



# A CENSUS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GUN HOMICIDES IN ARIZONA





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**EVERYTOWN FOR GUN SAFETY SUPPORT FUND  
THE ARIZONA COALITION TO END SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On December 20, 2012, after months of escalating harassment and violent threats, Joseph Leroy Francis approached his ex-girlfriend Ashley Hicks in the parking lot of her apartment building in Tucson, Arizona. He grabbed her arm and asked to talk to her. When she resisted, he shot her seven times, killing her.<sup>1</sup> Afterwards he drove to Ashley's parents home, told them he had killed their daughter, and then went home and shot himself.<sup>2</sup>

The incident was tragic, and it also might have been prevented, since there was ample evidence that Joseph posed a danger to Ashley. On August 17, 2012, four months before the murder, Joseph assaulted Ashley in a grocery store. That same day, she obtained an order of protection against him.<sup>3</sup> The court that issued the order had the power to require Joseph to turn in his firearms — but chose not to, even though it is well established that a gun in the hands of a batterer increases fivefold the risk of homicide for his partner.<sup>4</sup> Fifteen states mandate that people subject to domestic violence protection orders turn in their firearms,<sup>5</sup> but Arizona is not one of them.<sup>6</sup>

In the last months of Ashley's life, Joseph repeatedly violated the order of protection. He broke into her home by punching through a window. He threw a motorcycle helmet at her and smashed her phone after she called the police. He brandished a knife and threatened to kill her with it. He visited her workplace.<sup>7</sup> Police received notification of the violations but Joseph was never charged.<sup>8</sup>

Ashley's story is devastating and, unfortunately, not unique. Domestic violence homicides in Arizona are, to a significant degree, a problem of gun violence. According to an Everytown for Gun Safety analysis of the last five years of FBI data, 62 percent of women killed by intimate partners in Arizona were shot to death.<sup>9</sup> All told, the rate of intimate partner gun homicides in Arizona is 45 percent higher than the national average.<sup>10</sup>

To better assess the dynamics of domestic violence gun homicides in Arizona, Everytown collaborated with the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV) to closely examine intimate partner gun homicides in Arizona between 2009-2013. This research—the first and most comprehensive of its kind for the state—yielded the following findings:

- In total, Everytown identified **105 homicides in Arizona between 2009-2013** in which someone was murdered with a firearm by a current or former intimate partner. In 89 percent of the cases, the victim was a woman. Perpetrators also shot **32 other victims — neighbors, friends, family members, and children** — killing 25 of them, 11 of whom were children.
- There were ample indications that the perpetrators posed a risk to their partners. **One in seven shooters (13 percent) was prohibited from possessing firearms** due to their criminal history or an active order of protection. Furthermore 41 percent of the shooters had a previous arrest or conviction or had been under an order of protection at one time.
- Offenders under an active order of protection were rarely required to turn in their firearms. A person under an active order of protection is prohibited from possessing firearms under federal law,<sup>11</sup> but **of the perpetrators identified in this census that were under an active order of protection, only one in six has been affirmatively required to turn in their firearms.**

- The shootings occurred across the state but, controlling for population, **the domestic violence gun homicide rate in Coconino, Mohave, and Yavapai counties is more than double that of the state as a whole.**
- **Firearms were used far more frequently to murder an intimate partner than to kill an abuser in self-defense.** Out of 105 incidents, only one perpetrator claiming to have used the firearm in self-defense had that claim upheld by a court. In at least four additional incidents, the victim had purchased a gun for self-defense prior to the incident but was not able to use it or worse, had it used against them.

The incidents documented in this report, and the data drawn from them, vividly illustrate that Arizona needs an improved approach to addressing the threat gun violence poses for victims of domestic violence.



# FATAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND WEAK GUN LAWS

Domestic violence affects the lives of millions of American women, and ends the lives of tens of thousands of them. More than a million American women are physically assaulted by an intimate partner every year,<sup>12</sup> and more than one in three American women will experience domestic abuse in her lifetime.<sup>13</sup>

Domestic violence is deeply connected with guns. Of physically abused women who live in households with guns, about two-thirds report that their partner had used it against them, most often by threatening to shoot or kill them.<sup>14</sup> And guns make it more likely that domestic abuse will turn into murder: When a gun is present in a domestic violence situation, it increases fivefold the risk of homicide for women.<sup>15</sup> Over the past 25 years in the U.S., more intimate partner homicides have been committed with guns than with all other weapons combined.<sup>16</sup>

This connection is readily apparent in Arizona. Everytown analyzed the last five years of FBI data and found that **62 percent of women killed by intimate partners in Arizona were shot to death.**<sup>17</sup> In fact, **the state's domestic violence gun homicide rate was 45 percent higher than the national average.**<sup>18</sup>

Because of the risk that firearms pose when they intersect with domestic violence, a patchwork of federal and state laws are in place to keep guns out of the hands of the most dangerous domestic violence offenders. The most comprehensive system of laws prohibits domestic abusers and stalkers from buying and possessing guns, requires background checks for all gun sales, and creates processes to ensure that abusers and stalkers turn in the guns already in their possession when they become prohibited. When these laws are on the books and enforced properly, they save lives. In states that require background checks for all handgun sales, there are 46 percent fewer women shot to death by intimate partners.<sup>19</sup> Furthermore, states that restrict access to firearms by those under domestic violence protective orders see a 25 percent reduction in intimate partner gun deaths.<sup>20</sup>

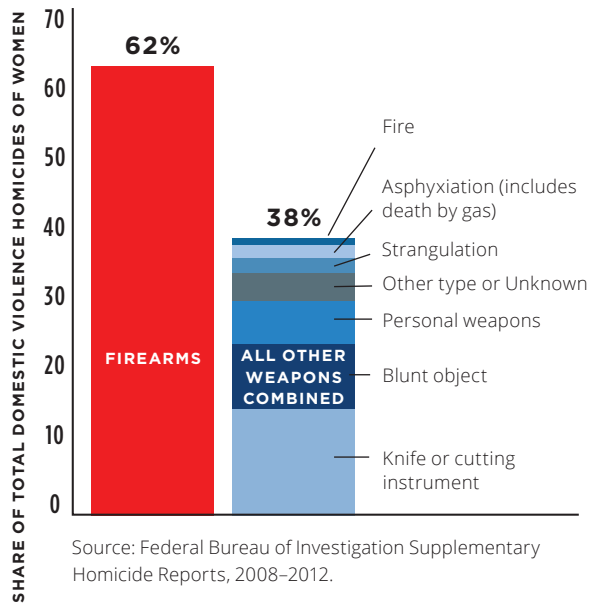
But in many states, gaps in the law and failures to enforce it effectively allow domestic violence abusers easy access to guns. Arizona's gun laws contain such loopholes, and they pose lethal threats to the victims of domestic and family violence who are most at risk:

- **Arizona law does not require that people under domestic violence orders of protection turn in their guns, nor does it provide a clear process for turning them in when it is ordered.**<sup>21</sup> In Arizona, a domestic violence order of protection may prohibit the offender from possessing a firearm and require him to turn in any guns already in his possession — but that important safeguard is not automatic. This judicial discretion means that many dangerous offenders keep their guns. Even when an abuser is ordered to turn in his firearms, there is no clear enforcement process to ensure he relinquishes them. In fact, between 2009-2013, at least six women who obtained orders of protection against their abusers were shot to death after the judge who issued the order failed to order to require the abuser to turn in his firearms.
- **Arizona law does not require background checks for all gun sales.** Although federal law prohibits convicted domestic abusers and people subject to active domestic violence protection orders from buying guns, Arizona's failure to require background checks for all gun sales greatly undermines the effectiveness of these restrictions. Background checks are required under federal law for all gun sales at licensed dealers, but abusers in Arizona who are prohibited from possessing firearms are still easily able to obtain them in unlicensed sales — notably at gun shows or online. On a recent day, the single website Armslist.com featured over 1,000 for-sale gun ads posted by unlicensed Arizona sellers.<sup>22</sup> There is also definitive evidence that criminals are exploiting this loophole to arm themselves. A first-of-its-kind investigation by Everytown for Gun Safety showed that 1 in 30 would-be online gun buyers had committed crimes that should have barred him from possessing firearms, and 1 in 5 of these prohibited purchasers had a previous domestic violence conviction.<sup>23</sup>
- **Arizona law only prohibits firearm possession by convicted abusers for a short period of time.**<sup>24</sup> Arizona only prohibits people convicted of domestic violence misdemeanors from buying or possessing guns during the period the abuser is serving probation for the conviction. As soon as this period ends, so does Arizona's firearms disability. By contrast, other states have recognized the danger posed by domestic abusers and have enacted laws permanently prohibiting convicted abusers from possessing guns.<sup>25</sup>



# A CENSUS OF INTIMATE PARTNER GUN HOMICIDES IN ARIZONA

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MURDERS OF WOMEN IN ARIZONA, BY WEAPON-TYPE



To examine how these loopholes play out in the lives of real Arizonans, Everytown examined every identifiable intimate partner gun homicide that occurred in the state between 2009 and 2013.

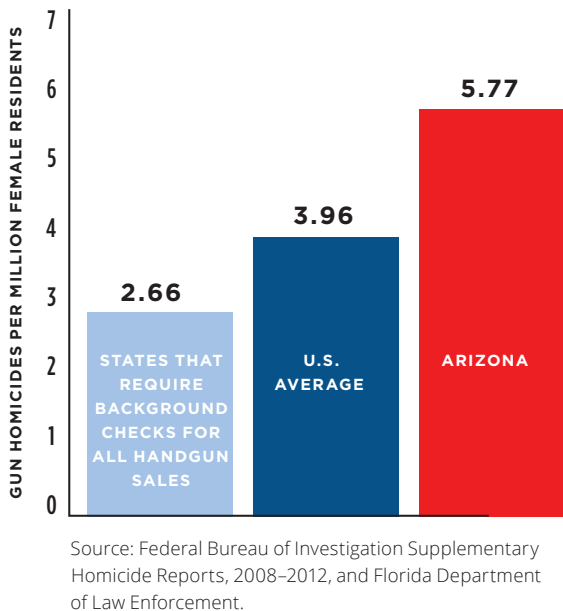
The dataset was derived from a variety of sources. ACESDV provided a list of shootings that it identified in media reports over that time period; all incidents in which the relationship between the shooter and the victim met the criteria of a domestic relationship under Arizona's relevant statute were included in the sample.<sup>26</sup> Everytown expanded on this by identifying homicides between intimate partners that were listed in the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports and tracking down further explanatory details in the press and court records.<sup>27</sup> Of all fatal shootings committed by intimate partners, Everytown excluded eight incidents in which the identity of the shooter could not be determined, in which the justice system determined the event was a so-called "mercy-killing," or in which there was not sufficient evidence to determine whether the event was a homicide or a double-suicide.<sup>28</sup>

For every case that met the criteria for inclusion, Everytown conducted additional research through publicly available news reports, subscription-based news databases, and court records. In cases where information was missing from public accounts, researchers contacted local officials to learn further details.

This census likely undercounts the true total of domestic violence gun homicides in the state because it fails to include deaths that were not reported in the media. Furthermore, the FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports do not categorize homicides between former dating partners, which are likely underrepresented as a result.

Nevertheless, this census represents the most comprehensive analysis of domestic violence gun homicide data in Arizona to-date, and the 105 shootings provide Arizona policymakers with important information on the nature, rate, and impact of intimate partner gun violence in their state. In isolation, these are tragedies, but taken together as a group, patterns emerge—as do opportunities for prevention.

