

Utah Domestic Violence Related Deaths 2010

An Ongoing Public Information Report of the Utah Domestic Violence Council



January 1 - June 30, 2010

This report has been reviewed and approved for public distribution by the Utah Domestic Violence Council. **Any printed or broadcast use of information from this report must include the following statement:** “To be listed in this report, case specific information must demonstrate a correlation between domestic violence and the death of the person as demonstrated by corroborating public information. These troubling statistics, in summary, convey the broad scope and tragic impact of domestic violence in Utah. Each listed death shows domestic violence between cohabitants, persons in dating relationships or family members not defined within the cohabitant statute.”

The Utah Domestic Violence Council compiles and continually updates information on domestic violence related deaths. Information contained in this report was gathered from public sources—largely from newspapers and the electronic media. Once cases have resulted in official governmental action, the committee may refer to publicly available information from law enforcement, prosecution offices and/or the Utah State Courts.

While virtually all homicides are covered in the media, and are therefore included in this report, the majority of suicides not related to a criminal event are not included in the report. Accordingly, it is probable that a number of domestic violence related suicides were not publicized and therefore, unknown to the compilers of this report and thus are not included in the report. That assumption is supported by information compiled by the Utah State Department of Health from confidential sources.

For more information contact the Utah Domestic Violence Council at (801) 521-5544.

DATE OF DEATH	NAME, AGE, RELATIONSHIP SITUATION	PLACE OF DEATH
#1 January 4, 2010	<p>Norma Leticia Villalobos-Guzman, Age 36, Cohabitant Homicide</p> <p>Norma Leticia-Guzman walked into her kitchen covered in blood and asked one of her roommates to call the police as she sat down on the floor. She complained that her back hurt. Her husband, Roberto Aguirre Ramirez, 27, carrying a knife, followed Norma in and, as he stood beside her, said, “You and I are going to die today.” Ramirez then stabbed himself on the right side of his chest and cut his wrist. The roommate told police that he heard Norma and her husband, Ramirez, arguing inside their bedroom a few minutes before. Both were taken to the Utah Valley Medical Center in Provo where Norma underwent open-heart surgery for several hours to repair her multiple stab wounds. Norma later died.</p> <p>Ramirez survived his suicide attempt and was hospitalized for a few days and later released. On Tuesday, January 19, 2010, he appeared in court where he was charged with one count of 1st degree felony murder, and felony counts of obstructing justice, domestic violence in the presence of a child, possession of a dangerous weapon by a restricted person and possession of a controlled substance.</p> <p><i>Sources: Daily Herald, January 20,21,28, 2010; Salt Lake City Headlines Examiner, January 11, 2010; Salt Lake Tribune, January 19, 2010</i></p>	Provo, UT
#2 January 21, 2010	<p>Amy Jo Candland, Age 41, Cohabitant Homicide</p> <p>A female hiker in Hobble Creek Canyon discovered the severely beaten body of Amy Candland just after 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 21, 2010. According to a probable cause statement, Amy’s body was next to a dumpster near Jolly’s Ranch. The victim had been bound by duct tape and there was a gray cord around her neck.</p>	Provo, UT

	<p>The next day, Amy’s nephew, Damian Allister Candland, 22, was arrested for strangling and raping her. He is being held in the Utah County Jail on a one-million-dollar cash bail. According to the autopsy report, Amy suffered hemorrhaging of the neck consistent with strangulation, hemorrhages in her cranium and brain consistent with trauma, contusions on her face and jaw consistent with the assault, and physical injuries consistent with sexual assault. Police investigation found evidence that the slaying occurred at the home she shared with her nephew and a roommate. Her body was then transported from her Provo home to the canyon. Footprints and drag marks at the scene indicated her body was dragged across a small creek and up a hill to a main road before it was deposited next to the dumpster.</p> <p>Damian Candland has been charged with aggravated murder and rape, both 2nd degree felonies, and desecration of a human body, which is a 3rd degree felony.</p> <p>Amy previously complained to others that Candland was physically abusive to her. One of her friends told police that Amy was terrified of her nephew and believed he would kill her.</p> <p><i>Sources: ABC 4 News, February 23, 2010; Daily Herald, February 22-24, 2010; Deseret News, February 22, 23, 2010; Fox 13, February 22, 2010; Idaho State Journal, February 22, 2010; KSL News, February 22, 23, 2010; KUTV 2, February 23, 2010; Salt Lake Tribune, February 24, 25, 2010; Seattle Headlines Examiner, February 22, 2010; Utah Crimes News, February 23, 2010</i></p>	
<p>#3 January 29, 2010</p>	<p>Tetyana Nikitina, Age 34, Domestic Violence Related Homicide</p> <p>On Friday, January 29, 2010, about 3:00 p.m., Tetyana Nikitina was leaving Salt Lake Community Action Head Start Program after attending a teachers training meeting. Tetyana had reached her vehicle and was</p>	<p>Millcreek, UT</p>

