



Domestic Violence Homicide Report

PENNSYLVANIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2001

Domestic Violence in PA Claims 110 Lives in 2001

ADAMS	July 24	A 26-year-old mother of four died from asphyxiation and blunt force trauma to the head in Gettysburg. A male acquaintance, who resided in the same homeless shelter as the victim, has been charged with her murder. According to family members, she had recently moved from Baltimore to Gettysburg to escape an abusive boyfriend and reduce her access to drugs. The perpetrator told police that the victim fell into a cellar hole at a construction site and that he "climbed into the hole to check on her." He stated that he found her to be unresponsive, had sex with her, stole her purse and left the scene. Friends believe the perpetrator had been stalking the victim.
ALLEGHENY	January 9	A 75-year-old woman was fatally shot in the head by her husband in Pittsburgh. Authorities said she was shot twice while lying in bed, where she had been confined as a result of Alzheimer's disease. After shooting her, the perpetrator committed suicide.
	April 26	A 20-year-old mother of one was fatally shot in the head by her boyfriend in Pittsburgh. An adult who resides in the townhouse heard the gunshot, went downstairs and saw the perpetrator standing over the victim with a gun. The perpetrator fled, but later turned himself in to police. The couple's child and two other children were in the home at the time of the shooting. They were not injured.
	May 13	A 48-year-old man was fatally shot in the chest by his wife in Dravosburg. The victim was a Dravosburg Police Sergeant. The perpetrator claimed the victim had feigned hitting her and threatened her life. During testimony, she stated that the gun went off as she was reaching for it and again as she crossed over the bed to move away from the victim. The perpetrator allegedly did not realize she had shot the victim until he said, "You hit me." Her attorney is pursuing a battered woman's syndrome defense. There were no formal reports of abuse, but her sister and others in the community indicated they were aware of ongoing violence within the relationship.
	June 11	A 43-year-old mother was bludgeoned and stabbed to death by her husband in Pittsburgh. He also beat his 14-year-old stepson who died two days later. The perpetrator set fire to the house before attempting suicide. Firefighters responding to the scene found the doors barricaded from the inside. The perpetrator's mother-in-law, who is bedridden, was on the second floor of the home when the fire was set. She was hospitalized for smoke inhalation. In May 2001, the stepdaughter obtained a Protection From Abuse order against the perpetrator who was scheduled to stand trial June 25 on charges of repeatedly sexually assaulting his stepdaughter from 1993 through 2000.
	July 23	A 57-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend in Pleasant Hills. She then committed suicide. Family members and friends said the couple had been recently arguing.

The Death Toll

This report details domestic violence homicides during 2001, as reported in PA newspapers. Although it does NOT reflect the total number of domestic violence-related deaths, this report offers a strong indication of the scope and lethality of intimate partner homicide in this state.

NOTE: Information about each incident varies according to newspaper accounts.

From January-December 2001, at least 75 domestic violence incidents resulted in 110 deaths.

WHO DIED

- 84 victims
 - 57 women
 - 22 men
 - 5 children

- 26 perpetrators committed suicide

WHO DID THE KILLING

- 62 men
- 14 women

HOW THE VICTIMS DIED

- 51 shot
- 10 stabbed
- 3 beaten
- 3 bludgeoned
- 3 strangled
- 1 bludgeoned and stabbed
- 1 stabbed and beaten
- 1 strangled and beaten
- 1 gagged to death
- 1 throat slashed and set on fire
- 1 asphyxiated and blunt force trauma to the head
- 1 drugged and strangled
- 1 hanged
- 1 beaten and set on fire
- 1 blunt force trauma and beaten
- 1 blunt force trauma to the head
- 1 run over by a car
- 1 beaten, strangled and throat slashed
- 1 suffocated

(Continued inside)