## RATES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GUN HOMICIDE OF WOMEN



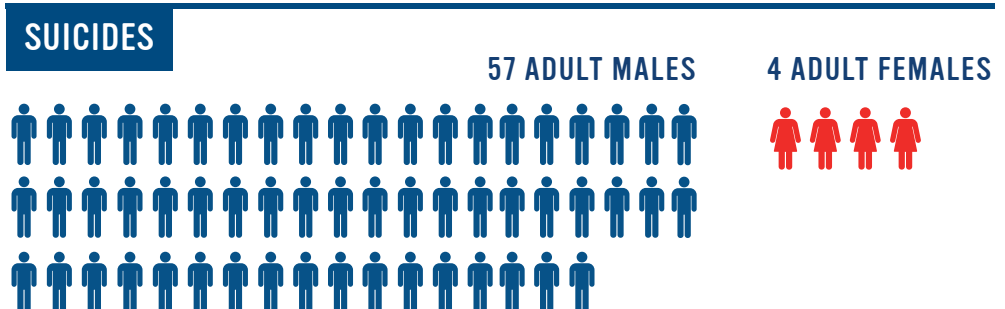
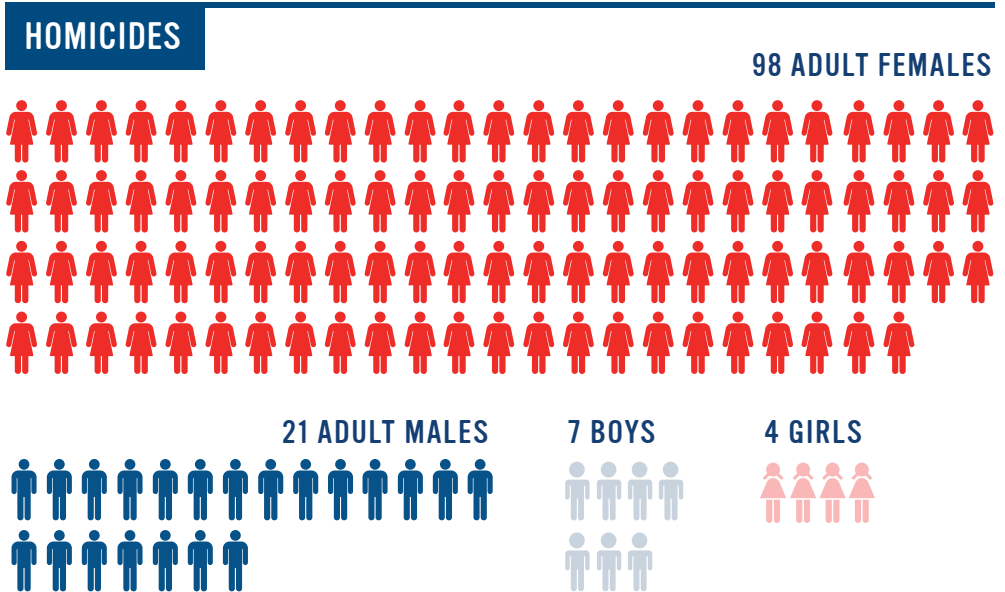
# 5 YEARS = 105 FATAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHOOTINGS IN ARIZONA = 191 DEATHS

## WHO WAS KILLED OR INJURED

Victims of fatal domestic violence rarely died alone. In addition to murdering a current or former intimate partner, perpetrators shot 32 additional victims—neighbors, friends, family members, children—killing 25 of them, including 11 children. In total, the 105 shootings examined in this report resulted in 130 murders and seven non-fatal injuries. The majority of shooters (58 percent) committed suicide after killing their victims. In total, the incidents resulted in **191 gun deaths**, of which 80 percent were women.

## THE TOLL ON CHILDREN

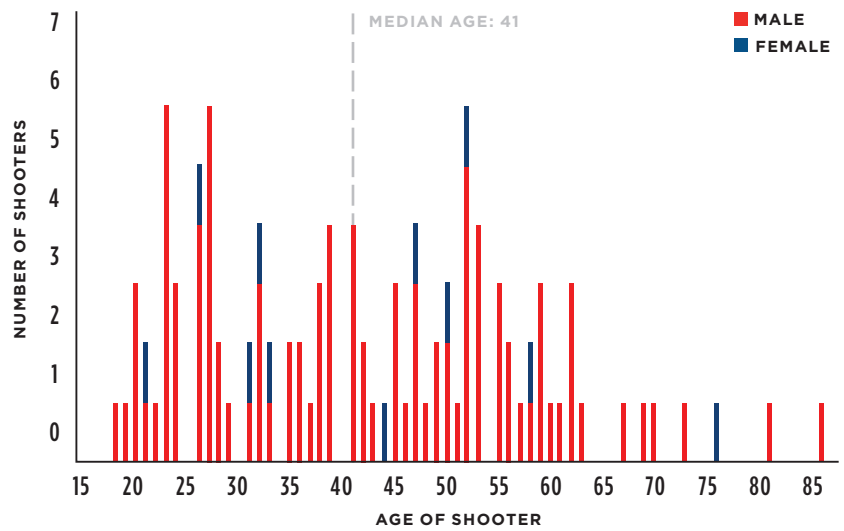
Children were severely impacted by the shootings. During the incidents perpetrators shot 13 children under 17, killing 11 of them. At least 44 other children were physically unharmed but present during the incidents: some watched a parent die; others discovered the body; some were the first to alert the police to the homicide; and several were found curled up next to the body of their dead parent when the police arrived.



### WHO PULLED THE TRIGGER

The vast majority of the shootings (89 percent) were perpetrated by men, and they inflicted violence against women across the age-spectrum. The median age of shooters for whom it was known was 41 — more than a decade older than is typical of gun homicide perpetrators. About half of the couples were currently or formerly married (53 percent) and the remainder (47 percent) had dated or were dating.

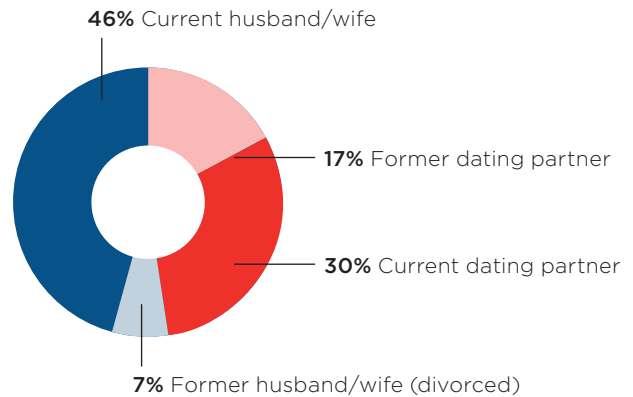
SHOOTERS BY AGE AND GENDER



### BARRED FROM POSSESSING GUNS

Nearly one in seven shooters (13 percent) were prohibited from possessing firearms at the time of the shooting due to a felony conviction or an active restraining order. Nonetheless, they are able to get one anyway. An additional 25 percent of the shooters had previous arrests or convictions that did not disqualify the person from possessing firearms.

RELATIONSHIP TYPE

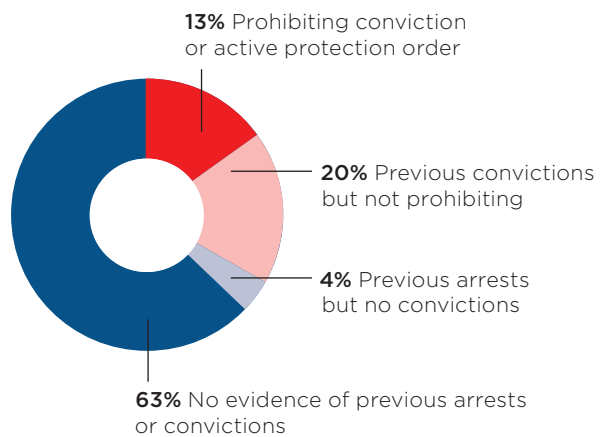


### GUNS IN SELF-DEFENSE

Victims of abuse may use firearms in defense, but these incidents were exceedingly rare compared to the number of incidents in which an abuser used a gun to kill an intimate partner. In fact, Everytown was able to identify only a single case where the shooter raised a self-defense claim and a court dismissed the charges against them.<sup>29</sup>

In at least four additional incidents, the victim was in possession of a firearm but was not able to use it in self-defense, or worse, had it used against them.

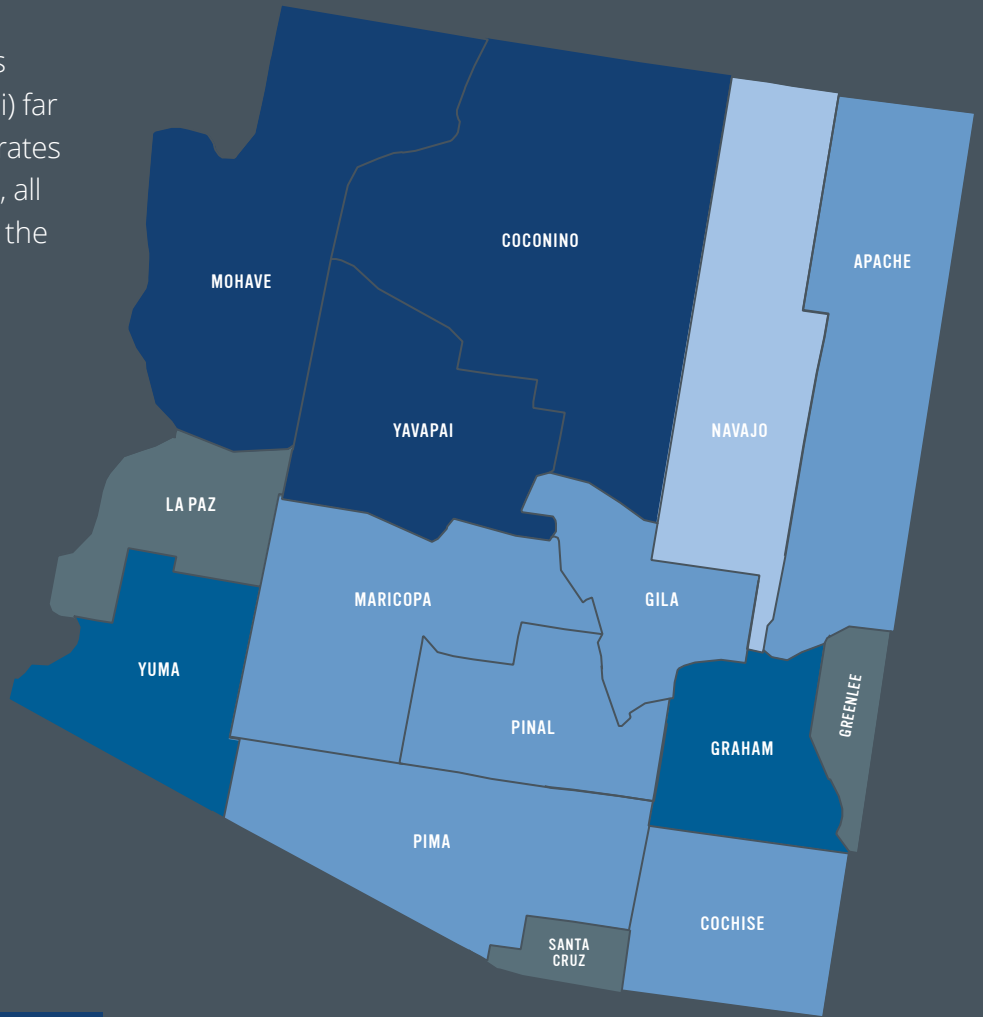
PERPETRATOR'S CRIMINAL HISTORY



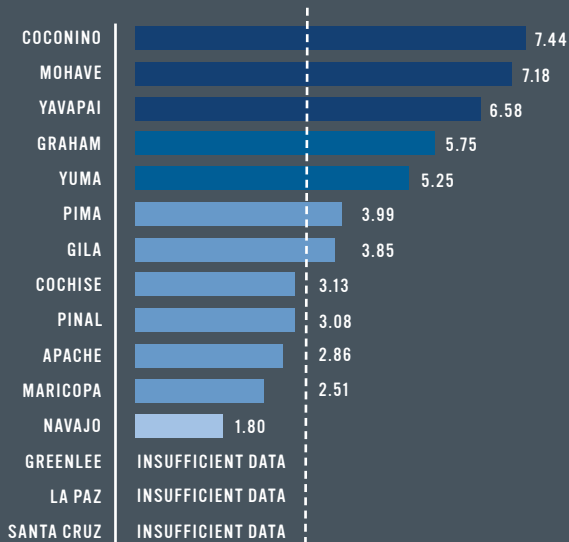
# GEOGRAPHIC PATTERNS IN INTIMATE PARTNER GUN HOMICIDES

The shootings occurred across Arizona, but a group of counties (Coconino, Mohave, and Yavapai) far outpace the others in terms of rates of domestic violence homicides, all with double the average rate of the state as a whole.

## INTIMATE PARTNER GUN HOMICIDES PER 100,000 RESIDENTS, 2009-13



## INTIMATE PARTNER GUN HOMICIDES



STATE AVERAGE: 3.22

## ORDERS OF PROTECTION

In 13 cases, the victim or a third party was so concerned about the shooter that they went so far as to seek — and receive — an order of protection against him. Of those 13 orders, six had expired by the time of the shooting.

Of the seven orders that were still active at the time of the shooting, researchers obtained six and found only one in which the judge ordered the shooter to turn in his firearms.

