



## Texas Women Killed by their Intimate Partner in 2007

*The Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) researches, to the best of its ability, the stories of Texas women who were killed by their intimate partner. According to data from the Texas Department of Public Safety and media reports, 107 women were killed by an intimate partner in 2007. This list names these victims and gives brief accounts of their deaths. Details are gathered from Texas law enforcement agencies, media reports and the Texas Department of Public Safety. There are undoubtedly other victims of domestic violence who remain uncounted. Authorities will refer to the offender as an "acquaintance" or "unknown" because the relationship was not determined at the time of death. This list reflects the most accurate information available to TCFV researchers at the time of compilation.*

### Anderson County

Kelly Gibson, 31

Palestine

6/7/2007

Kelly was shot by her ex-boyfriend Michael W. Jones, 42. He then killed himself. Kelly had recently asked Michael to move out. Kelly's four-year-old daughter was in the house at the time of the shooting.

### Angelina County

Claudia Rodriguez, 20

Lufkin

2/13/2007

Claudia was found shot in her home. Claudia was pregnant at the time of her death, and her unborn baby died with her. Her live-in boyfriend Darrel D'juan Ivey, 21, was charged with capital murder.

Mary Thompson, 44

Lufkin

Mary was shot by her husband Raymond Thompson, 45. Shortly after Mary was shot the couple's 20-year-old daughter arrived with her young son. Raymond then put the gun under his chin and shot himself in front of his daughter and her baby.

## Austin County

Rosenda Narvais, 56

Sealy

10/12/07

Rosenda was shot outside her home by her ex-husband Gilber Reyes, 48. Their 14 year old daughter called the police. Gilber has since been indicted for murder.

## Bell County

MarciAnna Yvette Rivera Bennington, 18

Killeen

4/8/2007

MarciAnna was shot in her home by her husband Shannon Bennington, 22.

Sylvia Mahan, 53

Sylvia was shot by her boyfriend William J. Dorsey, 51. William then set fire to their house and shot himself.

Jennifer Sustaita, 19

Temple

6/13/2007

Jennifer was shot in the head by her boyfriend Frank Sustaita, 17. Frank told police that he had accidentally shot Jennifer. She was taken to the hospital in critical condition and died there 11 days later. Frank was charged with murder. Frank and Jennifer reportedly shared the same last name but were not married.

## Bexar County

Teena Louise Borrega, 25

San Antonio

2/11/2007

Teena was shot by her estranged husband Antonio Perez, 64, after she had left her home in an effort to get away from him. After shooting Teena, Antonio shot himself.

Elizabeth Bravo, 46

San Antonio

12/1/2007

Elizabeth was shot by her ex-boyfriend Bruce Doss, 50, who then fatally shot himself. Elizabeth's adult son discovered the bodies in the living room of Elizabeth's home. Elizabeth had recently broken up with Bruce.

Sandra Fucles, 52

San Antonio

Sandra was shot by her ex-boyfriend William Wilson, 51. William also shot his mother Estilla Wilson, 72. William pleaded guilty to capitol murder and was sentenced to life without parole.

Aurora Loredo, 50

San Antonio

09/30/2007

Aurora was shot by her husband Juan Loredo, 64. Her son found her dead in the front yard, then wrestled the gun away from his father.

Lola Mae McGarity

San Antonio

1/1/2007

Lola was shot to death by her boyfriend Howard Barnes, 50. There were past incidents of family violence, and Howard was charged with Lola's murder.

Elsa Ramos, 52

San Antonio

11/01/07

Elsa was shot to death by her husband Pedro Ramos, 56. Pedro then shot himself.

Sandra Scherrer, 66

San Antonio

Sandra was beaten to death by her husband Edler Gilstap, 56. Edler was convicted of Sandra's murder and received 35 years in prison.

### Brazoria County

Riche' Johnican-Lewis, 26

West Columbia

Riche' was shot in the head by her husband Brandon Lewis, 22, in her car. Brandon was later indicted for murder.

Nancy McGhee, 53

Rosharon

7/30/2007

Nancy was shot in the head by her ex-husband Randy McGhee, 50, in bed as she slept. Randy confessed to police that he shot Nancy after an argument and he was charged with murder.