Domestic Violence Takes Its Toll in Pennsylvania – One Life At A Time

ALLEGHENY	July 24	A 32-year-old woman was strangled by her boyfriend in Penn Hills. The perpetrator confessed to police that he accidentally strangled her during consensual sex. He stated that once she went limp, he panicked and used an electric cord to hang her from the shower rod to make it look like suicide.
	August 8	A 35-year-old man was stabbed to death while trying to protect his girlfriend from her ex-boyfriend in Upper St. Clair. The girlfriend told police that the perpetrator entered the garage and held a knife to her throat, after she raised the electric garage door to go to work. She stated that she pushed the car door into him and fled into the basement apartment. The victim attempted to intervene and was stabbed in the chest, back and arms by the perpetrator.
	August 26	A 42-year-old mother of one was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Pittsburgh. The perpetrator called his mother to tell her he had just shot his wife. He committed suicide before police and paramedics arrived. Relatives reported that the couple was having domestic problems and that they were in the process of divorcing.
	September 7	A 44-year-old mother of two was fatally shot by her husband in Coraopolis. He then committed suicide. Their son stated he had a “normal conversation” with his father earlier that day over the phone.
ARMSTRONG	March 5	A 50-year-old man was fatally shot by his estranged girlfriend in east Franklin Township. She then committed suicide. A three-page note was found at the scene, written by the perpetrator, and included a statement indicating she was upset that the relationship had ended.
	March 9	A 47-year-old woman and her 27-year-old boyfriend were fatally shot by her ex-husband in Cowanshannock Township. The boyfriend was shot in the abdomen as he exited the home; the woman was shot in the head as she tried to flee in her car. The perpetrator was sentenced to two life sentences.
BEAVER	July 23	A 5-year-old boy was hanged by his father in Hopewell Township. The perpetrator then committed suicide. The parents were separated. The child was visiting his grandparents for the summer and was scheduled to visit his father on weekends. The parents had a telephone conversation on Friday evening about the visitation arrangements. The perpetrator ended the call by saying, “This is your fault, you’ll hear from my lawyer.” When he failed to bring the child back to the grandparent’s home on Sunday evening, they called the police. The police went to the home on Sunday night and early Monday morning. At sunrise Monday they got a key from the landlord, entered the home, and found the bodies hanging in the basement.
	September 3	A 40-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend’s 20-year-old son in New Brighton. Police said the victim was arguing with his girlfriend. During testimony, the perpetrator revealed that he came down the stairs armed with a shotgun and fired one shot into the victim’s back. Police had been called to the home on several occasions for previous domestic disputes.
BERKS	January 21	A 20-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Reading. According to law enforcement, there was no history of domestic violence though the two were arguing in the hallway outside her apartment when the shooting occurred. Before dying, the victim told her sister’s boyfriend, who was inside her apartment at the time of the shooting, the name of the man who had shot her. The perpetrator was on probation for killing his two-month-old son in 1998.
	June 30	A 21-year-old mother of two was strangled by her boyfriend in Hereford. According to police, the couple was arguing about custody and a paternity test. The perpetrator told police the victim went limp after he strangled her. When he awoke the next morning, she was still lying on the ground. The perpetrator called his mother to baby-sit for the children, stating he had a job interview. While he was gone, his mother found a suicide note he had written and notified police. Several hours later he called his mother and admitted to killing his girlfriend. When State Police took him into custody, the perpetrator told police he put the victim’s body in the trunk of his car, drove to Luzerne County and dumped her in the woods.
BLAIR	May 7	A 20-year-old woman had her throat slashed and was set on fire by two women in Hollidaysburg. One of the perpetrators said she was upset with the victim because she had “interfered in a relationship with another woman.”