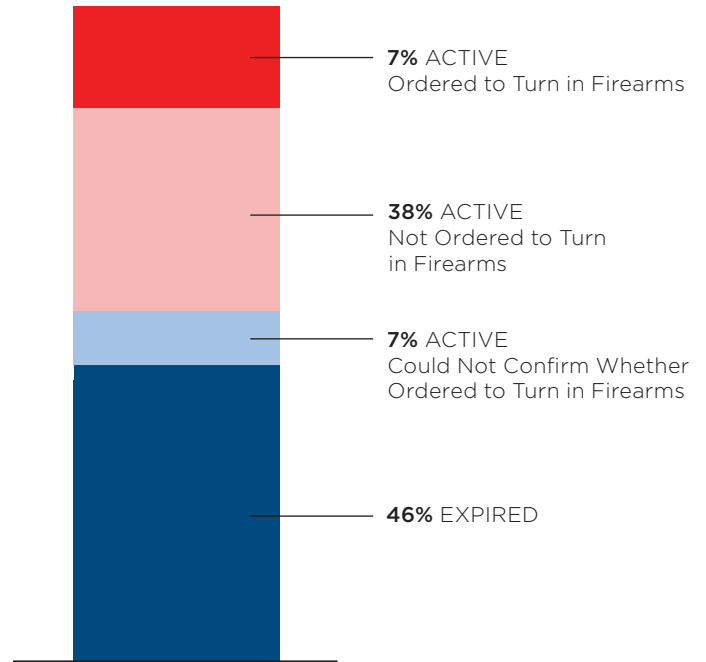
In an additional nine cases, the shooter had some other previous contact with the criminal justice system due to domestic violence. In total, in one in five incidents (21 percent), the criminal justice system had some indication that the victim was at risk, whether the victim had made a report to the police or the police had been called to the house, or there was a prior arrest, charge, conviction, or order of protection issued.

## OTHER COFACTORS

There is a well-documented association between drug and alcohol abuse and violent behavior.<sup>30</sup> A significant share of convicted homicide offenders report having been under the influence of alcohol during the commission of their crime, according to one Department of Justice study.<sup>31</sup> The same holds true for Arizona: in 14 of these shootings (13 percent), there was evidence that the perpetrator was intoxicated at the time of the incident. Eleven of the shooters were not prohibited from possessing guns under existing law but had been previously convicted of drug- or alcohol-related offenses.

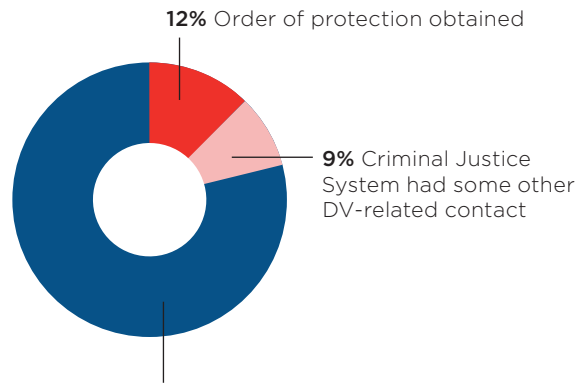
While the data paints a stark picture of the impact of domestic violence gun homicides in Arizona, the cases described on the following pages highlight the ways in which weak gun laws may have contributed to the dynamics leading to the killings.

## STATUS OF ORDERS OF PROTECTION



SHARE OF PERPETRATORS AGAINST WHOM AN ORDER OF PROTECTION HAD BEEN ISSUED

## HISTORY OF REPORTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



79% No evidence of previous DV-related contact with criminal justice system

## AVONDALE, ARIZONA: ORDER OF PROTECTION FAILED TO AFFIRMATIVELY REQUIRE ABUSER TO TURN IN HIS FIREARMS

On May 25, 2012, Thomas Moton confronted his ex-girlfriend Takesha Barnes in a school parking lot following her daughter's eighth grade graduation and shot and killed her in front of her two children.<sup>32</sup> Just four days earlier, Takesha had requested an order of protection against Thomas, graphically describing the physical abuse he perpetrated against her.



In the last 10 months, she wrote, Moton had "tried to run me and my children off the road. He has physically abused me by hitting me in the face and causing my nose to bleed. I am scared for our safety and what will happen to us in the near future."<sup>33</sup>

At the time the order was issued, Moton was already prohibited from possessing firearms due to two prior felony convictions in another state.<sup>34</sup> But despite his prohibiting criminal history and the abuse that Barnes described, the judge did not order Moton to turn in any firearms when issuing the order of protection.

On October 11, 2013, Moton was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.<sup>35</sup>

Superior Court of Arizona/AZ007035J/0700 201 W. Jefferson Phoenix, AZ 85003

Takesha Barnes Plaintiff	Thomas Moton Defendant	Case No. FC2012-004436
Birth Date: 9/2/1977	3845 N. 69th Ave 27 Address Phoenix, AZ 85033 City, State, ZIP Code	PETITION for <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Injunction Against Harassment <input type="checkbox"/> Workplace Injunction

4. I need a Court Order because:

Date(s)      Describe what happened

- 05/21/2012** I received a text message from Thomas Moton with some demeaning content on 05/21/2012. Late Saturday night(05/19/2012), I was out with friends and he tried contacting me by phone(including leaving a couple of messages on my voicemail stating what he is going to do to me), after me not responding he then came to my home where our 18yr. old daughter & 10yr old son and my 14yr. old daughter were home alone. The children contacted me and told me not to come home as he kept knocking on the door, they were afraid and let him inside the home due to him kicking the door in a few months ago.(the police were notified) He sat inside and outside my home until 10 am Sunday morning. As I did not return to the residence, he continued to call and returned to my home on several occasions waiting for me to return. I have been back in Arizona for 10 months after leaving the relationship and within these ten months he has tried to run me and my children off the road. He has physically abused me by hitting me in the face and causing my nose to bleed. In 01/2012, he forced me to go to vital statistics and allow for his name to be added to our son's birth certificate and then broke into my home and removed him and his belongings to his residence. (The police were notified.) He continues to tell me that I cannot and will not be involved with another male as long as I reside in Arizona and for this reason he continues to harrass me and my children.
- I am scared for our safety and what will happen to us in the near future. I plan to leave the state of Arizona within the next 2 weeks to prevent from anything further occurring as I feel that he will cause physical and emotional harm to me and my children.

## TUCSON, ARIZONA: ORDER OF PROTECTION FAILED TO AFFIRMATIVELY REQUIRE ABUSER TO TURN IN HIS FIREARMS

On January 13, 2012, James Leonard broke into the home of his ex-girlfriend Claudia Pascual, a mother of two young children, and fatally shot her and then himself.<sup>36</sup> Three months earlier, on November 18, 2011, Claudia had obtained an order of protection against James.



In her request she wrote that James "hit me and my 9-year-old son. I was punched several times in the head, breaking my glass[es] and bruising me and punching my son on his cheek bone, bruising his face."<sup>37</sup> James had faced charges for domestic violence in 2007, 2010, and 2011, but each time they were dismissed. Despite James's abusive history, the judge that issued the order of protection did not prohibit James from possessing firearms nor require that he turn in any firearms he already owned.

Later, friends of Claudia would recall how James continually violated the order of protection in the months leading up to death: "He was continuing to stalk her and show up at her home, show up here at work, show up at the gym, sit outside her house, continually begging her to take him back and she was refusing to take him back and just wanting him to leave her alone."<sup>38</sup>

Police reported that Claudia had purchased a firearm for protection, but it did not save her.<sup>39</sup> Claudia was on the phone with her current boyfriend when James broke into her house; her last words to him were, "Oh my God, he's here!"<sup>40</sup>

BY: E. P. PITY

ARIZONA SUPERIOR COURT IN PIMA COUNTY, 110 W. CONGRESS, TUCSON, AZ 85701  
CIVIL DEPARTMENT, ROOM 131A (520) 740-3210

<u>Claudia Pascual</u> Plaintiff / Plaintiff Employer (Work Injunction ONLY) Birth Date: <u>9-28-80</u>	<u>James Leonard</u> Defendant <u>MA</u> Address <u>1111 W</u> City, State, Zip Code, Phone	Case No. <u>DV 20112447</u> PETITION for <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Injunction Against Harassment <input type="checkbox"/> Workplace Injunction <u>DV 20112447</u>
Agent's Name (Work Injunction ONLY)		

4. I need a Court Order because: (PRINT both the date(s) and briefly what happened):

Date(s)	Describe what happened (Attach additional paper if necessary - Do not write on back)
<u>11-18-11</u>	<u>James Leonard hit <del>me</del> me and my 9 yr old son. I was punched several times in the head breaking my glasses and bruising me. And punching my son on his cheek bone, bruising his face.</u>

FIREARMS. Because Defendant poses a credible threat of bodily injury to Plaintiff or Protected Person(s), Defendant shall not possess, receive, or purchase firearms or ammunition and shall surrender same within 24 hours of service to:

OTHER ORDERS: The defendant shall not come within 100 feet of the plaintiff or protected persons.

11-18-11 Date      [Signature] Judicial Officer      [Signature] Printed Name

**WARNING**

# SELIGMAN, ARIZONA: ORDER OF PROTECTION FAILED TO AFFIRMATIVELY REQUIRE ABUSER TO TURN IN HIS FIREARMS

On August 6, 2010, Robert Weisner kidnapped his ex-girlfriend Lorraine Long from her Scottsdale home, drove her to her home in the desert, and shot and killed her with her own handgun, before calling the police to report the crime.<sup>41</sup> Five months earlier Lorraine had obtained an order of protection against him.



In her application, she described a pattern of harassment: "Robert has been leaving notes on my back door to let me know he was at my house. He emailed me obscenities... called and texted me all night long so I couldn't sleep. He sen[ds] messages saying... 'Take my last call. This will be it and I will let you go.'"<sup>42</sup>

Despite Robert's disturbing behavior, the court did not order him to turn in any firearms when the protective order was issued, an omission magnified by a loophole in federal law that does not prohibit firearm possession by abusers under orders of protection if the victim is a non-cohabitating dating partner.

Robert was charged with first-degree murder, and is awaiting trial as of April 13, 2015.<sup>43</sup>

GLENDALE CITY COURT 5711 W. Glendale Ave. Glendale, AZ, 85301 623-930-2400

Plaintiff / Plaintiff Employer <i>Lorraine Long</i> <small>(Work Injunction ONLY)</small> Birth Date: _____ Agent's Name <small>(Work Injunction ONLY)</small>	Defendant <i>Robert W. Weisner</i> Address <i>14545 FLW. BLVD.</i> <i>Scottsdale, AZ 85260</i> City, State, Zip Code, Phone	Case No. <i>M-747-CV-2010-0457</i> Court ORI No. <i>AZ007061J</i> PETITION for <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Injunction Against Harassment <input type="checkbox"/> Workplace Injunction
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4. I need a Court Order because: (PRINT both the date(s) and briefly what happened):

Date(s)	Describe what happened (Attach additional paper if necessary - Do not write on back)
<i>3-1-10</i>	<i>I am a flight attendant + returned from my flight at 7:30 AM. + Robert was waiting for me. I was frightened and my crewmember stood between us + Robert said he just wanted to talk to me. My crewmember asked him to stand back several times. Robert was pale + lips quivering. He called me a bitch + walked away. He texted me with obscenities + threats.</i>

FIREARMS. Because Defendant poses a credible threat of bodily injury to Plaintiff or Protected Person (s), Defendant shall not possess, receive, or purchase firearms or ammunition and shall surrender same within 24 hours of service to: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER ORDERS: \_\_\_\_\_

03/01/2010 *K Maceachern* K MACEACHERN  
 Date Judicial Officer Printed Name



## PHOENIX, ARIZONA: PROHIBITED FROM BUYING FIREARMS BUT OBTAINED ONE AT A GUN SHOW, LIKELY IN AN UNLICENSED SALE

On March 30, 2009, Primitivo Madrigal Almonte, 45, fatally shot his wife Florinda Almonte, 45, in their home. When law enforcement arrived, officers found a .22 caliber handgun in his vehicle and determined that this was the weapon used in the shooting.



Because Primitivo was not an American citizen and was unlawfully present in the U.S., he was prohibited from possessing firearms. Primitivo told the arresting officer that he obtained the firearm several years prior to the homicide at a gun show.

In 2010, Primitivo pled guilty to manslaughter and was sentenced to 16 years in prison.