	<p>talking to her fiancé, Rod Hernandez, on her cell phone. She was suddenly approached by Mary Nance Hanson, 70, who fired multiple shots at her with a .38-caliber revolver. One of the shots hit her in the head, fatally wounding her in the parking lot of the Community. Action Program. Hanson called 911 and reported that she had just shot a woman</p> <p>Police confirmed that there were ties to the two women. Hanson is Tetyana's ex-mother-in-law. Hanson's son, Dale Jankowski, 45, of Salt Lake City, and Teyana filed for a divorce five years ago and were entangled in a bitter custody battle over their two children. Court records showed that there had been previous incidents connecting the two women. Tetyana stated in one of the divorce documents that Hanson had become combative over her grandchildren. Hansen had allegedly refused to allow Tetyana to see the children. In one instance, as Tetyana was driving away with the children in her car, Hanson pursued her, cutting her off and causing them to crash into another car. Hanson remains in the Salt Lake County jail on suspicion of first-degree felony murder. Bail is set at one-million-dollars.</p> <p><i>Sources: Deseret News, January 31 and February 1, 2010; FOX 13 News, January, 30, 2010; KSL5 News, January 29, 2010; KUTV 2 News, January 30, 2010; Salt Lake Tribune, February 3,5, 2010</i></p>	
<p>#4</p> <p>March 9, 2010</p>	<p>Maralee Ann Andreason, Age 55, Cohabitant Homicide</p> <p>Police arrested Thomas James Valdez, 44, after he called a family member to say he had just killed his girlfriend, Maralee Andreason. He is being held without bail. Valdez admitted to arguing with Maralee and striking her several times. He stated that he left her apartment right after she died.</p> <p>Her body showed signs of blunt force trauma and according to the medical examiner's report, she had been beaten and stabbed multiple times. A neighbor stated she was home at the time and heard screams and related noises.</p> <p>Court records show that Valdez has been in and out of</p>	<p>West Valley City, UT</p>

	<p>prison for the past twenty years. In 2004 he was convicted of aggravated assault against a former girlfriend. He beat her so severely that she required plastic surgery to repair facial fractures and a broken nose.</p> <p><i>Sources: ABC 4 News, March 10, 2010; Deseret News March 10, 2010; Fox 13 News, March 10, 2010; KSL News, March 10, 11, 2010; KUTV 2 News, March 10, 2010; Salt Lake Tribune, March 10,11, 2010</i></p>	
<p>#5 April 2, 2010</p>	<p>Linda Covey Halliday, Age 69, Domestic Violence Related Homicide</p> <p>The bodies of Ron Halliday, his wife Linda Halliday, and their son Stuart Halliday were discovered by police after receiving a call from an out-of-state relative. The caller was concerned because she had been unable to contact the couple for over a week. Police entered the home through an unlocked door in the rear of the house. They found blood spatter on the main floor and three bodies were found in the basement. Ron’s body was found in a den, while Linda’s and the son’s bodies were found in different areas of the basement. A handgun was recovered. It appeared that Halliday shot both of his parents and then turned the gun on himself. According to neighbors, the Hallidays had lived on the street for about 30 years. Halliday was attending college in California and had been seen around the couple’s home for about two weeks. Motive for the murders and suicide has not been determined.</p> <p><i>Sources: Deseret News, April 3, 2010; Fox 13 News, April 2, 2010; KSL 5 News, April 2, 2010; KUTV 2 News, April 3, 2010; Salt Lake Tribune, April 2, 2010; Standard Examiner, April 2, 2010</i></p>	<p>Salt Lake City, UT</p>
<p>#6 April 2, 2010</p>	<p>Vernee Ronald Halliday, Age 73, Domestic Violence Related Homicide (See #5 Story)</p>	<p>Salt Lake City, UT</p>
<p>#7 April 2, 2010</p>	<p>Vernee Stuart, Halliday, Age 35, Perpetrator Suicide (See #5 Story)</p>	<p>Salt Lake City, UT</p>