Domestic Violence Takes Its Toll in Pennsylvania – One Life At A Time

BUCKS	March 19	A mother of one was fatally shot in the back by her ex-boyfriend in Bensalem. Her 28-year-old boyfriend also was fatally shot. The perpetrator then committed suicide. Their four-year-old daughter witnessed the shootings. When police arrived they found the child on the balcony near her mother. She told officers “Daddy just shot mommy... they’re all dead.”
	April 1	A 22-year-old woman was strangled by her boyfriend in Lower Southampton. The couple had dated for five years.
	July 9	A 43-year-old woman was stabbed to death by her husband in Lower Makefield. The perpetrator attempted suicide. In November 1999, police responded to the home after a call indicating a domestic dispute was in progress. The victim began keeping a journal, which chronicled alleged abuse by her husband, to use as evidence for a Protection From Abuse petition. The entry on June 15, 2001, read: “He says how about if he slits my throat.” Several days before her murder, the victim scheduled an appointment with an attorney. She also made arrangements for her father to help her move out. Forty-eight hours before she was to meet with her attorney to file for the Protection From Abuse order, she was killed. Her father arrived at the house to help her move, noticed the accumulated mail and knocked on the door. When no one answered, he called the police. The police found the perpetrator sitting in his car with the engine running. He also had superficial cuts to his wrists.
BUTLER	February 25	A 40-year-old man gagged to death on his on vomit after ingesting a combination of pain killers following an unsuccessful castration by his wife in Marion Township. Police found a note, signed by both the husband and wife, saying he had initiated the castration and asked her to complete it rather than be embarrassed by seeking medical attention. The perpetrator indicated that the victim’s death was unintentional and that the castration was his way of proving his devotion to her.
	March 29	A 46-year-old woman died from blunt force trauma after being beaten by her boyfriend in Butler Township. Witnesses stated that the couple had been drinking and arguing throughout the day. The perpetrator reportedly slapped, punched and choked her. He told police she tripped over a laundry basket, fell and passed out. He stated he turned her over, put a pillow under her head, covered her with a blanket and put an ice bag on her face. When he awoke and realized she was dead, he looked for his phone. When he could not find it, he drove to his parent’s home in Allegheny County, where his father called 9-1-1.
CENTRE	June 26	A 57-year-old woman was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Lemont. Her 46-year-old boyfriend also was fatally shot. The perpetrator then set fire to the home before committing suicide. Court records show the victim filed for a Protection From Abuse order in November 1995. She also filed for divorce in December 1995, but dropped the matter in 1997. In September 2000, she was granted a second Protection From Abuse order. Friends of the victim report she was terrified of her husband.
	November 8	A 33-year-old mother of two young sons was fatally shot by her husband in State College. The two had argued earlier in the day. The victim and her children planned to move out. She returned to the home to get their belongings, while her parents and children waited in the car. In 1998, she obtained a Protection From Abuse order, which she later dropped. In 1999, the perpetrator was charged with reckless endangerment after a handgun he was holding discharged in their car, shattering the window.
CHESTER	October 5	A 45-year-old man was killed from blunt trauma to the head inflicted by his wife. The perpetrator later committed suicide. The daughter of the victim called the police after she was unable to contact her father. When the bodies were found, evidence suggested that the victim had been dead for four or five days and the perpetrator had been dead for 48 hours.
DAUPHIN	July 17	A 51-year-old woman was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Lower Paxton Township. The perpetrator then committed suicide. The couple had separated two weeks earlier. The perpetrator asked the victim to come to the house to discuss finances. She arrived a short time later. Her mother waited in the car. After 15 minutes, her mother knocked on the door. When she didn’t get an answer, she called police. A backhoe was running outside and loud music was playing inside, police said. They also discovered that the perpetrator made a ten-minute videotape during which he stated “I love her to death.” and “I’m going to shoot her.” He also stated he planned to commit suicide.
ERIE	January 4	A 20-year-old woman was stabbed and beaten to death by her boyfriend in Union City.
	July 1	A 52-year-old man was fatally shot by his mother’s boyfriend in Erie. According to the criminal complaint, the woman said her son heard her boyfriend yelling at her. The two men then argued. After the son made verbal threats, the perpetrator shot him in the chest.
	August 27	A 43-year-old mother of two was bludgeoned to death by her estranged husband in Erie. The victim was reported missing by a friend. Four days later the perpetrator admitted to beating her to death with a baseball bat and showed police where he buried the body. The victim allegedly went to his home to discuss their separation.
	November 2	A 32-year-old father of three was fatally shot by his girlfriend’s father in Summit Township. The victim and his pregnant girlfriend were arguing over their eight-month-old daughter when the father came out with a rifle and got involved in the dispute. The father and boyfriend struggled over the rifle and it discharged hitting the victim in the abdomen. He died later that day in the hospital.
FAYETTE	February 4	A 21-year-old mother of one was fatally shot in the head by her boyfriend in Masontown. The perpetrator claimed the weapon discharged accidentally as they were playing with the gun. Her aunt responded by stating “if he had just pistol-whipped her the week before, why would she be comfortable playing with a gun?” Family members characterized his actions in the long-term relationship as abusive.