\*\* PUBLIC \*\* PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT \*\* RECORD \*\*  
SUPPLEMENT PAGE NUMBER: 1 DR NUMBER: 2009 90515312 9  
REPORT DATE: 20090330 TIME: 1938  
TYPE OF REPORT: HOMICIDE OFFENSE: 451  
LOCATION: BEAT: 0411 GRID: BB19  
DATE/TIME OF OCCURRENCE: MON 033009 1935  
REPORTING OFFICER(S): STEVEN LAND 8145 UNIT: 83G  
OFFENSE INVOLVED: BIAS - NONE(NO BIAS)  
\*\*\*\* NARRATIVE \*\*\*\*  
SERIAL NUMBER: 8145  
ON MARCH 30, 2009 AT 1938 HOURS, OFFICER MERRILL #8217 AND I ARRIVED AT  
IN REFERENCE TO A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOT CALL  
WHICH STATED THAT SOMEONE WAS KILLED.

HE SHOT  
HER WHILE DRIVING WESTBOUND. HE SAID THAT HE BOUGHT THE .22 HANDGUN AT A  
GUN SHOW A FEW YEARS AGO. HE SAID HE NEVER CARRIES THE GUN WITH HIM. I  
ASKED HIM WHY HE TOOK HIS GUN WITH HIM THIS TIME WITH HIS WIFE.

The Court has been informed that defendant was born in Mexico. In addition, the Court has been presented with sufficient evidence that defendant has been identified by federal authorities or a 287(g) officer as a person who is unlawfully present in the United States. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 11-1051(C) and Supreme Court Administrative Order 2010-91, the clerk shall send a copy of this order to the United States Immigrations and Customs Enforcement.

## CONCLUSION

The connection between domestic violence and gun homicides in Arizona is stark and well-documented, and the cases described in this report emphasize the scale, scope and dynamics of the problem. Together, they illustrate the devastating impact of intimate partner gun homicides—for those killed, for those injured, for those who witnessed the violence, and for those left behind.

While the cases are devastating, the deaths were not inevitable. Domestic violence gun homicides can be prevented by strengthening weak gun laws so abusers are denied access to firearms. Arizona policymakers should examine their current laws and address the loopholes that make it too easy for dangerous offenders to arm themselves—saving many lives in the process.

## NOTES

- 1 Corella, H., "Tucson man tells couple he killed their daughter, commits suicide," Arizona Daily Star, Dec. 21, 2012, available at: <http://bit.ly/1ykCVwc>.
- 2 Id.
- 3 Tucson City Court Order of Protection number M-1041-DV12067768, issued August 17, 2012.
- 4 J.C. Campbell, S.W. Webster, J.Koziol-McLain, et al., "Risk factors for femicide within physically abuse intimate relationships: results from a multi-state case control study," 93 Amer. J. of Public Health 1089-97 (2003).
- 5 The following states and statutes require individuals under a domestic violence order of protection to turn in their guns: California (Cal Fam Code 6389); Colorado (175 Co Stat 13-14-105.5); Connecticut (Conn Gen Stat 29-36k(a)); Hawaii (Haw Rev Stat Ann 134-7(g), 134-7.3(b)); Iowa (Iowa Code 724.26(4)); Illinois (725 Ill Comp Stat 5/112A-14(b)(14.5)(a); 750 Ill Comp Stat 60/214(b)(14.5)(a)); Massachusetts (Mass Gen Laws ch 209A, 3B; Mass Gen Laws ch 140, 129D); Maryland (Md Code Ann Fam Law 4-506(f)); Minnesota (Minn Stat 518B.01, subd (6)g, (h)); North Carolina (NC Gen Stat 50B-3.1); New Hampshire (NH Rev Stat Ann 159-D:3, 173-B:5(l)), New York (NY Crim Proc Law 530.14(5)(a), (b), 6(a); NY Fam Ct Act 842-a5, NY Fam Ct Act 842-a6, NY Pen Law 400.05(6)); Tennessee (186 Tenn Code Ann 36-3-625(a)); Washington (Wash Rev Code Ann 9.41.800(3)); and Wisconsin (Wis Stat 813.12(4m), 813.122(5m)).
- 6 Ariz Rev Stat 13-3602(G)(4)
- 7 Id.
- 8 Tucson City Court Order of Protection number M-1041-DV12067768, issued August 17, 2012.
- 9 Everytown analysis of FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2008-12, available at: <http://bit.ly/1yVxm4K>.
- 10 Id.
- 11 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(8). In Arizona, domestic violence restraining orders are issued ex parte, after which the respondent has the opportunity to request a hearing to contest the order. See: Ariz. Rev. Stat. 13-3602(l). There is some ambiguity as to whether an uncontested order meets the technical requirements of a prohibiting order under federal law.
- 12 "Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control (March 2003), available at: <http://1.usa.gov/1zggF0l>.
- 13 Michele C. Black et al., "The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 Summary Report," National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Nov. 2011. Other research suggests more than one in four American women will suffer domestic violence in their lifetimes. See, e.g., Patricia Tjaden and Nancy Thoennes, "Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey," National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2000).
- 14 Susan B. Sorenson and Douglas J. Wiebe, "Weapons in the Lives of Battered Women," 94 Am. J. Pub. Health 1412-1413 (2004).
- 15 J.C. Campbell, S.W. Webster, J.Koziol-McLain, et al., "Risk factors for femicide within physically abuse intimate relationships: results from a multi-state case control study," 93 Amer. J. of Public Health 1089-97 (2003).
- 16 Professor April M. Zeoli, Letter to the Hon. Patrick J. Leahy and Charles Grassley, Jan. 28, 2013.
- 17 Everytown analysis of FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2008-12, available at: <http://bit.ly/1yVxm4K>
- 18 Id.
- 19 Everytown for Gun Safety, "State background check requirements and rates of domestic violence homicide," available at: <http://every.tw/1Aj9HZj>.
- 20 April Zeoli and Daniel Webster, "Effects of domestic violence policies, alcohol taxes and police staffing levels on intimate partner homicide in large US cities," Journal of Injury Prevention, 2010, available at <http://1.usa.gov/1lqT58h>.
- 21 Ariz Rev Stat 13-3602(G)(4)

- 22 See: <http://bit.ly/1JKzOSt>, last accessed April 8, 2015.
- 23 Everytown for Gun Safety, Felon Seeks Firearm, No Strings Attached, (Sept. 2013), available at: <http://bit.ly/1y5gGYE>.
- 24 Ariz Rev Stat 13-3602(G)(4)
- 25 See: Co Stat 18-12-108(6)(c); Conn Gen Stat 53a-61, 53a-96, 53a-181d; Haw Rev Stat Ann 134-1, 134-7; 430 Ill Comp Stat 65/4(a)(2)(ix), 65/8(l), 725 Ill Comp Stat 5/112A-3(3); Iowa Code 724.26(2)(a); Ind. Code Ann 35-47-2-1(c), 35-47-4-6; NJ Stat Ann 2C:39-7b(1); NY Pen Law 400.00(1), 265.00(17); 18 Pa CS 6105(c)(9); Tenn Code Ann 39-17-1307(f)(1)(A); Wash Rev Code Ann 9.41.040, 9.41.010(18); W Va Code 61-7-7(a), 61-2-9(b), (c).
- 26 A.R.S. § 13-3601
- 27 Everytown analysis of FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2008-12, available at: <http://bit.ly/1yVxm4K>.
- 28 Eight incidents in which a person shot an intimate partner to death were excluded from the census for the following reasons: for two of those cases, Everytown was unable to find any information to confirm whether the shootings occurred and, if so, the basic circumstances of those shootings. In one case, where a husband and wife were found dead of gunshot wounds in their home, the police could not determine who shot whom. In two cases, there was strong evidence that the shootings were the result of a “suicide pact” — in one, a couple had made a video beforehand detailing their desire to die and their intentions to kill themselves; in the other, a couple found dead in a hotel room had left several notes indicating they both wished to commit suicide together. In three cases, authorities determined that the shootings were the result of so-called “mercy killings,” where the shooter killed an intimate partner who was critically ill.
- 29 Everytown identified four cases in which a perpetrator raised a self-defense claim, but in only one case did the court accept that claim (as of April 28, 2015, one trial was ongoing). The incident involved Carmelita Williams, who claimed that her boyfriend attacked her before the shooting. In that case, the charges against the shooter were dropped, at the request of the prosecutor in the case, “in the interests of justice.”
- 30 Frederick P. Rivara and Arthur L. Kellermann, “Alcohol and Illicit Drug Abuse and the Risk of Violent Death in the Home,” JAMA 278, no. 7 (August 20, 1997).
- 31 Jennifer C. Karberg and Doris J. James, Substance Dependence, Abuse, and Treatment of Jail Inmates, 2002, report no. NCJ 209588 (United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2005).
- 32 “Documents detail women’s murder at hands of ex-boyfriend,” Fox10Phoenix.com, June 5, 2012, available at: <http://bit.ly/1EuL011>.
- 33 Trial Courts of Arizona Order in Maricopa County, Order of Protection number FC2012-004436 issued May 21, 2012.
- 34 In information obtained from a May 30, 2012, County of Maricopa Direct Complaint in Arizona Superior Court, on August 2, 1995, Moton was convicted of possession of crack cocaine with intent to deliver. On January 29, 1997, he was convicted of third-degree assault of an officer.
- 35 Associated Press, “Thomas Lamont Moton convicted in shooting death of ex-girlfriend Takesha Barnes,” Sept. 16, 2013, available at: <http://bit.ly/1EFIQgm>.
- 36 Smith, C., “The system couldn’t save her,” KGUN9 News, Oct. 26, 2012, available at: <http://bit.ly/1GEAcAQ>.
- 37 Pima County Clerk of Superior Court, Order of Protection number DV20112447, issued November 18, 2011.
- 38 Smith, C., “The system couldn’t save her,” KGUN9 News, Oct. 26, 2012, available at: <http://bit.ly/1GEAcAQ>.
- 39 Pima County Clerk of Superior Court, Order of Protection number DV20112447, issued November 18, 2011.
- 40 Smith, C., “The system couldn’t save her,” KGUN9 News, Oct. 26, 2012, available at: <http://bit.ly/1GEAcAQ>.
- 41 Williams, B., “Scottsdale man arrested in Seligman death,” ArizonaCentral.com, Aug. 9, 2010, available at: <http://bit.ly/1zdgHY5>. See also: Superior Court of Arizona evidentiary hearing number P1300 CR2010 00915, February 21, 2012.
- 42 City Court of the City of Glendale, Maricopa County, Arizona Order of Protection number CV 2010004859, issued March 1, 2010.
- 43 “Wiesner is ‘on track’ for August 2015 murder trial,” The Daily Courier, Mar. 7, 2014, available at: <http://bit.ly/1Q2DrDS>.

# APPENDIX: FIVE YEARS OF INTIMATE PARTNER GUN HOMICIDES IN ARIZONA

2009 to 2013

## PHOENIX, DECEMBER 11, 2013

Manuel Olivas, 52, fatally shot his common-law wife Maryann Valenzuela Fernandez, 52, at their home, in front of Fernandez's brother and one of the couple's adult children. After shooting Fernandez, Olivas threatened to shoot Fernandez's brother, and then fatally shot himself. The brother and adult child were not physically harmed during the shooting. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona judicial branch online index, Olivas did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter Domestic Violence History:**

None indicated

**Shooter Had Prior Convictions:**

None indicated

**Order of Protection:** None indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

## PHOENIX, NOVEMBER 12, 2013

Just seven hours after a judge upheld a domestic violence order of protection against him and ordered him to turn in his firearms, Michael Sanders shot and killed his estranged wife Carol, their 14-year-old daughter Audra, and Carol's brother Tom Fitzpatrick, at the Sanders' residence, before fatally shooting himself. Michael had a history of terrorizing his wife and daughter. In her application for the original order of protection, Carol noted that Michael "owns multiple guns and has a very short fuse." Later, she described a terrifying car ride with Michael and their daughter: "When he got where he wanted to stop, away from people, he specifically took his gun out of the console and put it in his pocket before getting out. Once he got out, he made us sit on the ground and started screaming...we believed he planned to kill us all." When the judge granted the order of protection on October 7, 2013, the judge required Michael to turn in all his firearms. The order also prohibited Michael from possessing firearms under federal law.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** Yes

**Had Prior Convictions:** None indicated

**Order of Protection:** Active

**Order Required Shooter to Turn**

**in Firearms:** Yes

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

## PHOENIX, NOVEMBER 12, 2013

Sean Dubowik, 43, fatally shot his girlfriend Christy Harr, 35, before fatally shooting himself in their home. Police said another adult and three children were inside the home at the time of the shooting, including the couple's six-year-old child, but they were not physically harmed. Dubowik had a prior criminal record, but this did not prohibit him from possessing a firearm: In 2006, in Maricopa County, AZ, Dubowik was convicted of drug possession, a misdemeanor.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** No

