

DENVER METRO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW  
2008 SUMMARY

2008 Domestic Violence Related Fatalities

- 1/21/2008: Matthew Watkins (39) under investigation for killing his wife, Cora Watkins (31) by stabbing her multiple times. The couple's 5 year old child witnessed the incident. He is charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder. (Aurora/Arapahoe Co.)
- 2/18/2008: James Greenwood (27) under investigation for murdering his girlfriend, Antoinette Clark (22), after ingesting a vial (approximately 10 hits) of LSD. He is charged with 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder. (Denver)
- 2/22/2008: Kent Hart (female, 52) and Christopher Cislo (55), Ms. Hart's new partner, were murdered by Lawrence Heisler (61) by gunshot. Mr. Heisler then killed himself. He had previous domestic violence charges. (Parker)
- 3/18/2008: Shirley Rose Welch (55) was found dead from blunt trauma to her upper body. James Merritt (43) was arrested and charged with 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder. Both parties lived at the Aurora motel where the murder occurred. This case was identified as domestic violence by the 18<sup>th</sup> Jud. Dist. DA's office. Merritt's trial date is June 2009.
- 3/21/2008: Colleen Dwyer (34) was shot dead by her estranged husband, Russell Dwyer (39). They had two young children, ages 18 months and 4 years old. Russell Dwyer committed suicide after killing Colleen Dwyer. (Colorado Springs)
- 4/1/2008: Lonnie Ray Herrera (38) shot and killed his girlfriend, Anna Marie Macias (23), who was pregnant and in her third trimester. After a C-section delivery the baby later died due to complications from the shooting. Her 8 year old daughter and 1 year old son witnessed the murder. Herrera pled guilty to 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder & is serving a 96-year sentence. (Grand Junction)
- 4/12/2008: George Michael Mirabal (49) strangled his ex-wife, Lucille Gray (46), to death. Mirabal pled to 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder and is serving a 36-year sentence. (Cortez)
- 4/23/2008: Pola Yesenia Valenzuela's (26) common-law husband, Anselmo Bonilla Barraza (29) under investigation for strangling her to death with string. The couple had a 9 month old child together and Ms. Valenzuela's children, ages 6, 7 and 9 witnessed the attack. Barraza's charged with 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder and 4 counts of child abuse. (Colorado Springs)

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- 4/25/2008: Abundio Cardoza-Rodelo (on bond from a prior domestic violence related arrest) went to a relative's house where his wife was staying. Cardoza-Rofela allegedly killed Adrian Santellano (a male relative) who appeared to be protecting Cardoza-Rodelo's wife (the primary domestic violence victim). Cardoza-Rodelo is charged w/ 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder. (Denver)
- 5/17/2008: James Scott Whitler (43) under investigation for fatally stabbing and beating Stephen D. Allen (57) a process-server who was giving Whitler court orders to leave the home he had shared w/ his wife and two children. After allegedly murdering Allen, according to police Whitler was found (by police) strangling his 12-year-old daughter and 10-year-old son. Both children survived the attack. Whitler is charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, 3 counts of attempted 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder and child abuse. (Larimer County)
- 5/20/2008: Odiceo Valencia (45) killed by officers responding to his estranged wife's plea for help. Valencia was under court order to stay away from his wife, alcohol and weapons. However, he followed her home from work, got in her vehicle and assaulted her. When police arrived, he charged at them w/ a knife and was subsequently killed by gunshot. (Denver)
- 5/29/2008: Rodricke Mikel Martin Shari (38) allegedly stabbed his wife, Kathryn Young (32), resulting in her death. He is charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, 1<sup>st</sup> degree burglary and robbery. (Lakewood)
- 6/10/2008: Miriam Helmick (52) is charged with the shooting death of her husband Alan Helmick (62). She reported to 911 that he was shot by a robber breaking into the couple's home. Miriam Helmick was the prime suspect in a prior attempt to kill Alan Helmick in April when she allegedly tried to set the car on fire when Alan was sitting alone inside it. She's been charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, attempted 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder and forgery. (Grand Junction)
- 6/22/2008: Scott Montgomery (37) was killed by police after refusing to comply with their requests. Police had responded to the scene where it is believed that he had murdered his two sons, Skylar (5) and Canyon (21 months). There were domestic violence charges w/ his estranged wife Carrie Montgomery (28) as the victim. (Crystal Park / Manitou Springs, El Paso County)
- 7/2/2008: William O'Shell (36) shot and killed his wife Tiffany Cuin-O'Shell (25), both police officers for Lakewood P.D., after their infant daughter (3 months) had been removed by child protective services. O'Shell subsequently committed suicide. (Commerce City)