Domestic Violence Takes Its Toll in Pennsylvania – One Life At A Time

FAYETTE (continued)	March 24	A 38-year-old mother of two was fatally shot in the neck by her estranged husband in Lower Tyrone Township. He then committed suicide. The victim had moved into her new residence three weeks earlier. The perpetrator forced his way into her home, began yelling, then shot her as they moved onto the porch. Her two children were at home, but it is unknown whether or not they witnessed the shooting.
HUNTINGDON	December 19	A 31-year-old father of two was fatally shot by his fiance in Cromwell Township. The couple had been arguing after the perpetrator told the victim she was ending their relationship. The perpetrator told police that she feared for her life and that she was just holding the gun when it went off.
LACKAWANNA	January 15	A 53-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in Scott Township. Court records indicate a history of domestic violence culminating with the victim obtaining two Protection From Abuse orders in 1999. The orders had lapsed and the perpetrator had completed drug and alcohol rehabilitation, as requested by the victim. They were living together at the time of the incident. The perpetrator is a retired detective who previously worked for the Scranton Police Department.
	April 5	A 41-year-old mother of one was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Scranton. He then committed suicide. A neighbor heard two shots and looked out his window to see the estranged husband kneeling next to his wife's body on the lawn. The perpetrator then raised the revolver to his head and pulled the trigger. The victim's mother stated the couple had been separated for about two years and that her daughter had begun to see another man after attempts to reconcile with her husband failed.
	November 5	A 58-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Scott Township. He committed suicide several hours later at a hunting cabin in Wayne County.
LANCASTER	August 16	A 40-year-old mother of three was strangled with a cord and beaten to death by her daughter's 18-year-old former boyfriend in Manheim Township. The perpetrator lit two candles, placed them under beds and dismantled the smoke detectors. A neighbor called 911 when she observed smoke coming from the residence. Firefighters found the victim in the tub. A week before the murder, the victim found the perpetrator and two of his friends in her apartment when she came home. He warned her not to press charges. The day of the murder, police had questioned the perpetrator in connection with the burglary at the victim's apartment.
	December 14	A 41-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in New Holland. He then committed suicide. Police had been called to the residence several times in the past for domestic violence.
LAWRENCE	December 15	A 28-year-old mother of four was fatally shot by her estranged boyfriend in New Castle. She had obtained a temporary Protection From Abuse order against him two days earlier. He forced her and her children at gunpoint from their home. Her body was found in a wooded area by her apartment. He is also charged with kidnapping her children, as well as drug and firearms violations. The children were uninjured and now reside with their maternal uncle.
LEBANON	March 23	A 25-year-old woman was fatally shot by her ex-boyfriend in West Lebanon Township. He then committed suicide. Nineteen days earlier, he was charged with raping her at gun point and was released on bail. The victim obtained an Emergency Protection From Abuse order on March 5. The perpetrator was jailed hours later for violating the order and again was released on bail. On March 15, the order was extended to 18 months and the perpetrator was ordered to turn over his weapons. He submitted a sworn statement to the Sheriff claiming he no longer had any weapons. Police report the victim was shot with the same gun the perpetrator had used during the rape.
	July 26	A 83-year-old man was fatally shot by his wife in Heidelberg Township. She then committed suicide. Police believe it might have been a planned murder-suicide. The couple had recently moved in with their daughter. The day after they arrived, the victim fell. After a brief hospital stay, he returned home and was required to use a walker. The couple told friends they feared that one or both of them would have to go into a nursing home and, after 50 years together, they did not want to be separated.
LEHIGH	May 10	A 46-year-old mother of two was stabbed to death by her boyfriend in Bethlehem. The victim's 11-year-old daughter called her older sister when their mother failed to pick her up at school. They went to the home and found their mother's body. Police records show law enforcement officers had been at the home several times in the past for domestic disputes.
	July 17	A 56-year-old woman was fatally shot by her female lover's estranged husband in Lower Milford. A few days earlier, the perpetrator was charged with raping his estranged wife, whom the victim was dating.
LUZERNE	January 12	A 25-year-old father of four was fatally shot by his wife in Salem Township. She then committed suicide. Relatives suggested that financial difficulties during the holidays led the distraught woman to kill her husband and then herself. The perpetrator was unable to work due to a debilitating illness. The victim also was unemployed at the time of the incident.
	April 15	A 44-year-old mother of four was beaten to death by her boyfriend in Plymouth. She was from Larksville. The two had been dating for four years and were engaged. According to the perpetrator, they went to a bar and discussed her alleged infidelities, then went to his daughter's apartment. He told police that he could not remember hitting her, but did remember standing over her bloody body. The perpetrator stated that he wrapped his hand in a towel before leaving to go to a local park to think about what he had done. He was arrested when he returned to the apartment a few hours later. The perpetrator was on furlough from Luzerne County Prison for the Easter holiday. He was in prison for non-payment of child support for children from a previous relationship.