**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes

**Order of Protection:** No

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

## MAYER, OCTOBER 18, 2013

William Hewitt, 29, fatally shot his girlfriend Kristina Webb, 38, in front of her five-year-old son, who called the police to report the shooting. The child was physically unharmed. After the shooting, Hewitt left the scene and was later found dead inside his truck from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Hewitt had a prior criminal record, but this did not prohibit him from possessing a firearm: In 2004 he was convicted of drug possession, a misdemeanor.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

## PHOENIX, OCTOBER 16, 2013

Jason Neal, 24, shot his former intimate partner Robert Bickford, 58. He told police that he and Bickford often argued. He also admitted to owning several guns. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Neal did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On August 29, 2014, he was found guilty of second-degree murder.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

## RED ROCK, OCTOBER 14, 2013

Ramiro Delcid, 20, shot his girlfriend Dina Dicochea, 19, while the two were sitting in his company truck. Delcid told investigators that he was trying to scare Dicochea when he aimed the gun at her chest. He said he mistakenly thought it was empty when he pulled the trigger, and unintentionally shot her in the chest. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona judicial branch online index, Delcid did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On August 6, 2014, Delcid pled guilty to manslaughter.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

## PHOENIX, OCTOBER 6, 2013

Ismael Perez-Barraza, 23, fatally shot his wife Sandra Perez, 21, in their home. Their two-month-old baby was home at the time but physically unharmed. Perez-Barraza then fled the residence in his vehicle. As of July 14, 2014, law enforcement had not apprehended him. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona judicial branch online index, Perez-Barraza did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### TUCSON, OCTOBER 6, 2013

Stephen J. Malone, 28, fatally shot his girlfriend Augustina Soto, 25, inside of her car. A second adult female was in the car and was injured during the shooting. Two of their three children were also in the back seat, but were not physically harmed. After the shooting, Malone fled to California, where law enforcement apprehended him. He had a prior criminal record, but this did not prohibit him from possessing a firearm: on April 7, 2008, he was convicted of resisting arrest, a misdemeanor. Another woman had also take an order of protection out against Malone on February 28, 2008, but it expired on October 15, 2009. He was charged with first-degree murder and as of April 8, 2015, his trial is still pending.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** Expired (Obtained by a third-party)  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** No  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### PHOENIX, JUNE 10, 2013

Stanley E. Mahowald, 61, fatally shot his wife Barbara Mahowald, 56, and then fatally shot himself. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Stanley did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### ORO VALLEY, APRIL 10, 2013

Doris Shaub, 76, shot her husband Clarence Shaub, 78, and then fatally shot herself. Police found several notes left by Doris that indicated she was responsible for the homicide. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Doris did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### GLENDALE, APRIL 8, 2013

George Deckard, 86, fatally shot his wife Margaret Deckard, 86, and then fatally shot himself. George left a handwritten note behind with details consistent with evidence found at the residence that George shot Margaret. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, George did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### MOHAVE VALLEY, APRIL 1, 2013

John Phillips, 55, used a handgun to shoot his wife Valerie Ann Corti-Phillips, 56, several times in the head, killing her before killing himself. In 2012, Corti-Phillips had called police requesting help during an argument with her husband, but no arrest was made. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Phillips did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### MESA, MARCH 28, 2013

Matthew Walsh, 23, fatally shot his girlfriend Amanda Rose Encinas, 18, in their apartment. Walsh later told police the shooting was unintentional, and that he did not realize that the handgun was loaded when he pulled the trigger. Walsh had a prior criminal record that prohibited him from possessing firearms: He was on unsupervised probation for possession of drug paraphernalia and forgery — he had attempted to procure oxycodone by writing a false prescription. The conditions of probation prohibited him from possessing firearms. He told police he bought the gun in a casino parking lot — presumably in a private sale — though it had been reported stolen prior to the shooting and police suspected he had stolen it. On September 6 2013, Walsh was convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years in prison.

**Shooter Suicide:** None Indicated  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

### WELLTON, MARCH 22, 2013

Jose G. Jimenez, 31, and several accomplices fatally shot his ex-girlfriend Christal Figueroa, 29, a mother of three. Jimenez and three friends kidnapped Figueroa and drove her to a citrus grove. Figueroa was shot at least sixteen times with three different firearms. Jimenez had a criminal record that prohibited him from possessing firearms: In 2001, he was convicted of attempted possession of a prohibited weapon, a felony, and in 2006, he was convicted of forgery and attempted theft of transportation. A month after the shooting, on April 7, 2014, Jimenez pled guilty to second-degree murder and was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

**Shooter Suicide:** None Indicated  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

### PHOENIX, MARCH 11, 2013

Michael Blanco, 41, fatally shot his girlfriend Christina Wilson, 41, and her 14-year-old daughter Vanessa Wilson at their home. Law enforcement found Blanco's body in a room in a nearby hotel and determined that he fatally shot himself there. Blanco had a prior criminal record but it did not prohibit him from possessing firearms: In 1995, he was charged with aggravated assault, a felony, and misconduct involving weapons, a misdemeanor. The court dismissed the assault charge, and Blanco was found guilty of misconduct involving weapons.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### MESA, MARCH 7, 2013

Hanh Van Nguyen, 55, fatally shot his estranged wife My Thao Thi Nguyen, 44, inside a restaurant before fatally shooting himself. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Nguyen did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**PHOENIX, MARCH 6, 2013**

Richard Luzania, 24 and Christian Arguelles, 20, were charged with fatally shooting Luzania's ex-girlfriend, Alexis Garcia, 20, and her new boyfriend Fabian Valenzuela, 17, in Garcia's apartment. Garcia and Luzania's four-month-old baby was also in the apartment at the time of the shooting, but was not physically harmed. Luzania and Garcia had been in a relationship for three years prior to the homicide. Luzania had a prior criminal record but it did not prohibit him from possessing firearms: On June 6, 2009, in Maricopa County, AZ, Luzania was charged with a weapons misconduct violation. He entered a plea agreement and was given a suspended sentence. Arguelles also has a criminal record, but it did not prohibit him from possessing firearms: in 1995, he was convicted of providing liquor to a minor, a misdemeanor. Luzania and Arguelles confessed to the homicides, and both were charged with first-degree murder — a trial is pending.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**PINON, FEBRUARY 15, 2013**

Carmelita Williams, 21, shot and killed her boyfriend Lionel Ben during an argument in Ben's home, which was located on a Navajo Reservation. Williams told police that prior to the shooting, they had both been drinking, and that Ben was verbally and physically assaulting her. She claimed that Ben would not allow her to leave his residence, and told her that the only way she could leave would be if she shot him, which she did. Williams was holding her young son at the time, who was not physically harmed. During the investigation, FBI agents found a Colt "government model-380 auto" in the trash where Williams told investigators she had thrown it. Williams had a prior criminal record, but this did not prohibit her from possessing a firearm: In October 2013, she was convicted of shoplifting, a misdemeanor. Authorities charged her with second-degree murder but on March 3, 2013, the United States District Court granted the U.S. Attorney's motion to dismiss the complaint against her.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**PHOENIX, JANUARY 24, 2013**

Mario Ramirez, 41, fatally shot his girlfriend Teresa Beltran, 38, with a handgun at their home. When law enforcement arrived outside of the residence, Ramirez fired two shots at them before fatally shooting himself. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Ramirez did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**TUCSON, DECEMBER 20, 2012**

On December 20, 2012 in the parking lot of an apartment building in Tucson, AZ, Joseph Leroy Francis shot his ex-girlfriend Ashley Hicks seven times, killing her. Afterwards Francis drove to the home of Hicks' parents, told them he had killed their daughter, and then went home and shot himself. Four months before the murder, Francis assaulted Hicks in a grocery store and on August 17, 2012, she obtained an order of protection against him, but the court did not order Francis to turn in his firearms. In the last months of Hicks's life, Francis repeatedly violated the order of protection: breaking into her home by punching through a window; throwing a motorcycle helmet at her and smashing her phone after she called the police; brandishing a knife and threatening to kill her with it; and visiting her workplace. Police received notification of the violations but Joseph was never charged with violating the protection order.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** No  
**Order of Protection:** Active  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** No  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

**FLAGSTAFF, DECEMBER 7, 2012**

Maurice Holmes, 19, fatally shot his girlfriend Alisha Joe, 27, in the home they shared with Holmes's mother. After the shooting, Holmes ran from the home and claimed another man shot Joe, but police found evidence implicating Holmes, and arrested him at the scene. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Holmes did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On April 24, 2014, he was convicted of manslaughter.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**BULLHEAD CITY, DECEMBER 6, 2012**

Robert Ulan, 53, fatally shot his wife Valerie Jean Ulan, 47, and her son Jay Artz, 17, and then fatally shot himself. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Robert did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**PAYSON, DECEMBER 5, 2012**

Thomas Easley, 70, fatally shot his estranged wife Marjeane Easley, 61, in the driveway of the home where she was staying, and then fatally shot himself. Neighbors witnessed the shooting and called the police. The couple had been married for 15 years but Marjeane had recently initiated divorce proceedings. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Thomas did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**PHOENIX, NOVEMBER 18, 2012**

Thomas Fernandez, 52, fatally shot his wife Debra Fernandez, 46, and then fatally shot himself in their home. Seven other people were home at the time of the shooting — two adults and five children under the age of five — but were not physically harmed. When their parents did not come out of their bedroom the morning after the shooting, one of the children entered and found the bodies. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Thomas did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**AVONDALE, NOVEMBER 12, 2012**

Michael Hall, 41, fatally shot his ex-girlfriend Donella Clauschee, 28, in her garage while their four-year old daughter sat strapped in a car seat. The child was physically unharmed. After the shooting, Hall fled to Nevada, where he was arrested. Hall and Clauschee had recently ended their relationship. In August 2012, Clauschee filed an order of protection against Hall and the judge ordered Hall to turn in his firearms, but the order was dismissed later that same month. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Hall did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On November 4, 2013, Hall pled guilty to first-degree murder.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** Yes

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** Expired

**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** Yes

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**SCOTTSDALE, NOVEMBER 7, 2012**

Daniel R. Peralta, 58, fatally shot his wife Laura M. Peralta, 52, while she slept inside their home before fatally shooting himself. According to law enforcement, the couple's 23-year-old son called the police when he heard gunshots and discovered his parents deceased in their bedroom. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Daniel did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**YUMA, SEPTEMBER 6, 2012**

Robert Nelson, 36, fatally shot his girlfriend Briana Kilty, 34, in their home, and then fatally shot himself. Kilty's 11-year-old daughter was home at the time of the shooting but not physically harmed. After he shot Kilty, Nelson called his sister to tell her what he had done, and that he was suicidal. Nelson's sister called the police, who arrived at the home and found the bodies and the child. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Nelson did not have a prior criminal record.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**YUMA, AUGUST 27, 2012**

Dallas Augustine, 32, used a handgun to fatally shoot her wife Jessie McCaskill, 50, in their home and then to kill herself. According to press reports, prior to the shooting Augustine had confessed to having an affair and McCaskill asked her to leave their home. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Augustine did not have a prior criminal record.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**TUCSON, AUGUST 13, 2012**

Julio Cesar Velasco, 59, fatally shot his estranged wife Maria Carolina Coleman-Cota, 49, and then fatally shot himself. Velasco ambushed Coleman-Cote in the parking lot of her work: when she drove in, he shot her multiple times while she was in the driver's seat of her car. Velasco had a prior criminal record, but this did not prohibit him from possessing a firearm: In 2000, Velasco pled guilty to criminal trespass, a second-degree misdemeanor.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**PHOENIX, JULY 31, 2012**

Rebekah Mellon, 31, fatally shot her husband Donald Mellon, 46, in their residence. The homicide was captured on video, which shows Rebekah getting a handgun from a cabinet, walking into the room where her husband was sitting, and fatally shooting him. Rebekah told police that Donald and she were arguing the night before, and that he threw her across the room. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Rebekah did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. She was charged with first-degree murder, and as of April 2015 the trial was ongoing.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**TUCSON, JUNE 26, 2012**

Ronald Corbin Jr., 32, fatally shot his girlfriend Genna Ayup, 27, in their home. Corbin said that the two were having a discussion when the gun accidentally went off, killing Ayup. He admitted to

drinking before the shooting. Corbin and Ayup have a two-year-old son who was home during the shooting, but was not physically harmed. Corbin was arrested and charged with one count of manslaughter, but on August 29, 2012, Pima County Attorney's office dropped the manslaughter charge against Corbin due to lack of evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that there was criminal intent. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Corbin did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**GLENDALE, JUNE 15, 2012**

