 27, Tempe – August 23, 2013***

Tempe police had requested assistance from the US Marshals Task Force in apprehending Joseph Mavis, 27, who was wanted on domestic violence and aggravated assault charges. Officers approached Mavis as he exited the home and gave commands. Police said he ignored the commands and reached for a gun in his pants pocket. A member of the task force fired a round at Mavis, but he continued to raise his weapon at the officers. Five officers then opened fire on Mavis, killing him at the scene. No officers were injured.

***Unreleased male, 3 months, Chandler – August 25, 2013***

***Rajneesh Saini, 25, Chandler – August 25, 2013***

Rajneesh Saini, 25, shot and killed his 3 month old son, then himself, while sitting outside his girlfriend's house in his car.

***Alan Lewis Pierce, 48, Phoenix – August 29, 2013***

Daniel Patrick Aumiller, 39, is suspected of shooting Alan Lewis Pierce, 48, in the neck. Pierce and his girlfriend had gone to Aumiller's home to talk with his ex-girlfriend when Aumiller shot him. According to the police, Aumiller had a lengthy criminal history and had a rifle and ammunition at his home. During an interview with the police, the victim's ex-girlfriend said the two men had been friends and that she cheated on Pierce with Aumiller.

***Anthony M. Wozniak, 29, Mesa – September 23, 2013***

Anthony Wozniak was stabbed to death while trying to break up a fight in an apartment complex. Witnesses say a man and a woman were fighting. Wozniak tried to break it up, and the man stabbed him in the upper body. Wozniak was pronounced dead at the scene.

***Unreleased male, unknown age, Phoenix – September 23, 2013***

A woman called police saying her boyfriend and her father had gotten into a fight and both men stabbed each other. The father drove off in his truck injured. He was found and rushed to the hospital where he later died. The boyfriend survived and was taken into custody.

***Amanda Mosley, 24, Phoenix – October 1, 2013***

The 18 year old boyfriend of Amanda Mosely, 24, had a gun in a holster in his waistband while they were hugging. Police said the man moved to take the weapon out of his waistband because it was bothering his girlfriend. When he did, the gun went off and Amanda was struck by a bullet. Mosley was hospitalized and died as a result of the shooting.

***Sandra Perez, 21, Phoenix – October 6, 2013***

Ismael Perez-Barrza, 23, shot his wife, Sandra Perez, 21, at their home. The two were married for one and a half years and had a 2-month-old child together. Perez was taken to a nearby hospital in extremely critical condition and later died due to her injuries. The victim's family believed that there was abuse in the relationship and wanted to help her stay safe.

***Betsy Rodriguez-Centeno, 4, Phoenix – October 14, 2013***

Melissa Centeno, 19, and her live-in boyfriend Sergio Luis Ortiz, 22, face charges in connection with the child's death. Police responded to a call of a child not breathing and Betzy had suspicious bruising on several parts of her body. Ortiz told police she had fallen off the sofa and in the bathroom. Centano told investigators that she struck her daughter in the abdomen, causing her to have abdominal pain and to vomit. Centano said that she and Ortiz sometimes got 'heavy-handed' disciplining the child. Both Centano and Ortiz face counts of child abuse, and possibly murder.

***Robert Bickford, 59, Phoenix – October 16, 2013***

Jason Neal, 24, has been arrested in connection with the shooting death of Robert Bickford, 59. Neal told police he and Bickford had lived together for four to five months and that the two had been intimate. Police were notified by another former boyfriend of Bickford's, who was told by Bickford's co-workers he hadn't shown for work the past two days.

***Tina Helms Spencer, unknown age, Mesa – October 26, 2013***

Tina Helms Spencer's 16 year-old-son, Michael Roy Helms, struck her with a hammer and a frying pan, before strangling her. The teenage son had also attacked his step-father with a frying pan upon coming home from work. The step-father left the home, believing this wife was sleeping since it was early in the morning. It was reported that Helms was angry about being grounded and that a classmate had assisted Helms in carrying out the attack.

