

MEMO / domestic violence training and monitoring unit  
Rhode Island Supreme Court

TO: Virginia Waring  
National DV Fatality Review Project

DATE: January 30, 2002

FROM: Janice Dubois  
DV T&M Unit

PH: (401) 782-4154

FAX: (401) 782-4152

Email: [jdubois@courts.state.ri.us](mailto:jdubois@courts.state.ri.us)

SUBJ: DV Homicide Project

*Virginia,*

Please remember that all the data included in the DV Homicide document is a compilation from our agency, Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit, the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Silent Witnesses. We got together as a temporary committee a couple of years ago and pooled our resources (old newspaper articles in many cases). I got a newspaper reporter to help us look for "old" cases. That was only slightly helpful as most of the cases she identified, we already had.

The big problem with this effort is that prior to 10-15 yrs. ago, domestic homicides were simply "homicides," so many statistics are lost. I hope to have an intern in the foreseeable future who I can send to the Department of Health's Coroner's Office to see if we can pick up old homicides where the victim and perpetrator's last names are the same. This would, of course, only fill in the blanks on "marrieds."

If we can be of future help to you or if you think you could be of help to us, please stay in touch. I will be awaiting your information around DV Fatality Teams.

Thanks,

*Janice*

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES

1980 – 2001

Year	# Cases	# Homicides	# Suicides	Total Deaths	Cases w/ dv elements which <u>do not</u> fall under §12-29-5.
2001	6	6	1	7	1
2000	3	3	2	5	4
1999	5	7	3	10	1
1998	3	2	2	4	
1997	3	3	0	3	
1996	4	7	3	10	
1995	3	3	1	4	
1994	8	10	2	12	
1993	4	5	1	6	
1992	5	6	0	6	
1991	3	3	0	3	
1990	4	4	0	4	
1989	5	5	0	5	
1988	1	1	0	1	
1987	11	9	3	12	
1986	3	3	1	4	
1985	2	2	1	3	
1984	2	2	0	2	
1983	4	4	0	4	
1982	0	0	0	0	
1981	0	0	0	0	
1980	1	1	0	1	1
Totals for 21 years	78	84	20	106	7

## DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES – 2001

2001 Total Deaths: 6 (6 homicides, 1 suicide)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Ronald Pozner (boyfriend)	20	Katherine Brown 19	1	1/00/01	Barrington	Held for trial, 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder
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*COMMENT: The couple had a turbulent relationship, and Pozner had an incident with the Seekonk police involving Katherine months before her death. A couple of months later, an incident occurred in Providence and no arrest was made at that time. Within four days Katherine's body was found in Pozner's parents driveway after he ran covered in blood to a neighbors house asking for help. Cause of death has not been released at this time. Posner has been found incompetent to stand trial. Pending further testing, etc.*

Charles J. DeRosa (ex-husband)	49	Linda M. Supino 52	2	2/9/01	North Providence	Suicide; No court action.
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*COMMENT: Police responded to a neighbors call for help after she reported hearing a female yelling and gunshots. When police arrived on the scene, they surrounded the house and tried to make contact with the parties inside with no response. They kicked in the rear door (which had been barricaded) and found the bodies of the two victims lying in the bedroom. Linda had been shot twice in the head with a 357 magnum, and Charles lay next to her with a single gunshot wound to the head.*

Jo Ann E. Clinton (girlfriend)	33	Keith Russell 44	1	3/4/01	Providence	Charged w/ murder
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*COMMENT: Police responded to a 911 call from the residence shortly after midnight. Upon arrival they found a knife which they believe to be the murder weapon in the home. The couple had a live-in relationship and no prior domestic related incidences.*

Kenneth Scott (husband)	72	Jean Scott 76	1	6/7/01	Warwick	Charged w/ murder
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*COMMENT: Police responded to a 911 call. Caller said his wife had been stabbed. Turned out the caller, Kenneth Scott, crushed her head w/ a sledgehammer and slit her throat. He attempted to slit his own wrists, but was unsuccessful. He was held without bail and was ordered a psychological evaluation. The couple had been married for 40 years and were said to be a close family.*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES – 2001

2001 Total Deaths: 6 (6 homicides, 1 suicide)  
(cont.)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Kimberly Gavin (girlfriend)	31	Scott Lombardi 30	1	7/01	Woonsocket	Held without bail
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*COMMENT: After attending a domestic violence counseling session, Scott had Kimberly pick him up and they went out and had drinks. Upon returning to Kimberly's apartment an argument ensued and Scott called his mother to come and get him. Before his mother arrived, the argument escalated and Kimberly stabbed Scott in the chest once severing the aorta and killing him instantly.*

Amaralis Urena (ex-girlfriend)	36	Hector Antonio Taveras-Disla 41	1	8/27/01	Providence	Held without bail
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*COMMENT: Hector was found in the hallway of a Providence apartment with a single stab wound to his chest. He later died at the hospital. His ex-girlfriend has been charged with the homicide. Amaralis had an active restraining order in effect against Hector.*

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# IMPORTANT !