Thomas Glenn Bodine, 67, fatally shot his wife Lillian Bodine, 64, in the head while she was sleeping. At first, Thomas told police that his wife committed suicide, but investigators determined that Thomas had shot her and arrested him. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Thomas did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**TEMPE, JUNE 9, 2012**

James Butwin, 47, fatally shot his wife Yafi Butwin, 40, and their three children Malissa, 16, Daniel, 14, and Matthew, 7. He then drove their bodies to the desert and set the car they were in on fire before fatally shooting himself. Police reported that notes found at the scene indicated that James killed his family. Yafit had filed for divorce a year earlier, but James continued to live in the couple's home. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, James did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**PHOENIX, MAY 29, 2012**

Carlos Tino Villareal, 33, fatally shot his girlfriend Christina Alvarez, 32, whom news reports refer to as his common-law wife, in their home. The couple's three



children were home at the time of the shooting but were not physically harmed. Villareal told detectives that Alvarez was upset that he was using methamphetamine and that he kept a handgun in the house where they lived. Criminal records indicate that in 1999, Villareal was charged with armed robbery, a felony, but the charge was dismissed and Villareal was not convicted. When law enforcement interviewed Carlos, he said "a friend of his gave him the .45 caliber handgun to hold for him sometime ago," and.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** No  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### AVONDALE, MAY 25, 2012

Thomas Moton, 38, fatally shot his ex-girlfriend Takesha Barnes, 34, in front of her nine-year-old son and 14-year-old daughter, in a school parking lot after her daughter's eighth-grade graduation. Just four days earlier, Takesha had obtained an order of protection against Thomas. In the application for the order, she described Thomas' abusive acts. In just the last ten months, Lamont had "tried to run me and my children off the road. He has physically abused me by hitting me in the face and causing my nose to bleed. I am scared for our safety and what will happen to us in the near future." At the time the order of protection was issued on May 21, 2012, Lamont was prohibited from possessing firearms due to two prior felony convictions in another state. Despite Moton's prior felony convictions and his history of abuse towards Barnes, the judge did not order Lamont to turn in any firearms. On October 11, 2013, Moton was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** Active  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** No  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### GOLDEN VALLEY, MAY 21, 2012

Ronald Rixe, 55, fatally shot his girlfriend Rhonda Knaak, 42, at their home. A neighbor saw Rixe trying to load Knaak's body in a car and called the police. When they arrived, Rixe barricaded himself in the home, where he eventually shot himself. Rixe had a prior criminal record, but this did not prohibit him from possessing a firearm: In 2003, Rixe was convicted of a misdemeanor extreme DUI, in Kingman Justice, Arizona.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### PAGE, MAY 12, 2012

Cemaludin "Daniel" Veseli, 32, fatally shot his girlfriend Autumn Tenney, 20, in her apartment, and then fled the scene. When he was arrested, police described him as extremely intoxicated. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Veseli did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On January 9, 2014, Veseli was sentenced to 16 years in prison for second-degree murder.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### GILBERT, MAY 2, 2012

Jared Todd "J.T." Ready, 39, had been living in Lisa Ready's home for approximately one year when family members gathered to ask him to leave. At that gathering, he opened fire, killing four people — his girlfriend, Lisa, 47, her daughter Amber Mederos, 23, Amber's boyfriend Jim Hiott, 24, and Amber's 16-month old daughter Lily Mederos — and then himself. Ready had a prior criminal record, but this did not prohibit him from possessing a firearm. In 1992, when Ready was 18, he was convicted of assault and given a sentence of one year's probation and community service. Mederos told police that Ready had strangled her on at least two occasions, and Mederos' family reported a history of abusive behavior perpetrated by Ready against her, including acts of coercive control and physical acts of violence. Ready was also twice court-martialed during his military service. The first resulted in a demotion and three months' imprisonment, and the second resulted in six months imprisonment and a Bad Conduct Discharge from the Corps in 1996. At the time of his death, Ready was also under investigation by the FBI, who were looking into his involvement in the shooting deaths of immigrants killed in the desert.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### FLORENCE, APRIL 30, 2012

Heriberto Valenzuela, 45, fatally shot his wife Wanda Pohl, 42, in their residence. She was taken to the hospital after the

shooting, where she died from her injuries. Law enforcement recovered a .410 caliber shotgun from the residence. Valenzuela had a criminal history but it did not prevent him from possessing firearms: in 1999, he was convicted of theft, a misdemeanor. In addition, Valenzuela has a long history of misdemeanor convictions, including taking wildlife without a valid license in 1997, possession of drug paraphernalia in 2005, and disorderly conduct in 2008. On December 4, 2012, Valenzuela was convicted of manslaughter.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### TUCSON, APRIL 12, 2012

Eric Lee Davis, 46, fatally shot his wife Samantha Davis, 31, in the basement of his parents' home, where the couple lived. Eric's mother alerted law enforcement to the shooting. When police arrived at the home, Eric refused to exit. During a five hour standoff, Eric fired twenty-five shots at the responding officers. The standoff ended when police shot and killed Eric. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Eric did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** No  
**Had Prior Convictions:** No  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### BULLHEAD, APRIL 8, 2012

Michael Lloyd Brown, 63, called police and reported that he just shot his girlfriend Patricia Lee Hays, 65, and was going to kill himself. Police found the couple dead and recovered a small handgun from Brown's hand. Hays had also suffered recent injuries, perhaps indicating a physical altercation immediately prior to the shooting. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Brown did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### FOUNTAIN HILLS, MARCH 12, 2012

Judith Day, 66, and James Day, 69, were found dead of gunshot wounds in their home. Police determined that James shot

his wife Judith before fatally shooting himself. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, James did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** No  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### TUCSON, FEBRUARY 13, 2012

James Leonard, 41, broke into the home of his ex-girlfriend, Claudia Pascual, 31, where he fatally shot her and then shot himself. Three months earlier on November 18, 2011, Pascual had obtained an order of protection against him, writing that James "hit me and my nine-year-old son. I was punched several times in the head, breaking my glass[es] and bruising me and punching my son on his cheek bone, bruising his face." James had a long history of domestic violence — he faced charges in 2007, 2010, and 2011 — but each time, they were dismissed. Despite James's history of abuse against Pascual and others, the court did not order James to turn in any firearms when it issued the order of protection. The order did prohibit Leonard from possessing firearms under federal law. After Pascual's death, friends described how James continually violated the protection order in the months leading up to her death: "He was continuing to stalk her and show up at her home, show up here at work, show up at the gym, sit outside her house, continually begging her to take him back and she was refusing to take him back and just wanting him to leave her alone." Police reported that Pascual had purchased a firearm for protection from Leonard, but her firearm was not used in the shooting. Pascual was on the phone with her boyfriend when James broke into the house and killed her. Her last words to him were, "Oh my God, he's here!"

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** Active  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** No  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

### PHOENIX, DECEMBER 19, 2011

Dylan Bell, 24, fatally shot his ex-girlfriend Marilyn Guerra, 24, in Guerra's mother's residence before killing himself. The couple had a ten-month-old child, who was found crying by her mother's body but was physically unharmed. According to Guerra's father, she had ended her relationship with Bell five months earlier, and law enforcement believe that Bell was angry over custody issues and envious of

Guerra's new boyfriend. Bell had a prior criminal record, but this did not prohibit him from possessing a firearm: In 2007, he pled guilty to furnishing tobacco to a minor, a misdemeanor.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### PHOENIX, DECEMBER 13, 2011

Anthony Rinaldi, 26, fatally shot his wife Amanda Blaies-Rinaldi, 28, in the residence that he previously shared with her. Anthony had moved out eight weeks prior to the homicide. He had a military background and was employed by the state Department of Corrections. In May 2010, Amanda obtained a temporary order of protection against Anthony in which the judge ordered Anthony to turn in his firearms. The order was dismissed when Amanda did not show up for the court hearing. On December 21, 2011, Anthony pled guilty to second-degree murder.

**Shooter Suicide:** None Indicated  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** Dismissed  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** Yes  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### MESA, DECEMBER 5, 2011

Donna Marie Diaz, 52, shot and killed her boyfriend Thomas Wakeham, 52, at their home. Diaz told officers that Wakeham had verbally abused her after they were both been drinking. She stated that she shot him once, on accident, and then fired again when he kept moving toward her. She had obtained an order of protection against him in June 2011 but had the order dismissed in September 2011. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Diaz did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On August 10, 2012, she pled guilty to second-degree murder.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** Dismissed (Shooter took out against victim)  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### SCOTTSDALE, DECEMBER 1, 2011

Paul Giovante Jones, 26, used a shotgun to shoot and kill his boyfriend, Colton Scharge, 20, at the home they shared with two other roommates. The roommates were home at the time but were not

physically harmed. Jones claims he shot Scharge after finding out he had slept with his best friend. He also told police this was not the first time he killed someone; he claims to have killed three times before. Jones told law enforcement the couple had been drinking before the homicide and one roommate heard Jones countdown before the first gunshot. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Jones did not have a prior criminal record at the time of the homicide. On December 12, 2011, Jones was convicted of manslaughter.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### SCOTTSDALE, NOVEMBER 24, 2011

Shari Tobyne, 58, fatally shot her husband Dwight Tobyne, 57, at their home, with whom she had been in the process of getting a divorce. She later dismembered his body with a saw and disposed of his remains across the state. Shari used Dwight's cell phone and email accounts to communicate with friends and family in order to make it seem as if he was still alive. Dwight's oldest daughter eventually reported him missing, at which time the police began investigating Shari's involvement. During the investigation, Shari admitted to killing Dwight. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Shari did not have a prior criminal record at the time of the homicide. Shari was charged with first-degree murder, and on May 7, 2013, she pled guilty and was sentenced to life in prison.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### GLENDALE, NOVEMBER 5, 2011

Rosendo Sahagun, 38, fatally shot his wife Fedra Valenzuela-Aranda, 38, in their home. Their three children were at home during the shooting but were physically unharmed. On November 8, 2013, Sahagun pled guilty to manslaughter. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Sahagun did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**CHANDLER, OCTOBER 15, 2011**

Eric Coulter, 18, invited his ex-girlfriend Monique Cota, 19, to his home where he shot and killed her. Cota had ended the relationship a month earlier, and when she arrived at the home, he shot her multiple times with an AR-15 rifle and then fled. Police arrested Coulter the next day at a motel. Both Cota and Coulter had been arrested for domestic violence in the past but neither was charged with a crime. On March 18, 2013, Coulter was convicted of manslaughter.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** No  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**TUCSON, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011**

Thad Hall Jr., 38, fatally shot his girlfriend Misty Gale, 40, in his home before fatally shooting himself. An out-of-state relative called the police and requested a welfare check on the home after receiving "suicidal and homicidal" statements from her brother. When police arrived, they found the couple's bodies. They also found the couple's one-year-old child, who was crying, but physically unharmed. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Hall Jr. did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**VERDE VILLAGES, SEPTEMBER 1, 2011**

Michael Antonio Piccioli, 23, fatally shot his girlfriend Xiaorong "Nancy" Wang, 23, inside their home. Piccioli admitted he had been drinking before the shooting. At trial, Piccioli claimed he was trying to show Wang that the gun was safe when it went off, shooting her by accident. Piccioli had a prior criminal record but it did not prohibit him from possessing firearms: In 2007, he was convicted of possession of drug paraphernalia, a misdemeanor, and possession of liquor under the age of 21, a misdemeanor (he was additionally charged with assault, a felony, but this charge was dismissed). In 2011, Piccioli was convicted of possession of drug paraphernalia, a misdemeanor. On September 30, 2011, he pled guilty to second-degree murder.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**TUCSON, APRIL 12, 2012**

Ned Dagle, 62, fatally shot his estranged wife Lara Vondran-Dagle, 59, before fatally shooting himself at Vondran-Dagle's home. The couple was going through a divorce and had been separated for four months at the time of the homicide. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Dagle did not have a criminal record at the time: in December 2009, Vondran-Dagle reported to the Prescott Police department that Dagle had assaulted her, but Dagle was not charged.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**SCOTTSDALE, AUGUST 17, 2011**

Steven Lester, 60, shot and killed his girlfriend, Vanessa Klein, 24, before fatally shooting himself. Lester had called Klein and asked her to come to his residence. When she arrived, he shot her multiple times. Lester had a prior criminal record but it did not prohibit him from possessing guns: Lester had been convicted of three DULs in Arizona-all misdemeanors.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**AVONDALE, JUNE 25, 2011**