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- 7/17/2008: Allan Ray Andrade (31) beat Angie Zapata (21) to death on their first date after meeting online. Andrade convicted of 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, and a biased motivated crime due to the fact that Ms. Zapata identified as a transgendered person. (Greeley)
- 7/25/2008: Eddie Davidson (35), aka “The Spam King”, shot and killed his estranged wife Amy Lee Ann Hill (29) and 3 year old daughter Bailey after he escaped from jail. He also injured his adolescent daughter (16) by shooting her. He later suicided. (Bennett)
- 9/17/2008: Carlos G. Graham (68) shot and killed his wife, Lucille Graham (64), and then suicided. (Mesa County) (2)
- 9/17/2008: Allen Grabe (51) is being investigated for killing his autistic 13 year old son Jacob by shooting him in the face and head stating that he did so because he felt that the mother was “ruining him”. Grabe’s charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder and child abuse resulting in death. (Grand Junction)
- 10/13/2008: Robert Hull Marko (21) under investigation for raping and killing Judilianna Lawrence (19), who happened to be developmentally delayed by slitting her throat, after they met on the Internet. He’s charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, sex assault, felony murder, kidnapping and 1<sup>st</sup> degree assault. (Unincorporated El Paso County)
- 10/14/2008: Noah Crookham, age 2 years, was shot and killed by Earl Ryan (40), who was renting space in his mother’s basement (and allegedly his mother’s ex-lover). The shooting occurred during an argument between the boy’s father, Thomas Crookham (30) and Ryan allegedly after the man became jealous when the father came to visit the child. There is speculation that the mother, Angela Crookham (27) and Thomas Crookham were working toward reconciliation. Ryan is charged w 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder and child abuse resulting in death. (Denver)
- 10/14/2008: Alexander Pacheco (18) under suspicion in the murder of his 13-year-old girlfriend, Kelsey Shannon. Shannon aided police in identifying Pacheco in a bicycle theft in September. She disappeared from her home October 14 and her remains were found on January 21, 2009. He is charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder and child abuse resulting in death. (Broomfield)
- 10/18/2008: Keenu Tiyme (35) is charged with 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder in the death of his ex-wife, Kauri Tiyme (39). She was brutally attacked, strangled and her throat was slashed. (Denver)

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11/21/2008: Tanya Ealey (32) was killed by asphyxiation caused by blunt trauma to the neck allegedly caused by her boyfriend Nicky Allen Martinez (28). Martinez is charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder and as a habitual offender. (Brighton)

***Total number of domestic violence related fatalities  
in Colorado in 2008 = 33 (at least)***

- # of Women murdered by male partner = 16**
- # of men killed by female partner = 1**
- # of men killed by other (police, male offender, etc.) = 5**
- # of men who suicided = 4**
- # of children murdered (by male offender) = 7**

Follow up Category:

2/12/2008: Kimberley K. Smith (45) was found dead in her apartment. Mike Westerfield Jr. (19) was arrested in her murder. Relationship unknown. (Aurora)

4/4/2008: Bekime Elshani (22) has remained missing since her boyfriend Daniel Dereer (25) shot and killed himself as police arrived to investigate her disappearance. Although Dereer is suspected of being involved in her disappearance, police at this time have not developed information to conclusively establish that fact. As of March 2009 this case is still open to investigation. (Colorado Springs)

7/23/2008: Rayner Ramarui (26) has been arrested for stabbing, Melissa Lewandowski (20); both once lived in the same apartment building but the nature of their relationship is unknown. He is charged w/1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, felony murder and robbery (Englewood)

12/5/2008: Angela Ball (33) was found dead in her home. This is still being investigated as a homicide. (Aurora)

A very special note of gratitude to Kathleen Ferrick, a volunteer for Safehouse Denver, Inc. and the Denver Metro Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee for researching, compiling and organizing all of the information on these pages.