Sherry Segura

Sherry died from multiple stab wounds inflicted by her husband Johnny Day.

### Cameron County

Toni Lynn Gonzales, 47

Harlingen

Toni was shot multiple times by her husband Frank Gonzales, 56. Frank called police and told them he had shot his wife. When police arrived, Frank was gone, and a warrant was issued for his arrest. He was later found and convicted of murder.

Norma Moyar Hull, 31

Brownsville

3/1/2007

Norma was beaten to death by her estranged husband Eduard Hull, 36, who then hung himself. Norma had had an emergency protective order against Eduard that had expired several months before she was killed. The district attorney said that she had started the process of filing a two-year protective order, but then she decided not to seek the protective order.

Cointa Menchaca-Wade, 62

Brownsville

Cointa Menchaca-Wade was killed by her boyfriend Francisco Rivas, 65. Police are still looking for Francisco.

### Collin County

Cheryl Rae Harris, 37

Blue Ridge

5/13/2007

Cheryl was killed by her estranged husband Eric Harris, 44, who then hung himself. At the time she was killed, Cheryl was visiting Eric to make visitation arrangements for their children. The couple had two boys, ages two and four, and Cheryl also had a six-year-old daughter. All three of the children were in the house at the time of the murder-suicide.

Jennifer McCallum, 35

Plano

Jennifer was murdered by her ex-husband Curtis Lee Armstrong, 37. Jennifer was reported missing when she did not pick up her daughter from school. Curtis was charged with murder.

## Dallas County

Chare Agnew, 30

Dallas

9/15/2007

Chare was stabbed by her husband Robert Sparks, 33. He also murdered Chare's two sons, ages nine and 10. Her two teenage daughters were found alive, but bound and gagged in a closet. Robert was found guilty and sentenced to receive the death penalty.

Ashley Alvidrez, 20

Grand Prairie

1/22/2007

Ashley was shot in the head by her husband Gilbert Moreno, 22. Gilbert initially claimed that their two-year-old son had shot her, but later admitted that he had accidentally shot her while intoxicated. Moreno was charged with manslaughter.

Bertila Amaya, 39

Garland

12/13/2007

Bertila was shot by her boyfriend Ramon Padilla Ruiz, 55, inside their home. Ramon then shot himself.

Akera Bland, 24

Dallas

2/14/2007

Akera was shot by her boyfriend. Her boyfriend told police that the two were arguing and struggling over a handgun when Akera was shot.

Dawn Castillo, 30

Irving

6/29/2007

Dawn was shot in the back at a motel by her estranged husband Juan Castillo, 32. After a four-hour standoff with Juan, police found him dead in the motel room of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Dawn and Juan had three children, ages seven, 11 and 13.

Irene Franco

Irving

Irene was murdered by her common-law husband Ernesto Franco, 29. Ernesto then kidnapped their three-year old son. Three weeks after Irene's body was found in a motel, police apprehended Ernesto, who had their unharmed son with him.

Jessica Lopez, 29

Dallas

6/25/2007

Jessica was killed by her estranged husband Jose Lopez, 30, who then killed himself. Their young child was staying with relatives at the time of the deaths.

Erika Lopez-Torres, 31

Irving

8/9/2007

Erika was shot by her ex-boyfriend Yanez Martinez, 37. He kidnapped her and shot her several times in a parked van before killing himself. Erika had recently ended their relationship.

Alma Rico, 31

Irving

9/8/2007

Alma was stabbed by her estranged husband Jose Valdez. Jose was convicted of her murder and sentenced to 99 years in prison. The couple had three children, ages five, six, and 14.

### Delta County

Cynthia Ann Barnett, 32

Cooper

6/24/2007

Cynthia was shot by her estranged husband Ricky Allen Barnett, 44. Ricky was charged with capital murder. Cynthia had four children.

### Denton County

Mirna Argueta Luna, 32

Carrollton

5/23/2007

Mirna was shot by her estranged husband Valentin Luna, 37. Mirna had arranged for Valentin to meet her at a friend's house to pick up their seven-year-old son. At her friend's house, Valentin shot Mirna and their son. Valentin then shot himself. Mirna is survived by two children from a previous marriage.