Aimee Stensgaard, 27, called the police after shooting her husband David 48, with his 9mm handgun during an argument in their home. The couple, who were going through a divorce, had been drinking and were fighting over allegations of infidelity. Aimee reported a long history of domestic violence between the two and claimed that the shooting was in self-defense. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Aimee did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. Aimee was arrested and charged with second-degree murder. On March 19, 2014, she was convicted of manslaughter and a domestic violence offense.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**TUCSON, JUNE 15, 2011**

Jeffrey Jaster, 59, fatally shot his wife Noreen Jaster, 62, before fatally shooting

himself. According to public database queries and the State of Arizona Judicial branch online index, Jeffrey did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** No  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**WELTON, JUNE 2, 2011**

Carey Hal Dyess, 73, fatally shot his ex-wife Theresa Lorraine Sigurdson, 61, her friends Henry Scott Finney 76, Cindy Finney, 75, and James P. Simpson, 75, and her lawyer Jerrold Shelley, 62, and injured her friend Linda Clatone, 52. Dyess then fatally shot himself in his vehicle. He traveled to multiple locations to kill his victims, starting in Wellton and ending in Yuma. Clatone, the sole survivor, was shot multiple times in her bed in the middle of the night. She now speaks with a hoarse voice because a bullet fragment hit her pharynx. Dyess and Sigurdson divorced in 2003 and in 2006 Sigurdson filed for an order of protection against him, alleging domestic abuse, but it did not prohibit him from possessing firearms, and had expired by the time of the shooting.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** Expired  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** No  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**PHOENIX, JUNE 1, 2011**

Steven Gibson, 51, shot his wife, Charlene Gibson, 37, before fatally shooting himself. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Steven did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**DOUGLAS, APRIL 18, 2011**

Francisco Javier Cocoba, 42, fatally shot his ex-wife Yvonne Cocoba, 39, before fatally shooting himself in a residence. Francisco had a criminal history that prevented him from possessing firearms: In 2010, he was convicted of possession of a narcotic drug and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia, both felonies.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### TUCSON, MARCH 12, 2011

Sabine Schulte, 47, fatally shot her boyfriend Richard Posner, 62, before fatally shooting herself. Sabine, who press outlets reported was a German citizen, did not have a criminal history in the United States. Her immigration status in the United States at the time of shooting is not known, though it may have prohibited her from possessing firearms.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### YAVAPAI COUNTY, FEBRUARY 4, 2011

Thomas Watson, 47, fatally shot his ex-girlfriend, Tara Shermerhorn, 31, and then fatally shot himself. Shermerhorn's family reported her missing, and police tracked her cell phone to Yavapai County, about 90 miles from her residence, where they found both bodies inside Watson's pick-up truck. Police say the couple had recently broken up and that Watson had kidnapped Shermerhorn before shooting and killing her. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Watson did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### PRESCOTT VALLEY, JANUARY 5, 2011

Charles "Greg" Dean, 59, fatally shot his wife Edna Dean, 59, and their two cats, before fatally shooting himself in their residence. Law enforcement found a letter that Charles wrote which led them to believe that he was the shooter. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online Charles did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### FLORENCE, NOVEMBER 11, 2010

Dominic Donatella, 39, fatally shot his ex-wife Jamie Gallegos, 35, in the parking lot of a church. Law enforcement indicated that there was a physical altercation prior to the shooting. After the homicide, Donatella fled, and law enforcement found him in the desert the following day dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. On August 5, 2010, Gallegos had filed an order of protection against Donatella and the judge ordered Donatella to turn in his firearms. But the order was dismissed on September 15, 2010, after Gallegos dropped her request. Dominic had a prior criminal record but it did not prohibit him from possessing guns: In 2010, he was arrested for domestic violence assault and disorderly conduct in Arizona, but the domestic assault charge was dismissed and he pled guilty to disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** Dismissed  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** Yes  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### MESA, OCTOBER 30, 2010

Robert Benoit, 42, fatally shot his wife Joy Dockendorf, 37, in their residence. Benoit then called his mother and confessed. He was charged with second-degree murder. A year later, while the case was in trial, Benoit drowned himself in his swimming pool. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Benoit did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### PHOENIX, OCTOBER 16, 2010

Richard Schmalenbach, 81, fatally shot his wife Mary Schmalenbach, 79, their son Tom Schmalenbach, 50, and their dog, before fatally shooting himself. Schmalenbach was a retired Phoenix firefighter. There is no evidence Richard had a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### LAKE HAVASU CITY, AUGUST 28, 2010

Brian Diez, 26, fatally shot his estranged girlfriend Deborah Langstaff, 23, and four other people: her father, her boyfriend, and two friends. Brian also shot and injured Deborah's mother. The group had been gathered for a birthday party. After the shooting, Brian fled to California with his two children, who witnessed the killings, dropping them off at a relative's home before fatally shooting himself. Brian was prohibited from possessing a firearm at the time of the shooting due to a prior conviction: In July 2010, one month before the killings, he was convicted of assaulting his infant son. Deborah also had an order of protection against Brian at the time of the shooting. But by 2015 the court had purged the record and it is not known whether a judge ordered Brian to turn in his firearms. Law enforcement had also removed firearms from Brian in the past: in 2008, in response to a domestic violence complaint, police found and confiscated 10 firearms, including rifles, shotguns, and handguns.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** Active  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** Unknown (record expunged)  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### MESA, AUGUST 13, 2010

Bernardo Barraza, 21, fatally shot his live-in girlfriend Sheila Shurz, 20, during an argument about whether it was safe for him to sleep with a gun in his holster. Barraza originally told law enforcement that Sheila accidentally shot herself in the neck. He later told them that he accidentally shot Shurz when he was attempting to prove that his weapon was safe. Barraza was charged with second-degree murder. In 2011, he accepted a plea agreement and was convicted of manslaughter. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Barraza did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### SHOW LOW, AUGUST 12, 2010

David Deay, 53, fatally shot his wife Judy White, 58, before fatally shooting himself. Law enforcement found a suicide note but did not release further details. Deay had a criminal history, but was not prohibited from possessing firearms: In 1995, he was convicted of disorderly conduct, a

misdemeanor. In 1997, he was arrested for assault, but the court dismissed the case.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### SELIGMAN, AUGUST 6, 2010

Robert Weisner, 52, kidnapped and fatally shot his former girlfriend, Lorraine Long, 62, in August 2010, five months after Lorraine obtained an order of protection against Robert. Robert forced Lorraine from her Scottsdale home and into his car, then drove her to Lorraine's home in the desert, where he shot and killed her with her own handgun before calling the police to report the crime. In her application for the order of protection, Lorraine described a pattern of harassment:

"Robert has been leaving notes on my back door to let me know he was at my house. He emailed me obscenities...he called and texted me all night long so I couldn't sleep. He sen[ds] messages saying... 'Take my last call. This will be it and I will let you go.'" Despite Robert's disturbing behavior, the court did not order him to turn in any firearms when the protective order was issued, an omission magnified by a loophole in federal law that does not prohibit firearm possession by abusers under orders of protection if the victim is a non-cohabitating dating partner. Robert was charged with first-degree murder, and his death penalty trial is pending as of April 13, 2015.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** Active  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** No  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### GILBERT, JULY 4, 2010

Christopher Harbinson, 36, shot and killed his girlfriend Cynthia Townley, 32, in a hotel room, before shooting and killing himself in his home. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Harbinson did not have a prior criminal record.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### TEMPE, JUNE 10, 2010

Wade Eugene Bradford, 49, fatally shot his ex-girlfriend Natalie Allan, 27, who had come to his residence with her boyfriend

to pick up some of her belongings. Bradford was later arrested at a restaurant in Tempe. After Bradford's arrest, law enforcement found the beaten body of another woman he had been dating, Eleanor Su, 39, in a storage unit that he had rented; she had been missing since 2006. There is no evidence Bradford had criminal record at the time of the homicide. Bradford was convicted of first-degree murder for the death of Allan. He was also charged with first-degree murder in the death of Su; as of April 2015 that trial is ongoing.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### PHOENIX, JUNE 4, 2010

Glen Jepsen, 56, fatally shot his wife Paula McGuire, 65, and then shot and injured himself. Four days after he shot his wife, Jepsen called the police and told them what he had done. Her body was still inside the home. The couple had been married ten years. There is no evidence Jepsen was prohibited from possessing firearms. In 2006, he was arrested for domestic assault, but the case was dismissed. In November 2010, Jepsen pled guilty to second-degree murder and was sentenced to 20 years in prison for murdering McGuire.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** No  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### TEMPE, AZ, MAY, 29, 2010

Hector A. Torres, 56, fatally shot his estranged wife Maria Torres, 53, with a rifle during an argument on the side of a road, before fatally shooting himself. Hector had a criminal history that prohibited him from possessing firearms: On October 7, 1998, he was found guilty of domestic violence assault, and on March 26, 2010, he was found guilty of domestic violence assault — both misdemeanors.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### ARLINGTON, MAY 15, 2010

Esmer Gene Holland, 27, shot and killed his wife Susan Jan Holland, 41, and then shot and killed himself. Susan's two children were home at the time of the

shooting, but were not physically harmed. Esmer had a criminal record, but it did not prohibit him from possessing firearms: In 1998, he pled guilty to possession of tobacco, and in 2004, he pled guilty to carrying a concealed weapon without a permit, both misdemeanors.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** No  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### MESA, APRIL 7, 2010

Kathy Thorpe, 50, fatally shot her ex-husband Don Thorpe, 53, inside her home. Responding police determined Kathy was heavily intoxicated at the time of the shooting, and she confessed to shooting Don because she was angry at him. The couple had divorced 20 years prior to the shooting. Kathy had a criminal conviction, but it did not prohibit her from possessing a firearm: In 2005, she was found guilty of a DUI, a misdemeanor. In February 2011, Kathy was convicted of second-degree murder.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### FLAGSTAFF, APRIL 10, 2010

ATF agent Daniel Raponi, 37, fatally shot his wife Jessie Raponi, 34, in their home before fatally shooting himself. The couple's two children, who were home at the time, ran to a neighbor's home to report hearing gunshots. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Daniel did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### COCHISE COUNTY, APRIL 4, 2010

David Urrea Diaz, Sr. 50, fatally shot his unidentified live-in girlfriend before fatally shooting himself. The bodies were found in the driveway of their home. Diaz had a criminal history that prohibited him from possessing firearms: On February 8, 2010, Diaz was convicted of domestic violence assault and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. He was also charged with two counts of second-degree murder and one count of a drive by shooting, in 2004, but the charges were dismissed.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### TUCSON, JANUARY 10, 2010

Stephen J. Elia, 53, fatally shot his wife Pamela Elia, 52, called 911 to confess, and then killed himself while on the phone with the dispatcher. Detectives reported that Stephen left a detailed suicide note indicating marital problems. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial branch online, Elia did not have a prior criminal record.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### TEMPE, JANUARY 4, 2010

Victor Martinez, 27, fatally shot his ex-girlfriend Christina Hallman, 23, outside of Martinez's home. Hallman was at Martinez's house to pick up some her daughter's toys that had been left at his home. Hallman had arranged to be on the phone with her sister during the meeting, as she was concerned about her safety. After arriving at Martinez's home, she told her sister that things were OK and she would text her later. Sometime after Hallman hung up with her sister, Martinez shot and killed Hallman in her car, in front of her two-year-old daughter. The daughter was not physically harmed. Martinez then drove Hallman's car to a nearby business and parked it, leaving the child inside. The next morning, two employees arriving to work found the car. Inside, Hallman's daughter was hugging her mother's body. On February 22, 2013, Martinez was convicted of second-degree murder and child abuse.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### GLENDALE, DECEMBER 29, 2009

Christopher Trujillo, 48, fatally shot his girlfriend Maria Louisa Isla, 54, before fatally shooting himself. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Trujillo did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### TUCSON, NOVEMBER 30, 2009

Mario Morales Sr. 35, fatally shot his estranged wife Stephanie Morales, 34, and their son Dario Morales, 16, before fatally shooting himself. Detectives learned that Mario and Stephanie had recently separated and were living in separate homes. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Mario did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### PEORIA, OCTOBER 9, 2009

Gabriel Schwartz, 26, fatally shot his former girlfriend Dawn Axsom, 28, and her mother Linda Braden, 56, before fatally shooting himself at Dawn's home. A friend who came to check on Dawn heard Dawn and Gabriel's two-year-old son crying inside the house, and called 911. The child was not physically harmed. Two months before the shooting, Dawn had obtained an order of protection against Gabriel. In it, she said Gabriel "came into my home while I was sleeping and got into my bed. I woke up to him trying to take my clothes off. He smelled of alcohol." Because of the nature of Dawn and Gabriel's relationship, the order of protection prohibited Gabriel from possessing firearms under federal law. But when granting the order of protection, the court did not order Gabriel to turn in any firearms. Two weeks before the shooting, Dawn petitioned the court to allow her to move from Arizona, saying she feared Gabriel would hurt her or their son. The judge denied her request, and ordered the couple to attend parental counseling together. The protective order prohibited Schwartz from possessing firearms under federal law.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** Active  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** No  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### TUCSON, OCTOBER 6, 2009