***Helen Jean Lee, 78, Goodyear – October 30, 2013***

Jason Howell, 40, confessed to beating his grandmother, Helen Jean Lee, 78, over the head with a shovel and slitting her throat because he was upset over the curfew and rent. He allegedly admitted to trying to clean up the blood before taking her body into the desert which is where detectives found her decomposed body.

***Christy Harr, 35, Glendale – November 3, 2013***

***Sean Dubowik, 43, Glendale – November 3, 2013***

Police believe Sean Dubowik, 43, shot his girlfriend Christy Harr, 35, before taking his own life. The couple left behind a 6-year-old child. A female relative of Dubowik and her two teenage children were sleeping over at the home the night of the incident and called 911.

***Carol Sanders, 51, Phoenix – November 12, 2013***

***Audra Sanders, 14, Phoenix – November 12, 2013***

***Tom Fitzpatrick, 49, Phoenix – November 12, 2013***

***Michael Sanders, 53, Phoenix – November 12, 2013***

Michael Sanders, 53, shot and killed his estranged wife, Carol Sanders, 51, inside his Phoenix home before killing himself. Carol Sanders and her daughter, Audra Sanders, 14, had gone to the home to gather some belongings a few hours after the mother filed an order of protection against her estranged husband. Carol Sanders' brother, Tom Fitzpatrick, 49, had accompanied them and was waiting in a vehicle parked in the driveway of the home. Michael Sanders had parked his truck a block away and suddenly emerged with a gun, first shooting and killing Tom Fitzpatrick. He then confronted his daughter and wife in the garage. His daughter was found dead inside the house. Carol Sanders was found in the backyard and her body was set on fire. Michael Sanders then went to the alley and shot himself.

***Alfred San Antonio, 51, Phoenix – November 13, 2013***

Police shot and killed a reported domestic violence suspect after the man lunged at them with a knife. Phoenix police were called after Alfred San Antonio had threatened a woman with a knife. She fought him



and escaped to call the police. As she ran outside, she observed him stab himself with the knife he held. Despite commands from the officers to drop the knife, San Antonio charged at the officers - who shot and killed him.

***Claudia Ann Lucero, 14, Mesa – found December 6, 2013***

Claudia Ann Lucero, 14, was sexually assaulted, strangled and dumped in a trash container by Alex Anthony Madrid, 31, the estranged boyfriend of her mother. Madrid lived with the family had been recently kicked out. He reportedly touched Lucero inappropriately, prompting the breakup. Madrid also had an extensive history of violence crimes.

***Maryann Valenzuela Fernandez, 52, Phoenix – December 11, 2013***

***Manuel Olivas, 52, Phoenix – December 11, 2013***

Maryann Valenzuela Fernandez, 52, was shot by her 'common law' husband of nearly 30 years, Manuel Olivas, 52, at their home. Olivas then threatened her brother before turning the gun on himself. The couple had seven children together.

***Lemuel Warren, 19, Phoenix – December 12, 2013***

Kheyton Cunningham, 28, shot the father of his girlfriend's child when he stepped in the middle of a fight. Lemuel Warren, 19, was shot in the chest and transported to a hospital where he later died of his injuries. Two of the girlfriend's children and two other adults were in the home at the time of the shooting.

***Manuel Ortiz, 22, Phoenix – December 31, 2013***

Manuel Ortiz, 22, was accidentally shot by his 19 year old sister, Savannah Ramirez, 19. Ortiz's sister was playing with the gun while the two were posing for pictures with it.

***David Sherrill, 13, Phoenix – December 31, 2013***

David Sherrill, 13, was killed with an ax by his 51 year old father, Gary Sherrill. The parents shared custody, and the mother called police after their son was not returned to her home by Gary Sherrill. Sherrill told police that he feared his son, believing him to be a demon that would eat him.