**CASES ON THIS PAGE ARE NOT INCLUDED IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEATH TOTALS;  
THEY DO NOT FALL UNDER §12-29-5.**

**CASE WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ELEMENTS BUT NOT STATUTORY RELATIONSHIP -  
HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES – 2001**

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
Brother		Boyfriend of sister	1		North Providence	

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES – 2000

2000 Total Deaths: 3 (3 homicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Angel L. Colon (boyfriend)	1/22/60	Kathy MacMillan, 29	1	2/21/00	Central Falls	Held w/out bail
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*COMMENT: Colon turned himself in at the Police Station unable to speak English and gestured with his hands a dragging motion across his throat. At that point Police went to his address and found Kathy's body. Colon's 12-year-old daughter was also present in the apartment and upon Police arrival stated there was a problem inside.*

Calvin Miller (husband)	12/23/59	Collita Miller Calvin Miller	1	5/8/00 5/19/00	Providence	Suicide
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*COMMENT: Collita Miller was found behind a building in Providence with her throat slashed and severe defense wounds to her hands. When she was discovered, she was near death. Her husband Calvin fled the scene and was later found in a wooded area of Vermont with a self inflicted gun shot wound to the head. Collita recovered and is trying to provide a life for her children and herself.*

Christopher Freeman (boyfriend)	3/11/65	Christopher Freeman	1	12/5/00	Warwick	Suicide
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*COMMENT: After a night of drinking and playing cards, Christopher began arguing with Robin. When Robin went into a guestroom to sleep, Christopher kicked the door in and wanted her to be with him in their bedroom. Robin obliged to keep the piece, but Christopher became more enraged and began to threaten to kill himself. After a fruitless effort by Robin trying to convince Christopher not to do anything foolish, Christopher took a small caliber handgun from a dresser drawer and shot himself in the head.*

# IMPORTANT !

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THEY DO NOT FALL UNDER §12-29-5.**

**CASES WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ELEMENTS BUT NOT STATUTORY RELATIONSHIP -  
HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES --2000**

**2000 Total Deaths: 4 (not in total death tally)**

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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**Ricky Mandes**  
(estranged husband)

40

Robert Fry, 45  
Ricky Mandes, 40  
Rebecca Mandes, 34

2

11/14/00

Westerly

Suicide

*COMMENT: Rebecca was the wife of Ricky Mandes and had left him weeks earlier. Rebecca was seeing Robert Fry, a man she had met over the internet. Ricky Mandes went to Robert's place of employment and shot him several times killing him, then turned the gun on himself. Although the incident is domestic related, it does not fall under the 12-29-5; statute.*

**Gregory P. Leonard**  
(boyfriend)

34

Donna Seguin, 34

1

7/21/00

Providence

Unable to be  
proven

*COMMENT: Donna had been in this abusive relationship with Leonard who had three previous domestic related charges against him. The family of Donna believes Leonard was the perpetrator in this crime, however, the attorney general's office was unable to bring charges. The medical examiner states the cause of death as blunt force trauma to the head, but was unable to confirm exactly whether it was accidental as Leonard states, or deliberate.*

**Raphael Cotty III**  
(daughter's boyfriend)

28

Betty Senerchia, 44

1

9/30/00

Cranston

Held w/o bail  
Pending trial

*COMMENT: Betty lived in the first floor apartment alone and her daughter and her Cotty III lived in the third floor apartment. Betty was found brutally murder with her throat slashed in her apartment and Cotty was arrested shortly thereafter as the only suspect in the slaying. Cotty was arraigned on murder charges and thus far has given no motive for the slaying.*



# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1999

1999 Total Deaths: 10 (7 homicides, 3 suicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Maurice Young (estranged husband / father)	10/26/56	His 3 children: Jasmine 12, Jessica 9, Maurice, Jr. 6, Maurice Sr., suicide.	4 3 Homicides 1 Suicide	3/21/99	Providence	Suicide, no court action
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*COMMENT: According to the media: Wife, Walesca recently separated from Young. He came to where she was staying. She escaped and called police. Young shot their 3 children and then himself.*

Steven Marfeo (former boyfriend)	6/14/49	Laura Vincent, 38 dead; Salvatore Puleo (current boyfriend) injured	2 1 Homicide 1 Suicide	7/30/99	North Providence	Suicide, no court action
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*COMMENT: According to the media: Police suspect Marfeo of killing his former wife, also, her body was never recovered.*

Antonio Gomes (boyfriend)	11/11/41	Mary Brown, 53	1	8/27/99	Providence	Held w/out bail Case active, referred to AG
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*COMMENT: Antonio Gomes had been charged with the murder of a previous girlfriend (1980s?) and was found innocent due to mental illness (stated that he has blackouts due to alcoholism and did not recall the murder). Present thought is that he will try this tactic again.*

Edwin Edwards (former fiancé)	11/28/46	Jeanne Robinson, 49	1	9/8/99	Cranston	Life w/out parole
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*COMMENT: According to the media: She called off their engagement; he beat her with a flashlight, strangled her, and then ran over her with a car. He drove to Newport Bridge to attempt suicide, but didn't carry through.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: This all happened the night of Jeanne's daughter's wedding that they had both just attended.*

Nicola Scotti (estranged husband)	Unknown	Maria Scotti Nicola Scotti	1	12/3/99	Warwick	Suicide
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*COMMENT: The ex-wife Maria Scotti was held hostage by her ex-husband Nicola in their Warwick home. After some time Maria was able to make her escape and run for help at which time Nicola took his own life.*



## IMPORTANT !

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THEY DO NOT FALL UNDER §12-29-5.**