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LUZERNE (continued)	June 29	A mother of two was stabbed to death by her husband in Wilkes Barre. The children were living with their grandmother at the time of the incident. The police responded to the house after receiving a report of a violent domestic dispute. The perpetrator met them at the door in a blood-soaked shirt and told them, "I just killed my wife."
LYCOMING	August 31	A four-year-old child was stabbed to death by his father . The mother had left the perpetrator because of a history of domestic violence in the relationship. The father petitioned for custody of the child. The murder occurred the same day the judge dismissed the perpetrator's petition.
MCKEAN	June 14	A 45-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in Bradford Township. He then committed suicide. According to police, all indications at the scene point to the fact that the perpetrator first shot his wife and then turned the gun on himself. One neighbor reported hearing the couple argue in the middle of the night.
MERCER	October 22	A 40-year-old mother of two was fatally shot by her ex-husband in Sharon. A 42-year-old male friend also was fatally shot . The ex-husband then committed suicide. Her two children and a friend of theirs were in the home at the time of the shootings. They called the police before they ran from the house. The victim had filed a Protection From Abuse order in June 2000, which she subsequently dropped in March 2001.
MONTGOMERY	June 30	A 31-year-old mother of two was stabbed to death by her husband in Montgomery Township. Their 11-month-old twins were in the house during the incident, but were not injured. The perpetrator originally told police that his wife had been murdered during a home invasion. He later admitted that he had been stalking his wife because he believed she was seeing other men. The perpetrator stated that he would watch their home from a nearby parking lot and make unannounced visits to the house during the daytime.
	October 12	A 27-year-old woman was beaten, strangled and had her throat slashed in Trappe. Her former fiance has been arrested for the brutal murder. Police said he was enraged that she broke off the engagement and was with another man.
NORTHAMPTON	April 7	A 28-year-old mother and her five-year-old son were bludgeoned to death by her husband in Bethlehem. The perpetrator then committed suicide. Neighbors said the perpetrator had been depressed for several months and was on medication.
NORTHUMBERLAND	January 16	A 42-year-old mother of three was fatally shot in the face by her estranged boyfriend in Sunbury. A male acquaintance also was threatened and fled by jumping out a second-story window as the police arrived. A neighbor had called the police to report a domestic dispute involving a man with a gun. En route, the police were advised that shots had been fired. After a two-hour standoff, the perpetrator surrendered to police.
PERRY	December 7	A 44-year-old woman and her 5-year-old son were found dead in a burned-out trailer in Wheatfield Township. The woman was suffocated; her son was fatally shot. According to police, the victim's husband set fire to the trailer and then to their new home that was under construction. He then committed suicide.
PHILADELPHIA	January 2	A 43-year-old mother of two was fatally shot in the head by her estranged husband in Philadelphia. The perpetrator then committed suicide. The victim had just driven into the parking lot of her workplace. Mutual Protection From Abuse orders had been issued in July.
	February 14	A 32-year-old woman was stabbed to death in the neck by her boyfriend in Philadelphia. Police stated the couple was arguing because the perpetrator had been drinking.
	March 14	A 29-year-old mother of three was fatally shot by her husband in Olney. The perpetrator then committed suicide. Three hours after the incident, the children were unable to open the door to the parents' bedroom. Their 10-year-old child called a relative who summoned the police. The perpetrator was a six-year veteran with the Philadelphia Police department.
	May 11	A 33-year-old father of three was fatally shot by his ex-wife's boyfriend in Philadelphia. The victim was picking up his children for a weekend visit and argued with his ex-wife and her boyfriend. The ex-wife's boyfriend went back into the house and returned with a gun, which he pointed at the victim. As the victim was getting into his van, the boyfriend shot him in the back of the head.
	July 22	A 31-year-old woman was beaten and set on fire by her boyfriend in Philadelphia.
	August 3	A 29-year-old mother of one was stabbed to death by her boyfriend in Philadelphia. Neighbors told police they heard the couple fighting and found her lying on the street in front of her home. The victim had filed two petitions for Protection From Abuse orders. However, each time she chose not to pursue a final order.
	August 30	A 66-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in Kensington. Police said the shooting occurred during an argument.
	September 2	A 29-year-old woman and a 30-year-old man stabbed each other to death in Philadelphia. Police said the two apparently died of wounds they inflicted on each other during a domestic dispute. They had formerly dated.
	September 21	A 34-year-old mother of three was fatally shot by boyfriend in Philadelphia. The perpetrator later committed suicide. Her three children and their grandmother heard the couple fighting. As they came down the stairs, the victim was shot in the head. The perpetrator fired three shots at the other family members as they fled back up the stairs. The grandmother was shot in the leg.
	October 25	A 30-year-old mother of two was fatally shot by her husband in Philadelphia. The perpetrator then called police to report that he had shot himself. He died in the hospital one day later. The couple's children were in bed upstairs at the time of the shootings. Police records show the perpetrator previously had been arrested several times and charged with violent crimes. However, his only conviction was for carrying a firearm without a license for which he was sentenced to two years probation.