Rodney Lavon Kirk, 23, fatally shot his girlfriend Kandice Sue Smith, 21, at Smith's mother's house. Kirk used a handgun that Smith had given him for his birthday. Kirk claimed the shooting was an accident. On May 29, 2010, he was convicted of reckless manslaughter. Kirk had two previous misdemeanor convictions, but they did not prohibit him from possessing firearms. In 2006, he was convicted of consumption of liquor while driving as a

minor; in 2007, he was convicted of misconduct involving weapons.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### PIMA, SEPTEMBER 29, 2009

Gary Joseph McCormick, 57, fatally shot his wife Margaret Ann McCormick, 49, before fatally shooting himself in their residence during an argument. Gary and Margaret's adult daughter was home at the time of the homicide, and when she heard gunshots, she ran from the residence to alert law enforcement. When law enforcement arrived, they found Gary and Margaret's bodies. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Gary did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### FLAGSTAFF, AUGUST 11, 2009

Allen S. Powers, 32, fatally shot his estranged wife Sylvester M. Coffee, 23, before fatally shooting himself. The two had fled their home in Chattanooga, OK, in a stolen car. When a car dealership disabled their car remotely, the two stole another car at gunpoint, this time from Jean Johnson, 70. Police tracked down the vehicle, and found the couple. Coffee had a chance to surrender, but returned to Powers. Powers shot Coffee in the head before fatally shooting himself. Powers had a criminal history that prohibited him from possessing firearms: In 2007, he was convicted of obtaining gas or merchandise by false pretenses, a felony. In addition, he had three previous misdemeanor convictions for DUI, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Police say Powers stole the gun from his father's safe.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### SHOW LOW, AUGUST 7, 2009

Wilson Ray Tsosie, 47, fatally shot his wife Selena Bedonie, 42, with a .22 caliber revolver while she was sitting in the family truck. He was heavily intoxicated at the time of the homicide. Despite having previous criminal convictions, Tsosie was not prohibited from possessing firearms.

In 1993, Tsosie pled guilty to disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor. In 2003, he pled guilty to consumption of liquor in a vehicle, a misdemeanor. After the shooting, he pled guilty and was sentenced to 200 months in prison followed by placement in an alcohol rehabilitation program.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### SCOTTSDALE, AUGUST 7, 2009

Russell Gillman 48, fatally shot his wife Stacy Want, 50, and their two sons, ages 7 and 3, before fatally shooting himself in their home. He left a note explaining he was killing his family because he had run out of money and lost his job. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Gillman did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed Prohibited / Owning Firearms:** No

### KINGMAN, AUGUST 2, 2009

Brad Anderson, 28, fatally shot his estranged wife Holly Anderson, 28, shot and injured a police officer, then fatally shot himself at Ashley's friend's home. The couple had been married for three years, but Holly had recently filed for divorce and, on April 15, 2009, sought a protection order against Brad. In the order of protection, Holly stated that Brad said "I sat here thinking how I could put a bullet in your head and not get caught" and that he "put [her] against the window by [her] neck [as their] 1 year old daughter, Bailey, was there watching and becom[ing] extremely upset." The judge ordered Brad to turn in his firearms. Two weeks later, on April 30, 2009, Holly asked the court to drop the order of protection due to possible conflicts in the custody agreement over their child. In her application to drop the order, Ashley also noted that Brad planned to leave the state, although there is no evidence he did. Four months later, on August 2, 2009, Brad took Holly hostage at her friend's home and threatened her with a gun. When law enforcement arrived, Holly opened the door enough to make eye contact with the officers. When asked if everything was okay, Holly made eye movements indicating Brad was inside. Holly got her baby from inside the house and, as she handed her to police officers. Brad shot and killed her. Brad then shot and injured police officer Timothy Sparr, 29, before he retreated into the home and shot himself. According to public record

databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Anderson did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** Dismissed  
**Order Required Shooter to Turn in Firearms:** Yes  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### PHOENIX, JULY 29, 2009

Jason Perry, 23, fatally shot his girlfriend Danielle Gary, 20, in their apartment, before fatally shooting himself. Perry's two children, ages 1 and 4, were in the home at the time but physically unharmed. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Perry did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### YOUNGTOWN, JUNE 24, 2009

Manual Alcantar, 35, shot his wife Sabrina Alcantar, 32, in their home in front of family members. Injured, Sabrina fled into the street, but Manual pursued her and slit her throat. He then fled the scene. His body was found hanging from an overpass several days later. A week prior to the shooting, Sabrina had filed a police report indicating that her husband had assaulted her. The officers took a statement but did not arrest Manuel. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Manual did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### MESA, JUNE 24, 2009

Eric Serdechny, 20, fatally shot his former girlfriend Ashley DeWitte, 18, before shooting himself in the doorway of DeWitte's home. According to eyewitnesses, Serdechny immediately began shooting when DeWitte opened the door. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Serdechny had a criminal history but had no convictions: In 2007, he was arrested when he refused to leave the home of his previous girlfriend and charged with disorderly conduct and

criminal trespass, but the prosecutor dropped the charges. In 2006, Serdechny's mother called law enforcement and indicated that Serdechny was suicidal. Law enforcement located Serdechny's truck and took him to a hospital for a mental health evaluation. Serdechny reportedly used his mother's gun in the shooting.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** Yes  
**Had Prior Convictions:** No  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### PHOENIX, MAY 31, 2009

Patricia Corona, 44, fatally shot her husband Mario Corona Sr., 52, in their bed before fatally shooting herself. Their adult son, who was home at the time, heard the gunshots and called the police. The police found a note in which Patricia indicated she was suicidal, and determined that Patricia's gunshot wound was self-inflicted. The couple had been married 25 years. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Patricia did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated  
**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

### MESA, MAY 23, 2009

Brent Matthew Banks, 39, fatally shot his former girlfriend Sally Johnston-Huddleston, 38, and her boyfriend Auston G. Banks 32, after he saw them kissing during a graduation party. Banks was at the party when he came across Johnson-Huddleston and Blanks kissing in a bedroom. Banks asked Sally to step outside, and proceeded to punch and kick her. Banks then walked away to his vehicle, retrieved a .40-caliber semiautomatic pistol and a .38-caliber revolver and fatally shot Sally and Auston. When an unidentified guest called law enforcement, Banks shot and injured the responding Police Officer Steven Cervantes, 32, Sally and Brent's eight-old-son, Jubei and another child relative of Sally's. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Banks did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On June 2, 2011, Banks was found guilty of two counts of first-degree murder, one count of attempted murder of a police officer, and one count of aggravated assault against a child.

**Shooter Suicide:** No  
**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated  
**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated  
**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### **SCOTTSDALE, MAY 14, 2009**

Morgan Leigh Adams, 26, fatally shot her former boyfriend Dale Aaron Webber, 44. Police believe Adams robbed Webber before killing him. The couple had been dating for three years and had recently ended their relationship, but Adams continued to buy drugs from Webber. Adams used Webber's .45-caliber handgun to kill him. Although Adams had a criminal record, she was not prohibited from possessing a firearm: In 2005, Adams was convicted of shoplifting, a misdemeanor. On April 11, 2011, Adams pled guilty to manslaughter and was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### **BUCKEYE, AZ, APRIL 15, 2009**

John Martin, 62, fatally shot his wife Kathleen Martin, 53, a Sergeant with the Department of Corrections. John told police the couple had been arguing at the time, and that he had removed his holstered .38 caliber revolver from the nightstand on his side of the bed and turned in his wife's direction when he unknowingly fired the gun. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, John did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. He was convicted of manslaughter on March 11, 2010.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### **TUCSON, APRIL 9, 2009**

Martin Rios Gonzales, 44, fatally shot his estranged wife Ana Delia Rios, 44, in their residence before fatally shooting himself. The couple was in the middle of a divorce but they were residing together at the time of the homicide. Their four-year-old grandson was home at the time, along with their 22-year-old daughter-in-law and the daughter-in-law's 16-year-old sister. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Gonzales did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### **PHOENIX, MARCH 30, 2009**

Primitivo Madrigal Almonte, 45, fatally shot his wife Florinda Almonte, 45, in their residence. Almonte claimed that his wife was trying to poison him. When law enforcement arrived, officers found a .22 caliber handgun in his vehicle and determined that this was the weapon used in the shooting. According to Almonte's sentencing document, Almonte was born in Mexico and was identified as a person who was unlawfully present in the United States. Accordingly, he was prohibited from possessing firearms. According to the police report, Almonte told the arresting officer that he obtained the firearm several years prior to the homicide at a gun show. Almonte was convicted of first-degree murder and was sentenced to 16 years in prison.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### **KINGMAN, MARCH 13, 2009**

John Timothy Hett, 49, fatally shot his wife Valery Kim Hett, 45, called law enforcement to confess, and then fatally shot himself. The couple had been married for 27 years and had three children. John had a prior conviction, but this did not prohibit him from possessing firearms: In 1997, he was found guilty of disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:**

None

#### **FLAGSTAFF, MARCH 10, 2009**

Andone Hairabedian, 62, a registered sex offender, fatally shot his wife Yvonne Hairabedian, 50, and then fatally shot himself in a motel room. Three weeks prior to the homicide, the San Diego County District Attorney had filed charges against Andone after a relative reported that he had sexually abused her. After the charges, Andone fled to California with his wife. Andone had a criminal record that prohibited him from possessing firearms: In 1984, he was convicted of sexually molesting his daughter. The gun that Hairabedian used was registered to Yvonne's daughter in Louisiana. Several days prior to the shooting, the daughter called the police to report her weapon was missing. Law enforcement reported that the couple had visited the Louisiana residence in the days prior to the shooting.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** Yes

**Had Prior Convictions:** Yes

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** Yes

#### **YUMA, FEBRUARY 6, 2009**

Joseph Andrew Mandel, 22, a U.S. Marine, fatally shot his girlfriend Keiza Clinkscales, 27, in her residence. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Mandel did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On May 5, 2011, he was found guilty of reckless manslaughter.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### **PHOENIX, FEBRUARY 2, 2009**

Carrie Lazona McLaurin, 33, fatally shot her boyfriend William E. Baker, 31, in her residence during an argument. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, McLaurin did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On July 9, 2009, McLaurin was convicted of second-degree-murder and sentenced to ten years in prison.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

#### **EL MIRAGE, JANUARY 8, 2009**

Steve Diaz Jr., 20, fatally shot his girlfriend Patricia Garcia, 30, at their residence. Diaz called police immediately after the shooting, reporting that he had shot Garcia in the arm. When police arrived, they found Garcia unresponsive in the bedroom. She was pronounced dead at the hospital. They also noticed drug paraphernalia in the home. Garcia's two children, ages 2 and 5, were present at the time of the shooting, but physically unharmed. Diaz told police that the couple had been dating for about a year and that Garcia had recently moved into his home. He also said the weapon used in the shooting was his. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Diaz did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. On January 7, 2009, Diaz was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to 12 years in prison.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No



**CASA GRANDE, JANUARY 12, 2009**

Vincent Sullivan, 53, fatally shot his fiancée Tammy Saldana, 46, and then fatally shot himself. Saldana's niece discovered the bodies and alerted law enforcement. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Sullivan did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**SAHUARITA, JANUARY 9, 2009**

Emil J. Luna, 39, fatally shot his wife Katrina Luna, 37, and then fatally shot himself. Katrina ran from her gun-wielding husband to get help and made it to the front yard before he killed her. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Emil did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide.

**Shooter Suicide:** Yes

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No

**FORT DEFIANCE, JANUARY 2, 2009**

Lee White, 52, shot and killed his wife, Lula White, 50, with a .22 caliber rifle. He had confronted Lula in the parking lot of her workplace, entered her vehicle, and, after she drove a short distance, killed her. According to public record databases and the Arizona Court Judicial database, Lee did not have a criminal record at the time of the homicide. Law enforcement reported that Lee had borrowed the firearm from a friend, whom Lee told he planned to use to shoot coyotes and wolves. The friend was not charged with a crime. On December 21, 2009, Lee was convicted of second-degree murder.

**Shooter Suicide:** No

**Shooter DV History:** None Indicated

**Had Prior Convictions:** None Indicated

**Order of Protection:** None Indicated

**Fed. Prohib. from Owning Firearms:** No