**CASES WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ELEMENTS BUT NOT STATUTORY RELATIONSHIP -  
HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES – 1999**

**Total Deaths: 1 (not in total death tally)**

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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William P. Saunders (boyfriend)	38	Francis Samayoa	1	9/15/99	Providence	Unable to be proven
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*COMMENT: Francis and her boyfriend were new tenants in their apartment and neighbors said they heard arguing all the time between the two parties. On September 15<sup>th</sup> after arguing, Saunders was packing his bags to leave when Francis went into another room and shot herself. The initial investigation pointed to Saunders, however the medical examiner reported that the direction of the gunshot and the residue on Francis's hand led to the determination of suicide.*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1998

1998 Total Deaths: 4 (2 homicides, 2 suicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Steven McGinn (husband)	4/16/55	Eleanor McGinn, 43	2 1 Homicide 1 Suicide	5/4/98	Smithfield	Suicide, no court action
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*COMMENT: According to the media: Upon discovery of their bodies, the McGinn's were described as the "ideal" couple with the "ideal" family. Steven strangled Eleanor to death, and took his own life with auto exhaust fumes. Days later, stories began to surface of the ongoing abuse of Eleanor by her husband.*

Clyde Gillespie (husband)	1/7/52	Betty Sue Gillespie, 40	1	11/24/98	Providence	Set for trial, Aug. 3, 2000
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*COMMENT: According to media: Police responded to house, found victim dead and stuffed into the attic. She had recently dropped a restraining order. Suspect had been charged with a DV felony in 1996.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Very little information in the Providence Journal regarding this incident. There is some question in police reports as to whether perpetrator and victim were married, but separated. States boyfriend in one report.*

Rafael Gonzales (estranged husband)	3/22/55	Valerie Gonzales, 44 survived. Rafael committed suicide.	1 Suicide	12/9/98	North Kingstown	Suicide, no court action
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*COMMENT: According to media: Rafael assaulted, and attempted to strangle Valerie. A neighbor called 911. After police arrive, Valerie escaped. After a 6-½ hr. standoff, Rafael killed himself.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Not considered silent witness – Valerie survived..*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1997

1997 Total Deaths: 3 (3 homicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Charles S. Smith (Stepfather)	6/15/65	Kristen Jorge, 16	1	4/14/97	Newport	Life w/out parole + 15 yrs consecutive
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*COMMENT: According to media: Smith was estranged from Kristen's mother. She had thrown him out after numerous domestic abuse problems, and dropping of a restraining order. He returned to the home and waited. Kristen came home from school early, and unexpected. Smith stabbed her to death and then sexually assaulted her (after her death).*

*NANCY'S NOTE: My understanding is that Kristen skipped school that day and came home – then Smith broke in. She is considered a silent witness. Her mother had sought counseling on several occasions from the WRCNC, but was not involved with them at the time of Kristen's death.*

- This case was not charged as a domestic by the AG's Office because the homicide victim was a juvenile. Juveniles don't fall under the 1988 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT.*

Lawrence G. Cofone (Former boyfriend)	2/6/52	Irene J. Anderson, 45	1	11/6/97	Hopkinton	Life sentence
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*COMMENT: According to the media: Cofone waited for her to arrive home from her work and bludgeoned her to death. They both worked for a local nursing home and both were well thought off (at least that is what the media reported). There was an earlier DV charge on Cofone against Anderson.*

Norman Laurence (unknown)	4/14/62	Betty Jo Gardiner	1	9/31/97	Warwick	Life (some sentence still pending)
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*NANCY'S NOTE: Ex-boyfriend, Norman, murdered Betty Jo because he believed she was going to testify against him. She left behind three small children.*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1996

1996 Total Deaths: 10 ( 7 homicides, 3 suicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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<b>Jason K. Doyen</b> (Boyfriend/father)	4/9/73	Cheryl Lee Mailloux, 22 Jason K. Doyen, 2 Jason, Sr. committed suicide	3 2 Homicides 1 Suicide	4/28/96	Coventry	Suicide, No court action
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*NANCY'S NOTE: Jason Jr's mother arrived at the scene to find her son and ex-husband dead. Both she and friends reported no past domestic violence problems between the couple.*

<b>Henry Randolph</b> (Husband)	61  (suicided; not in court system, so no DOB)	Patricia Randolph, 38 Joylena, 11 Henry, Jr., 8	4: 3 Homicides 1 Suicide	5/16/96	Providence	Suicide, No court action
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*COMMENT: According to media: Henry was depressed and on medication. He Killed his wife, his two children and then killed himself.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: According to the family, Patricia had been speaking to her pastor about family problems, and was possibly planning to separate due to Henry's recent behavior.*

<b>Joseph McManus</b> (husband)	9/25/58	Kelly McGinity McManus, 35	1	6/29/96	Narragansett	Life, w/out parole
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*COMMENT: According to media: Joseph stalked Kelly and stabbed her to death in front of two of their three children. He then stabbed himself, but survived. Media reported that "everyone" knew he had been beating her for years.*

<b>Omer A. Lizotte</b> (husband)	9/29/18	Evelyn Lizotte, 72	2 1 Homicide 1 Suicide	4/15/96	Tiverton	Suicide, No court action
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*COMMENT: According to media: Omer called his son and said he had killed Evelyn. The son called police; a five hour stand off ensued; Omer killed himself.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Family and friends say that Omer was upset about both he and his wife's failing health. But why the ' stand off with police then?*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1995