**Mohave County**

***Valerie Ann Corti-Phillips, 56, Mohave Valley – April 1, 2013***

***John Terry Phillips, 55, Mohave Valley – April 1, 2013***

John Phillips, 55, shot his wife several times in the head and then shot himself in the head.

***Marilyn Susan Burdick, 62, Ft. Mohave – June 26, 2013***

Louis Hugh Plunkett Jr., 54, has been charged in the death of Marilyn Susan Burdick, 62, whose body was found in a backyard pool. Autopsy results show that she died from blunt force trauma, not drowning. Plunkett attempted to flee and was apprehended in California.

***Blake Allen Barbour, 43, Kingman – August 16, 2013***

Police shot and killed Blake Allen Barbour, 43, after a struggle during a domestic violence call. The erratic-acting suspect, Barbour, was threatening family members and trying to force his way into a home. The deputy used a stun gun several times on Barbour, but he became more combative and ignored several warnings to stay back and drop his weapon.

**Navajo County**

***Alfred Nelson, unknown age, Shonto – January 2, 2013***

Alfred Nelson was killed by his brother, Aleron Nelson.

***Lionel Ben, unknown age, Pinon – February 2013***

Carmelita Williams, 21, shot Lionel Ben in the chest. Prior to the shooting, Williams stated that Lionel verbally and physically assaulted her, would not allow her to leave his residence, saying that the only way she could leave would be by shooting him and then handed her a gun. Lionel had a history of assaults and domestic violence.

***Mae Bedonie, unknown age, Shonto – March 10, 2013***

Lakin Jim Bennett beat his mother to death and then set fire to her house. Police responded to a 911 call from Bennett's cousin who had been assaulted by Bennett and was concerned that another woman might be dead. Bennett told police that he beat his mother for "talking too much".

***Walter Tsedah, 41, Pinon – June 13, 2013***

Walter Tsedah was in a physical altercation with family members. He was bound with a rope on his hands, feet, and neck.

**Pima County**

***Connor Krovciak, 8 months, Tucson – January 30, 2013***

Jeremy Mills, 28, was accused of abusing his ex-girlfriend's infant child. The infant had been left in the care of Mills while his mother was at work. The investigation revealed that the baby had been strangled. Mills is facing a charge of first-degree murder.

***John Cataline, 10, Tucson – February 7, 2013***

On the morning of January 30, officers responded to a 911 call from Jean Cataline, saying she had just strangled her 10 year old son, John Cataline. The boy had been strangled with an electrical cord. Jean Cataline was charged with 1st degree murder.

***Jesus Duarte, 19, Tucson – March 3, 2013***

Jesus Duarte, 19, was shot multiple times. Duarte had a sexual relationship with a girl who was dating 18 year old Sammy Anthony Terraza, Jr., the suspect in the case. Terraza had just found out about the relationship the day before the murder. The girl stated that she saw a pistol in Terraza's glove compartment the same day they engaged in a heated argument over the matter. The next day, the pistol was removed from the vehicle. Terraza's parents also confirmed that they had seen their son with a handgun.

***Adyson Gaxiola, 18 months, Tucson – March 15, 2013***

On March 13, Adyson Gaxiola, 18 months, was taken to the hospital after she had stopped breathing at home. The child was bleeding from the ears and had bite marks on both arms and right foot, scratches on the neck and bruising on her face, forehead, neck, legs, back and abdomen. She died as a result of her injuries two days later. The child's mother, Monique Gaxiola, 30, was said to have known about the abuse at the hands of her friend, Kristopher Benavidez, 30. Benavidez had been physically abusing the baby and her twin.

***Jaedyn Minley, 4, Tucson – March 23, 2013***

Jaedyn was found unconscious, unresponsive and bleeding. His body was covered in bruises and was taken to the hospital in critical condition. The child's mother, Judy Minley, 26, & her live-in boyfriend, James Dwight Robinson, 27, told detectives the boy had been disobedient and had disciplined him

physically. The beating lasted 45-60 minutes. Both Minley and Robinson are being held on suspicion of first degree murder.