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PHILADELPHIA (continued)	November 24	A 23-year-old mother of two young daughters was killed when her former boyfriend ran over her with her rental car. After arguing outside a night club, the perpetrator grabbed the keys to the victim's car, chased her down the street, crashed through a three-foot wall that she had jumped trying to flee, and ran over her.
	December 17	A 36-year-old man was fatally shot by his ex-girlfriend in Philadelphia. Police say she shot another ex-boyfriend in October and wounded him in the arm. The same gun was used in both crimes.
VENANGO	January 14	A 35-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend in Polk. She admitted pulling the trigger of the gun but claimed she reacted in self-defense. The perpetrator told police that the victim had shot at her earlier that morning while she was tending the horses. She also claimed she was fearful because, in the past, he had threatened to use his martial arts skills to injure her.
WESTMORELAND	February 18	A 43-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend's estranged husband in Scottsdale. The perpetrator allegedly threatened to kill his estranged wife and their 15-year-old son as well.
	May 28	A 61-year-old woman was beaten to death with a mini sledgehammer by her husband in Hempfield. He then attempted suicide by taking an overdose of prescription medications. He died of natural causes in jail in June.
	July 4	A 27-year-old mother of one was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Vandergrift. The perpetrator then committed suicide. The bodies were found by their roommate. There was no history of domestic violence between the two, according to police and family members.
	August 27	A 53-year-old mother of three was drugged and strangled by her boyfriend in Penn Township. The perpetrator told police they had made a suicide pact because money problems were keeping them apart. He stated they each drank a drug cocktail of OxyContin and heart medication. When the attempt failed, he strangled her. According to police, the perpetrator was initially incoherent when they arrived at the scene.
	November 5	A 28-year-old man was fatally shot by his estranged girlfriend in Latrobe. Police allege the perpetrator flew from Pennsylvania to Iowa after the victim told her their relationship was ending. She allegedly drove back to Pennsylvania, killed him, then returned to Iowa. The perpetrator holds dual United States and Canadian citizenship and is in Canada awaiting extradition.
	December 16	A 25-year-old mother of four was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Monessen. Three of her children were in the home at the time of the shooting.
YORK	January 24	A 36-year-old mother of two was fatally shot in the back by her estranged husband in Peach Bottom Township. He attempted suicide. Five days earlier, the victim had filed for divorce. She had moved to her parent's home in Maryland several weeks earlier and sent her children to live with her sister in North Carolina. In addition, she signed custody rights over to her sister and created a last will and testament. The attack came the day the couple's divorce notice was published in the newspaper. The victim had returned to the home that day to retrieve personal belongings for her children, thinking the perpetrator would be away.
	December 27	A 46-year old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in York. Her 48-year-old sister also was fatally shot. The perpetrator attempted suicide. A week before the shooting, the victim had received a temporary Protection From Abuse order, but had not yet filed for a permanent order.

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