1995 Total Deaths: 4 (3 homicides, 1 suicide)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Patricia Ann Smith (girlfriend)	12/31/52	Norman G. Chisbusk III	2 1 Homicide 1 Suicide	7/95	Westerly	Suicide, No court action
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*COMMENT: Patricia committed suicide after killing Norman.*

Robert Chiellini (boyfriend)	12/27/64	Nicole Benvie, 21	1	10/25/95	Providence	Life
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*COMMENT: Found Guilty by jury trial. The media indicated that Robert was deathly jealous of Nicole. I seem to remember she made her living as an exotic dancer (something like that).*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Nicole had dropped out of high school at 17 (right after she met Robert). She had been a B student throughout school. Robert turned her on to crack cocaine, exotic dancing & prostitution. Robert did not work; Nicole supported both him and their 2-year-old son. Robert had an extensive police record and spent time at the ACI.*

John R. Pacheco, Jr.	7/21/74	Jenny Lee Bailey, 17	1	11/95	Warwick	Life w/out parole (Pacheco)
Jonathon Tretton	3/8/76	(Same Victim)				Life + 10 yrs Conspiracy (Tretton)

*COMMENT: Media reported that Jenny Lee was pregnant when Tretton and Pacheco killed her. Initially, it was suspected that the unborn child was Tretton's and that was the motive for killing Jenny Lee. However, DNA was not done. It was never proven to be Tretton's child.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Jenny's mom, Lois, stated that Jenny Lee had told everyone that the baby was that of her new boyfriend, not Tretton's. She was lured to Gorton's Pond by both Tretton and Pacheco,, then bludgeoned to death and her throat slit.*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1994

1994 Total Deaths: 12 (10 homicides, 2 suicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Nural-Islam Salim (Former boyfriend)	5/2/70	Carla DeSilva, 23 (pregnant)	1	3/7/94	Pawtucket	Life
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*COMMENT: Pled Guilty to Murder 1, 2/15/95*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Carla was stabbed to death in her apartment and stuffed into the closet. She was found later that day by her brother and sister, who persuaded the landlord to let them in.*

Robert Gonder (Husband)	1/14/46	Marie Gonder, 29	1	3/8/94	Pawtucket	Life
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*NANCY'S NOTE: This is true! Marie's husband purchased a handgun that day, and shot Marie 11 times in their home. He then went to the police department with his 3 year old son and confessed to having just killed Marie. She was found alive under the kitchen table, but died hours later at the hospital.*

Gary Scott (stepson)	8/9/53	Omer Labelle, 60	1	4/4/94	Pawtucket	Charged w/Murder; RI action pending.
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*COMMENT: Currently serving a separate murder charge at Middletown House of Corrections in MA..*

Aldaberto Leal (former boyfriend)	34	Carol DiResto, 26 Rocco Ruggiano, 33 (Carol's employer)	3 2 Homicide 1 Suicide	4/27/94	Warwick	Suicide, No court action
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*COMMENT: According to media: Carol's boss was killed along with her.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Carol had a restraining order against Leal. He had many other restraining orders against him from several other women, and Carol had told friends she feared for her life. Leal went to the salon where Carol worked, her employer Rocco stepped in to protect her and was shot and killed. Leal then took Carol downstairs where he shot and killed her and then himself.*

# 1994 (CONT.)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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<b>Ronald A. Bousquet</b> (son)	11/22/51	Edward J. Bousquet, 74	1	6/26/94	Cumberland	50 yrs, 25 to serve
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*COMMENT: Other charges, burning dwelling-50 yrs, 25 to serve, 25 probation, concurrent; robbery, no separate sentence; violation of Protective Order, 1 yr. concurrent; B&E, 5 yrs. Concurrent.*

<b>Edgar Berreondo</b> (former boyfriend)	9/4/65	Ana Hernandez, 29 Edgar Flores, 24	3 2 Homicides 1 Suicide	6/26/94	Providence	Suicide, No court action
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*NANCY'S NOTE: Edgar had a restraining order against him awaiting signature from a judge when he broke into Ana's apartment. He ran after her, shot and killed her and then himself.*

<b>Rahsaan J. Muhammad</b> (son)	11/20/72	Ali Muhammad, 49	1	7/25/94	Providence	50 yrs, 22 ½ yrs to serve; 22 ½ yrs suspended with probation
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*COMMENT: None.*

<b>April McCoy</b> (former girlfriend)	4/16/73	Corey Mylers, 29	1	10/10/94	Pawtucket	Murder; Not Guilty, Jury Trial.
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*COMMENT: None.*



# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1993

**1993 Total Deaths: 6 (5 homicides, 1 suicide)**

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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<b>Jeromy Willis</b> (estranged husband)	23	Marie Willis, 30	1	1/1/93	Myrtle Beach, SC Military Base	Unknown. In military, out of state.
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**COMMENT:** If memory serves, Marie was from Bristol, RI and had come back to RI and began divorce proceedings against Jeromy. I think he shot her to death on the military base he was stationed at. She had gone down there for the some legal proceeding or other, concerning her and Jeromy.