***Clarence Shaub, 78, Oro Valley – April 10, 2013***

***Doris Shaub, 76, Oro Valley – April 10, 2013***

Doris Shaub, 76, shot her husband Clarence, 78, and then herself. Relatives said that the husband had an unspecified debilitating disease and that police found notes left by Doris.

***Jerry Mayfield, 59, Marana – May 16, 2013***

Toni Mayfield is charged with 2nd degree murder. She was covered in blood, had three lacerations over her left eye and stated she killed her husband in self-defense. She claims he came after her and she was scared and started hitting him. He was found with a gun in his hand. The case was later dismissed.

***Freddy Batt Sosa, 22, Tucson – May 18, 2013***

Freddy Batt Sosa, 22, was fatally shot by police after he removed a handgun from his waistband. Authorities say officers were responding to a call of Sosa and his sister fighting. Sosa at one point had his sister on the ground with his gun pointed at her, refusing to obey police orders. Two officers fired at and fatally wounded Sosa after he walked toward them and removed the gun from his waistband. Sosa's sister was not physically injured. Sosa was armed with a BB gun, which looked like a handgun.

***Unleased male, 44, Tucson – June 7, 2013***

Rene Kamp, 40, is charged with murdering her boyfriend. The two were involved in an altercation and at one point, and the victim called a friend to come pick him up. After the friend arrived, the victim began packing some belongings to leave for the night. Rene Kamp went to the kitchen, armed herself with a knife, and stabbed the victim in the chest. Two children were inside the home at the time of the incident.

***Augustina Soto, 25, Tucson – June 11, 2013***

Stephen Malone was arrested in the murder of Soto, who was found dead inside a vehicle with two of her children in the back seat (physically unharmed). Also in the car was a woman who sustained non-life threatening injuries. Malone had been convicted of aggravated assault and domestic violence in 2008. The couple had three children.

***Gregory Thacker, 58, Tucson – June 17, 2013***

Susan Thacker, 58, shot and killed her husband, Gregory Thacker, 58. Police say the couple had a verbal argument that escalated into a fight which lasted a few hours. Ultimately, Mrs. Thacker pulled out a gun and shot her husband.

***Mary Fulgham, 84, Tucson – July 23, 2013***

***Erskin Fulgham, 87, Tucson – July 23, 2013***

Mary and Erskin Fulgham were discovered with obvious signs of trauma. The couple's stolen vehicle was found in Nevada and the three occupants were detained and interviewed before being arrested. One of the suspects reportedly is the victims' grandson. Mary and Erskin had been married for 67 years.

***Mavrik Riggan, 2 months, Tucson – August 19, 2013***

Two month old Mavrik Riggan died after his father, Fayde Riggan, 22, allegedly shook him multiple times over the course of a month. The child's mother, 20 year old Katherine Fitzgerald, also was charged with child abuse. Police say she allegedly knew her baby needed medical attention but did not seek it.

***Marcela Julie Ann Slatin, 35, Tucson – October 12, 2013***

Marcela Julie Ann Slatin, 35, died from injuries suffered during a physical altercation inside the home she shared with her husband, Art Slain. Her husband had stabbed her several times. Three of the couple's children were outside the house in a family vehicle.

***Alicia Carrillo, 35, Tucson – October 26, 2013***

***Daniel Ornelas, 34, Tucson – October 26, 2013***

Alicia Carrillo, 35, was possibly strangled by Daniel Ornelas, 34, who then shot himself. Relatives had gone to the house to check on the couple, whom they were unable to contact, and found their bodies.