Daniella Coronado, 17

Denton

10/24/2007

Daniella was strangled by her boyfriend Pedro Perez Blancas, 20. Pedro was arrested on a family violence charge the month prior to Daniella's death. Police are still searching for Pedro. The pair had an 11-month-old child.

Vanessa Nichoel Garces, 21

Copper Canyon

12/4/2007

Vanessa was shot by her ex-boyfriend Patrick Thomas Dyson, 26. She was driving home when Patrick rammed her with his car, then got out and shot her. After a three-hour standoff with police in which Patrick threatened to kill himself, police used tear gas to force him to exit his car and arrested him. The couple had a two-year-old daughter.

Sherrill A Ingram, 33

Flower Mound

Sherrill was shot in her home by her estranged boyfriend Eric D. Johnson, 28. Eric then killed himself. Sherrill's two sons, ages five and 13, were in the house at the time of the incident.

Lorena "Lori" Sandoval, 21

Denton

9/12/2007

Lorena was strangled by her ex-boyfriend Sean Kresse, 24. Sean was charged with Lorena's murder.

### El Paso County

Joni Eastman, 29

El Paso

7/1/2007

Joni was shot by her husband Walter Dale Eastman, 49. Walter then shot himself. The couple had two children.

### Fort Bend County

Vilma Manrique, 27

Mission Bend

7/20/2007

Vilma was shot by her husband Joshua Sanchez Castillo, 31. Joshua then shot himself. Their sons, ages one and seven, were in the home at the time of the shooting.

Sharon White, 49

Richmond

Sharon was shot and killed by her husband David White, 52, during an argument. According to police, the couple's 12-year-old son was at home when David shot Sharon. The boy ran to the neighbors' home to call police. When the police arrived, they found that David had shot himself.

### Galveston County

Jonia Yvette Cato, 32

Texas City

Jonia was strangled to death by her husband Richard Cato, 29, in the presence of their three-year-old son. Richard was charged with murder.

Ebony Shinette, 18

Texas City

9/2/2007

Ebony was found dead in her hotel room by her boyfriend William Michael Haley, 17. William faces a charge of felon in possession of a firearm but has not been charged with her death.

### Glasscock County

Dana Erin Cook, 36

Garden City

February 2007

Dana was shot by her husband Brian Christopher Cook, 37, in their home. He then killed himself. Police said they had responded to a family violence call at the house the night before. The couple had two children, ages 13 and 16.

### Harris County

Maria Aguilar, 40

Houston

4/20/2007

Maria was shot by her boyfriend Marco Soto, 33. Marco then shot himself. According to police, the couple had planned to separate. Maria had four children.

Anne Green Betts, 48

10/22/2007

Anne was beaten and strangled by her boyfriend Clay Jackson, 46. Clay surrendered to police and admitted to killing Anne.

Kendra Brooks, 20

Houston

5/5/07

Kendra Brooks was killed by a gunshot to the head by her common law husband Anthony Mack, 21. Anthony then shot himself. The pair had one child together.

Shannon Dean, 23

Houston

7/30/07

Shannon was shot in the head by her husband Noel Travis Dean, 23. Noel was charged with Shannon's murder.

Yolanda Ellis

Houston

Yolanda was shot in the head by her boyfriend Kenneth Moore. Kenneth then shot himself.

Amina Fettach, 44

Houston

5/29/2007

Amina was stabbed to death by her husband Abderrahim Elmaghraoui, 57, in their apartment. Abderrahim called police and said he had killed his wife.

Juanita Garza-Rodriguez, 28

Houston

7/3/2007

Juanita was shot by her boyfriend while sitting in her car outside her home.

Portia Hosea

Houston

Portia died from blunt trauma to the rib and torso area. Her live-in boyfriend Ronny Moore was charged with her murder.

Denise Marie Jabar, 33

Houston

9/6/07

Denise died as a result of severe stab wounds. T.L. Turner, her boyfriend, was charged with murder.

Yoshea Jarman, 29

Houston

9/15/07

Yoshea was strangled by her boyfriend Zachary Harper. The couple had two children.

Daniela Mendiola, 18

Houston

8/19/2007

Daniela was shot by her husband Eduardo Mendiola, 24. Eduardo then shot himself. They had been married for one month.