**NANCY'S NOTE:** Marie was living with her parents and son in Bristol, and had returned to the military base where Jeromy was stationed. She had charged him with DV (he used a propane torch on her legs) and he was being tried in a military courtroom. When she got into the courtroom (located on the base), Jeromy stepped forward and shot and killed her, in the presence of the judge, both lawyers and spectators.

<b>Thomas G. Lamoureux</b> (brother)	8/22/60	Dennis J. Lamoureux, 36	1	6/17/93	Woonsocket	30 yrs, 10 to serve, 20 suspended w/ probation
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**COMMENT:** Charged w/ Murder 1; pled Guilty to Manslaughter.

<b>John F. Russell</b> (husband/father)	55	Pamela Russell, 42 Tiffany A. Russell, 14	3 2 Homicides 1 Suicide	7/9/93	Warwick	Suicide, No court action.
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**NANCY'S NOTE:** John, who had been living outside the house for a few months, shot both mother and daughter. Pamela had just filed for a divorce a few days earlier.

<b>David Savage</b> (boyfriend)	9/25/59	Michelle Y. Prescott, 28	1	12/8/93	Westerly	30 yrs, 10 to serve, 20 suspended w/ probation
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**NANCY'S NOTE:** Michelle had been living with David for several years. He reports that he was playing around with a gun when it "went off" and accidentally killed Michelle. She reportedly was holding her son's hand at the time.

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1992

1992 Total Deaths: 6 (6 homicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Thomas E. Johnson (common-law husband)	3/27/50	Margaret M. Bazinet, 34	1	8/1/92	Pawtucket	Life
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*COMMENT: Disposition: Found guilty of 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, 9/27/94, Jury Trial.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Margaret lived with Thomas who was her common-law husband and they had 3 children together. They had been arguing when Thomas stabbed her in the abdomen and neck while the children slept in the next room. He then phoned a friend three times before he called 911 and reported "a body in my living room."*

William Peloquin (estranged husband)	3/27/56	Diane J. Peloquin, 35	1	6/24/92	Warwick	Life
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*COMMENT: Disposition: Pled guilty to 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, 5/31/94. Sexual assault charge dismissed.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Diane was separated from William when he came to her apartment, immobilized her with a stun gun,, raped her, and then strangled her.*

Roger Simpson (ex-fiancé)	4/14/62	Beth Crisp, 22 Michael S. Harris, 28 (Beth's boyfriend)	2	9/7/92	Providence	2 consecutive Life sentences
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*COMMENT: Disposition: Found guilty of 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder, ADW, B&E w/Intent to Commit Murder, 1/12/94.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Beth had broken up with Roger Simpson several weeks earlier. She had just begun dating Harris, and answered the door to her apartment early in the morning and was shot five times at close range by Simpson, who then stepped over her body and shot and killed Harris.*

## 1992 (CONT.)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Andrew Jett (unknown)	2/11/59	Stephanie Oxendine, 33	1	12/2/92	Providence	60 yrs, 40 to serve, 20 suspended w/probation
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*COMMENT: Disposition: Pled no contest to 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder, 12/2/92.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Jett pulled Stephanie out of her car they had been driving in, and proceeded to beat her with a tire iron in front of several witnesses. No one called for help for over five minutes.*

Henry R. Cassidy (live-in boyfriend)	10/3/50	Cassandra Lee Anderson 27	1	12/31/92	Woonsocket	30 yrs, 20 to serve, 10 suspended w/ probation
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*COMMENT: Disposition: Pled guilty to an amended charge of voluntary manslaughter, 3/14/93. Additional charges were dismissed (carrying firearms during violent crime and possession of firearms after committing a violent act).*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Cassandra was seated in the living room of her apartment, after friends had left from a New Year's Eve party. Cassidy walked out of the bedroom, firing shots from an automatic weapon and then shot Cassandra once in the neck, in his mother's presence. Cassandra's mother told me (Nancy) that Cassidy's mother had always hated Cassie, and she believes there's a possibility that it was actually his mother who shot Cassie..*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1991

1991 Total Deaths: 3 (3 homicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Joseph S. Dias (Husband)	2/25/59	Delfina V. Dias, 36	1	11/12/91	East Providence	Life
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*COMMENT: Pled nolo to 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, 9-8-92.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: This is the most horrific case I (Nancy) have ever heard of. Delfina asked Joseph for a divorce, and moments later Joseph asked his son to use his baseball bat.. The son walked into the living room moments later to witness his father bashing in Delfina's head, and then use a hunting knife to slit her throat. Joseph then asked his son where he should stash the body. The son walked over to the couch and found a pulse, but was so petrified of his father that he was unable to do anything. Joseph then drove his son to his parent's house and told him if he said anything that he would be next. Joseph waited almost an entire day before he called the police, then tried to explain that someone had broken into the house. The son actually had to testify against his father and relive the events.*

Ronald Harnois (Husband, bigamist)	1/16/50	Tammy Petrin, 21	1	7/30/91	Woonsocket	Set for trial Oct. 2000
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*COMMENT: None.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Tammy was married to Ron who was also married to another woman. Tammy was going to testify against Ron about his planning to murder his first wife with a bomb. While Ron was in jail awaiting trial for that charge, he hired someone to murder Tammy. That person is now deceased.. Tammy was shot in a restaurant in Woonsocket.*