***Linda Daley, 64, Tucson – November 21, 2013***

Linda Daley, 64, and her two dogs were killed by Michelle Marie Price, 39, a known associate of Daley's daughter. Daley had taken in Price just days before her death. Around 2008, Price was accused of stabbing her child's father and was hospitalized for a psychotic episode about one month prior to killing Daley.

**Pinal County**

***Terrence Rodney Luukonen, 46, Superior – May 23, 2013***

Juan Padilla, 41, is charged with first-degree intentional homicide in the death of Terrence Rodney Luukonen, 46. Luukonen was found shot, in the driver's seat, and the vehicle had its brake lines cut and a tire slashed. Luukonen was engaged to a woman who had broken off a relationship with Padilla about a month ago. She told police Padilla was upset about the breakup, and had made threatening statements, such as "I want to kill him," and "I can't live without you."

***Unreleased male, 2, San Tan Valley – May 31, 2013***

Amberlee Query, 28, and James Sunderland, 24, were arrested and facing charges in the death of Query's 2 year old son. The toddler was in the care of Sunderland, who claimed the boy stopped breathing during a diaper change. The child died at the hospital and the doctor who treated the boy said the injuries did not line up with the couple's story.

***Arciano Corona, 34, San Tan Valley – September 24, 2013***

A woman called the police after her estranged husband violated an order of protection. He threatened her with a gun and had broken windows in the home. When a deputy arrived, Corona was standing by a truck. Corona pointed a sawed off shotgun at the deputy and fired. He then drove into a nearby desert area and stopped. Deputies found him with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Corona also had an outstanding warrant for his arrest on a probation violation relating to aggravated assault during a prior domestic violence case, and a warrant for failure to appear in court on an aggravated assault domestic violence case.

***Ronna Thomas, 65, Casa Grande – October 5, 2013***

Joseph Cain Cecil, 38, stabbed his mother to death and also stabbed his aunt at a home outside Casa Grande. Thomas died from her injuries, and his aunt was treated for her wounds. Cecil was also suspected of attempting to assault a neighbor who attempted to intervene and help the victims. Cecil told police he stabbed his mother because "God told me to do it."

***Dina Dicochea, 19, Red Rock – October 14, 2013***

Ramiro Delcid, 20, shot Dina while the two were sitting in his company truck. Delcid told investigators that he thought he had taken all of the bullets out of his revolver when he aimed the gun at his girlfriend and pulled the trigger. Delcid told to detectives he was trying to scare her.

***Unreleased female, 45, Casa Grande – November 4, 2013***

***Unreleased male, 46, Casa Grande – November 4, 2013***

Officials received a 911 call regarding shots fired. When deputies arrived at the scene, the bodies of a man and woman were found in a residential yard. The sheriff's spokesman said they were husband and wife and based on evidence at the scene, detectives have determined the man shot his wife and then shot himself.

***Aniarael Macias, 13, Casa Grande – December 25, 2013***

Aniarael Macias, 13, was strangled by her mother. Connie Villa, 35, killed her after Aniarael refused her mother's attempts to force her to ingest prescription narcotic drugs.

**Santa Cruz County**

*None*

**Yavapai County**

***Kristina Webb, 38, Mayer – October 18, 2013***

***William Hewitt, 29, Prescott – October 18, 2013***

William Hewitt is believed to have killed his live-in girlfriend Kristina Webb, 38. Authorities say she suffered a gunshot wound and her 5 year old son witnessed the shooting, but the child was physically unharmed. Hewitt was found dead inside his pick up truck from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

**Yuma County**

***Christal Figueroa, 29, Wellton – March 22, 2013***

Jose Jimenez, 30, is charged with first-degree murder, aggravated assault and kidnapping of Christal Figueroa, 29. Her body was found in a citrus grove. Jose Torrez and Daniel Torrez, were also arrested, accused of hindering prosecution by hiding Jimenez in their residence. Another suspect, 24 year old Brandi Michalski of Yuma was arrested for involvement in the murder, and police were also searching for Jorge Rios in connection to the murder.

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