<p>#8</p> <p>June 14, 2010</p>	<p>Deborah Haudley, Age 34, Cohabitant Homicide</p> <p>Deborah Haudley’s body was discovered early Tuesday morning, June 14, 2010 about 6:30 a.m. in a motel room she had shared with her boyfriend, Oscar Reyes, 34. Initially, Reyes reported her death as an alcohol overdose. Reyes reported to police that he and Deborah had been drinking the night before and he woke up and found her dead. The Medical Examiner’s Office performed a preliminary autopsy and determined that Deborah had died of head trauma and bleeding of the brain. Police returned to interview Reyes, who then admitted to having a fight with Deborah over a cell phone. He stated that he hit her on the head twice with an open hand and then took a shower before going to sleep. Others, who were staying in a room below, reported hearing the couple fighting the night before. They heard yelling and thumping noises coming from their room. Court documents state that Reyes was charged with third-degree felony homicide by assault and witness tampering, a third-degree felony. He remains in jail on \$100,000 bail.</p> <p><i>Sources: Deseret News, June 16, 2010, Fox 13 News, June 19, 2010; KSL 5 News, June 16, 2010; Salt Lake Tribune, June 19, 2010</i></p>	<p>Salt Lake City, UT</p>
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COHABITANT HOMICIDES: **4 (4 female)**
 PERPETRATOR SUICIDES: **1 (1 male)**
 DATING RELATIONSHIP HOMICIDES:
 DATING RELATIONSHIP SUICIDE:
 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDE: **3 (2 female, 1 male)**
 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED SUICIDE:
 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED DEATH:
TOTAL UTAH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED DEATHS IN 2010: 8
NUMBER OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED DEATHS CAUSED BY THE USE OF A FIREARM: 4

1. “Domestic violence” means:

- any criminal offense involving
 - violence
 - physical harm
 - threat of violence or physical harm
- any attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit a criminal offense involving
 - violence or physical harm
- when committed by one cohabitant against another

(See Utah Code Ann. § 77-36-1(2))

“Domestic violence” also means commission or attempt to commit any of the following offenses by one cohabitant against another:

- aggravated assault
 - assault
 - criminal homicide
 - harassment
 - telephone harassment
 - kidnapping, child kidnapping or aggravated kidnapping
 - mayhem (mutilation of a body part)
 - sexual offenses
 - unlawful sexual intercourse
 - rape
 - object rape
 - sodomy/forcible sodomy
 - forcible sexual abuse
 - aggravated sexual assault
- 1.
- sexual exploitation of a minor
 - stalking
 - unlawful detention
 - violation of a protective order
 - offenses against property (theft is not a domestic violence offense)
 - offenses against possession of a deadly weapon with intent to assault
 - discharge of a firearm from a vehicle, near a highway, or in the direction of any person, building or vehicle
 - disorderly conduct if conviction result of plea negotiation from an original domestic violence offense
 - child witnessing domestic violence child abuse
 - any other criminal offense involving violence or physical harm

(See Utah Code Ann. § 77-36-1)

2. “Cohabitant” means:

- an emancipated person or a person who is 16 years old or older who:
- is or was a spouse of the party (separated or divorced)
- is or was living as if a spouse of the other party (common law marriage, cohabitant)

- is related by blood or marriage to the other party; (relative, in-law, elder parent)
- has one or more children in common with the other ; or
- resides or has resided in the same residence as the other party (roommates, same sex relationships)
- is the biological parent of the other’s unborn child

“Cohabitant” does not include the relationship of a natural parent, adoptive parent, or step-parent to a minor or the relationship of minor siblings to each other

(See Utah Code Ann. § 78B-7-102(2), (3)).