Perry Thornley (cousin by marriage: alleged lover to victim)	11/8/45	Debra Thornley, 36 (body not found until May 22, 2001)	1	5/5/91	Exeter RISP	Remanded to ACI until trail date
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*COMMENT: Debra was a missing person for 10 years. Acting on a tip the police discovered her body in a remote area in Exeter. Although Debra was married to Perry Thornley's cousin, allegedly Debra and perry were intimate. After Perry was arrested, he confessed.*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1990

1990 Total Deaths: 4 (4 homicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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<b>John S. Miguel</b> (Estranged husband)	11/18/52	Catherine Miguel, 39	1	9/25/90	Woonsocket	Life
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*COMMENT: Pled nolo to amended charge of 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder, 1-16-92. Asst w/ dangerous weapon dismissed.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Catherine was stabbed over 30 times on the lawn of her home in front of several witnesses, including her 6 and 11 year old children and their 15 year old babysitter.*

<b>Frank Moniz</b> (Husband)	2/22/63	Maryellen Moniz, 24	1	10/20/90	Providence	Life
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*COMMENT: Disposition: Found guilty of 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, 5/19/92.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Maryellen had been separated for one month from Frank when he broke into her apartment and stabbed her over twenty times in the head, chest, legs and arms.*

<b>Francisco Martinez</b> (Former boyfriend)	9/6/61	Arlene Delavega, 21	1	12/21/90	Providence	Life and 20 yrs, 5 to serve, 15 suspended w/probation, consecutive
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*COMMENT: Disposition: Murder1 dismissed. Pled nolo to Murder 11 and ADW dwelling. Sentences for both counts, consecutive.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Arlene was pregnant with Martinez' child and had gone for a walk with her mother. Martinez drove by her friend's apartment, and while she was on the sidewalk, he screamed that he wanted to 'kill the baby.' He then shot her as he drove by.*

<b>Sylvain Nicolas</b> (Husband)	4/15/49	Yvrose Nicolas	1	12/16/90	Providence	Murder II, 60 yrs, 40 to serve, 20 yrs suspended w/probation
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*COMMENT: None.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Yvrose had fled to a shelter and been relocated to Rhode Island to start a new life with her young daughter. She was found stabbed to death in her apartment, with Nicholas standing over her body.*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1989

1989 Total Deaths: 5 (5 homicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Josephus Bryant (boyfriend)	2/17/53	Sherry Robinson	1	5/18/89	Cumberland	At IMH; Case dismissed, 5-6-96, Incompetency
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*COMMENT: Original Murder1 dismissed; defendant pled to manslaughter. Case dismissed '96 / defendant incompetent.*

*NANCY'S NOTE: Bryant called rescue workers and stated that he "couldn't awaken her". Sherry died of blunt force trauma to the head. Bryant was free on bail and awaiting trial for 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder when he was arrested one year later for assaulting another girlfriend.*

Arthur Holden (boyfriend)	8/26/46	Martha M. Palmer, 38	1	7/10/89	Pawtucket	10 yrs, 10 suspended, 10 yrs w/probation
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*COMMENT: Palmer was admitted to Memorial hospital on July 10th, and died of head injuries on 26th. Death apparently deemed accidental. They were fighting and she fell and hit her head on a coffee table.*

George Shamshak (husband)	1/27/51	Janice Shamshak, 36	1	1/26/89	Providence	20 yrs, 10 suspended with concurrent 5 yr term for firearms charge
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*COMMENT: This defendant implicated in the Hillside strangling murders that terrorized Southern California in the late 70,s*

Arthur Stanley (adoptive son)	5/19/66	Noah S. Stanley, 51	1	10/89	Providence	40 yrs
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*COMMENT: Noah's adoptive son stabbed and bludgeoned him to death in the kitchen of his own home.*

Jeffery Hornoff (boyfriend/lover)	8/30/62	Victoria Cushman	1	8/11/89	Warwick	Life (appeal <u>may</u> be pending)
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*COMMENT: Hornoff adamantly denies any involvement in this homicide. His sentence is currently under appeal. Appeal decision has not yet been made. Appeal has since been denied (4-18-01 note).*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES-1988

1988 TOTAL DEATHS: 1 (1 homicide)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Aires Correia (Husband)	9/10/67	Maria Correia	1	8/7/88	Pawtucket	Life
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*COMMENT: Aires pled to Murder11. Media reported, Maria's body was covered with bruises from head to toe (even the bottoms of her feet). After beating her to death, he lay her in their bed and put their infant daughter in her arms (the baby was not injured by him). Aires had been a heavy drinker and had abused Maria before. He was insanely jealous. The day of her death, her parents had tried to stop her from going home to her and Aires apartment. She, however, did not want to anger him by doing that. Aires called police early the morning of beating her to death. His fists were so swollen the police documented his injuries. I saw those photos and so did the jury. Aires never did show remorse. His comment to the judge, upon conviction and before sentencing, was something like the following: "Yes, your honor, I'm a young man. I don't want to spend my life in prison." Never a word about Maria or his baby girl.*

*NOTE: Ironically, Jack Ciccilline defended Aires after just having defended Donna Ordway, a battered women who killed her abusive husband. Jack was the first in Rhode Island to use the "Battered Women's' self-defense." Unfortunately Donna was convicted (manslaughter, with, 5 yrs. to serve, 20 yrs. suspended with probation).*



# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1987

1987 Total Deaths: 12 (9 homicides, 3 suicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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<b>Donna Ordway</b> (wife)	5/28/61	David Ordway, 31	1	2/7/87	Glocester	15 yrs to serve; 10 suspended w/probation
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*COMMENT: Murder 1 disposed of. Defendant pled to Manslaughter. Media reported, David had beaten Donna for their whole relationship. Before they were married, David had been arrested by EPPD for assaulting Donna. A photo of her taken by East Providence PD at that time was later entered as evidence for her defense after she killed David. This is the first case that officially introduced Rhode Island Supreme Court to the "Battered Women's Self-defense Syndrome." Her defense attorney, Jack Ciccilline, introduced it. I (Janice) worked closely with Donna and her defense team on this case.*

*NOTE: DV T&M Unit has numerous articles and materials on this case.*

<b>Jamie Capeles</b> (boyfriend)	12/1/54	Bielky Joga, 21	1	10/3/87	Central Falls	10 yrs; 2 to serve, 8 suspended w/probation
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*COMMENT: Capeles told police that he and Joga argued at 6:00 am and he produced a 357 magnum from a dresser drawer that he believed to be unloaded. During the struggle, the gun was fired, striking Joga in the head.*

<b>Robert Gagnon</b> (husband)	27	Christine Gagnon, 25, Ronald LaComb, 24 Robert Gagnon	3 2 homicides 1 suicide	7/12/87	North Providence	Suicide No court action
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*COMMENT: Christine was granted a restraining order, and filed for a divorce just two weeks prior to being shot by her husband in the parking lot of a donut shop where she worked. Her friend Ronnie Lacombe was also shot by Gagnon before Gagnon turned the gun on himself two hours later.*

<b>Anthony Gomes</b> (boyfriend)	11/11/41	Shirley Wilkerson, 48	1	1987	Providence	10 yrs, 11 mo to serve, 109 mo suspended w/probation
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*COMMENT: Gomes claimed that during an argument both he and Shirley pulled out kitchen knives. He suffered stab wounds to his face and neck and Shirley was stabbed multiple times with the fatal wound to the abdomen. Gomes is the same suspect in the Mary Brown domestic murder case that happened in Providence in August of 1999.*

## 1987 (CONT.)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Pedro Collado (ex-husband)	38	Ana Collado	2 1 homicide 1 suicide	5/87	Providence	Suicide No court action
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*COMMENT: After being divorced for two years, Ana and Pedro had reconciled. Pedro had a cocaine habit on a daily basis and was full of rage and anger over a male relative also residing in the family home. All of this information was relayed to Police by young Ana, age 14, who witnessed the attacks.*

Dawn Magee (wife)	11/26/60	Joseph Magee, 34	1	10/87	Cranston	15 yrs, 45 mo to serve, 135 mo suspended w/probation
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*COMMENT: It was Halloween, and after returning from taking the kids out, Joseph had been drinking and began to quarrel with Dawn. During the quarrel, Dawn was pushed several times and grabbed a kitchen knife and stabbed Joseph once in the collar bone area. Police stated that they had been called to the Magee residence on several occasions for domestic disturbances. Relatives of Dawn say that she often had bruises and black eyes. Dawn pled to an amended charge of manslaughter. As I recall, Dawn went to the kitchen for the knife. Nevertheless, she got a pretty light sentence. She had the same defense attorney, John Cicilline, Sr., that Donna Ordway did.*

Manuel Costa Jr. (husband)	10/11/45	Mary Lou Costa, 34	2 1 homicide 1 suicide	6/87	Warwick	Suicide No court action
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*COMMENT: Mary Lou had filed for a divorce and was granted a restraining order for her protection from Manuel because of marital problems. Friends of the couple say Manuel was distraught over the problems and wanted to reconcile. When Mary Lou neglected to pick up her daughter at her Mother's home on Sunday, Mary Lou's sister went to her home and discovered the bodies of both Mary Lou and Manuel. Manuel was in critical condition after shooting himself in the head following his shooting of Mary Lou.*

Antonio Rodriguez (Father)	12/17/23	Angel Rodriguez, 33	1	8/6/87	Providence	12 yrs, 4 to serve, 8 suspended w/probation
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*COMMENT: The defendant claims that he was asleep on his couch in his apartment when, in the early morning hours, his son Angel came in and began to beat on him. He reached under the couch and grabbed a machete he kept there. He hacked his son more than 50 times, to his death..*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1986

1986 Total Deaths: 4 (3 homicides, 1 suicide)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Alfred Aspinwall (Boyfriend)	3/6/59	Gretchen Phillipe, 28	1	2/4/86	Providence	25 years
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COMMENT: None.

NANCY'S NOTE: Gretchen had a restraining order filed against Aspinwall. The Providence Sheriff's Dept served him with it on the sidewalk in front of Gretchen's apartment and then left. Aspinwall then used his key to get into the apartment and strangled her to death in front of their 13 month old son. Family and friends all knew Aspinwall was constantly beating up Gretchen.

Alberto Wright (husband)	11/6/41	Alice Chalmers	1	6/1/86	Providence	Life
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COMMENT: Wright was found guilty of killing his wife by beating her with a blackjack about the head and stabbing her some fifteen times.

Michael Donovan (husband)	?	? Donovan (wife)	2	?/?/86	Providence	Suicide; No court action
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COMMENT: Donovan was a Providence PD officer. Confessed to his wife he had been unfaithful. She threw him out and did not let him come back to the home. A month later he took a gun to the family home, shot her and took their child to a stranger and said he had just found this kid who seemed lost. He then drove away, alone, and parked somewhere and shot himself,

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1985

1985 Total Deaths: 3 (2 homicides, 1 suicide)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Richard Drake (husband)	3/29/42	Jane Drake, 54 Drake committed suicide	2	1/9/85	Smithfield	Suicide No court action
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*COMMENT: We'll hear from Capt. Bill Shepard, Smithfield PD on this one.*

Daniel Boucher (boyfriend)	6/9/59	Kathy T. Demers, 21	1	1/1/85	Woonsocket	Life in prison
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*COMMENT: Boucher tried to get his sentence reduced, but a Superior Court Judge struck down the request citing the brutality of the assault and the lack of remorse on the part of the defendant.*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1984

1984 Total Deaths: 2 (2 homicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Charles Hockenhull (boyfriend)	4/13/60	Lori Fallon, 22	1	11/8/84	West Warwick	50 yrs, 30 suspended w/ 30 yrs probation
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*COMMENT: Lori's mother commented on the sentence by saying, "I don't think the sentence was just. I don't think he should be allowed to be rehabilitated."*

Robert Nixon (Boyfriend)	5/23/51	Darleen Sims, 27	1	5/17/84	Providence	50 yrs, 25 to serve, 25 suspended w/probation
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*COMMENT: Nixon surrendered to Police after they found the body of Darleen stuffed in the trunk of his car parked in front of his apartment. The victim had been stabbed in the chest three times with a pocketknife.*

# DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1983

1983 Total Deaths: 4 (4 homicides)

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Ronald Quarles (Boyfriend)	10/9/42	Lorraine Pinto	1	10/5/83	Newport	14 yrs, 7 to serve, 7 suspended w/probation
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COMMENT: None.

Harold J. Gaines (unknown)	7/30/49	Patricia Ganett, 22	1	2/18/83	Newport	40 yrs, 22 to serve, 18 suspended w/probation
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COMMENT: None.

Antonio V. Rivera (husband)	4/27/40	Maria E. Carvahal-Rivera, 33	1	9/17/83	Providence	Active warrant still showing
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COMMENTS: Rivera was charged with shooting his wife after an argument in their second-floor apartment.

Alfred Frechette (unknown)	3/29/28	Pearl Mellor, 24	1	9/11/83	Woonsocket	20 yrs, 12 to serve, 8 suspended w/probation
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COMMENTS: Pearl was found wrapped in a bedspread and tied with a rope in the driveway of Frechette's house. The victim died from a blow to the head with a hammer.



**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES – 1982 – NONE DOCUMENTED****DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES – 1981 – NONE DOCUMENTED****DOCUMENTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES - 1980****1980 Total Deaths: 1     (1 homicide)**

PERPETRATOR	DOB or AGE	VICTIM(S), KILLED / INJURED	# KILLED	DAY / DATE	POLICE DEPT.	SENTENCE
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Peter J. Verlaque	2/17/55	Maria V. Dube	1	5/30/80	Smithfield	35 yrs to serve w/15 suspended, 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree murder  In Sept 1983, sentence reduced to 26 to serve and 24 suspended
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**COMMENTS:**    *According to police, Maria was not healthy and somewhat limited. She was a Kidney dialysis patient. When she didn't show up for dialysis, police were called. They found her body.*

*From what I could gather from police, the perp used to "visit" Maria only when he was drunk. He claimed he was not her boyfriend, but apparently she had referred to him as her boyfriend and he was often seen visiting her (police said usually when he was very drunk). He killed her with a bottle of Galliano which was found broken off in her chest and vaginal cavity. After killing her, he gutted her body with the broken bottle.*



## IMPORTANT !

**CASES ON THIS PAGE ARE NOT INCLUDED IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEATH TOTALS;  
THEY DO NOT FALL UNDER §12-29-5.**

**CASE WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ELEMENTS BUT NOT STATUTORY RELATIONSHIP -  
HOMICIDES AND SUICIDES – 1980**

**1980 Total Deaths: 1 (not in total death tally)**

<b>Ann McMaugh</b> (battered wife)  and <b>Bernard McMaugh</b> (abusive (husband))	6/16/56	Gregory J. Dube (22) (unrelated to Bernard or Ann)	1	8/16/80	Smithfield	Life to serve Guilty 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder (1985). Sentence overturned in 1992; Ann set free   Life to serve Guilty 1 <sup>st</sup> degree murder
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*COMMENT: I have included this case only because upon imprisonment Ann was identified by the ACI psychiatrist as suffering from Battered Women's Syndrome (he believed a very extreme case). RI Supreme Court granted Ann a new trial in 1992, and also established "Battered Woman's Syndrome" as a legitimate criminal defense in Rhode Island. This action reversed a May 1991 Superior Court ruling that rejected the "Battered Woman's Defense" (Donna Ordway case). Under a plea agreement with the AG's Office, Ann pleaded no contest to reduced charges of involuntary manslaughter and conspiracy. RI Supreme Court freed her. NOTE: DV T&M Unit has some articles and materials on this case.*