Laela Perez, 26

Houston

11/14/2007

Laela was shot by her estranged husband Ruy Enrique Perez, 26. Laela was the mother of two children.

Paula Perez, 18

Houston

12/8/2007

Paula was shot by her boyfriend Manuel Demouchet, 19. He then shot himself. The couple had a seven-month-old son.

Hortencia Rivas, 23

Houston

9/19/07

Hortencia was stabbed by her boyfriend Jorge Marquez, 21. Jorge was charged with Hortencia's murder. The pair had two children together.

Mina Louise Rosenthal-Eames, 31

Houston

8/20/2007

Mina was shot by her estranged husband, Clifton Gerald Eames, 35. Police were notified of the shooting, and during a stand-off with police Clifton was killed. Mina had recently filed for divorce. She had two children.

Jameka Michelle Scott, 24

Houston

7/27/07

Jameka was stabbed by her ex-boyfriend Willie Arthur Paige, 24. Willie was charged with Jameka's murder.

Tara Sganga

Houston

Tara died by drowning in her bathtub after being injected with heroin by her boyfriend, Shawn Roberts.

Roseann Siddell, 34

Houston

10/13/07

Roseann died from a gunshot wound to the head inflicted by boyfriend Charles Mapp. Charles has been charged with her murder.

Barbara La'Quisha Smith, 24

Houston

9/14/07

Barbara was shot by her common-law husband Charles Steward. Charles was charged with murder. The couple had a three-year-old child.

Tynesha Stewart, 19

Houston

3/15/07

Tynesha was murdered by her estranged boyfriend Timothy Shepard, 27. Timothy strangled Tynesha to death, dismembered her body, and burned her body parts in a grill outside his home. Timothy was later convicted of the murder.

Tjuana LaShon Varnado, 33

Houston

2/1/2007

Tjuana was shot multiple times by her husband Kenneth Davis, 39. He called police and admitted that he had killed his wife.

Unknown Victim

Houston

3/12/2007

An unidentified woman was shot by her ex-boyfriend in his driveway. He then killed himself.

DiJian Wan, 43

Houston

10/18/2007

DiJian was shot by her estranged husband Xiaozhou Liu, 49. Xiaozhou also wounded DiJian's boyfriend. He then fled the scene and killed himself. Xiaozhou had been stalking DiJian the week before he killed her.

### Hays County

Unknown Victim

### Henderson County

Susie Lynn Strong, 47

Chandler

6/21/2007

Susie was shot by her common-law husband Timothy Lee Mullins, 46. Timothy attempted to kill himself but recovered and was charged with Susie's murder.

### Hidalgo County

Amparo Cantu, 52

Pharr

Amparo was shot inside her home by her husband Samuel Cantu, 52. Samuel then shot himself. The couple had two adult children.

Christina Guerra

San Juan

Christina was stabbed and her throat slit by her husband Javier Guerra, 40. Javier then stabbed himself but survived. A witness told media that Christina's two daughters, ages 10 and 12, were inside the house at the time of the murder.

Adela Hernandez

Mercedes

Adela was stabbed by her husband Trinidad Hernandez. She fatally wounded him in self defense, and he died later that night at the hospital. Adela's eighteen year old daughter witnessed the murder.

Yrazema Yarima Placencia, 25

Alton

8/13/2007

Yrazema was stabbed by her husband Daniel Garcia, 32, when she told him she was filing for divorce. Daniel attempted to stab himself but survived and was charged with murder. Daniel was later was sentenced to 15 years in prison. Yrazema was the mother of two children.

Sylvia Rivera, 30

McAllen

1/14/2007

Sylvia was shot by her husband Erasmo Ramirez, 33, who then killed himself. The couple had four children who were all in the house at the time of the shooting.

Claudia Zamora, 33

Edinburg

Claudia was strangled by her common-law husband, Nelson Garcia, 44. Police charged Nelson with capital murder, because Claudia was three months pregnant.

### Jefferson County

Michele Dean, 43

Beaumont

3/15/2007

Michele was killed by her husband James Ray "Bubba" Dean, 50. When police arrived James shot himself.

### Kaufman County

Lindy Lei Underwood, 49

Kaufman

12/7/07

Lindy was shot by her husband Clifford Underwood Jr. in their living room. Clifford then shot himself.

### Lampasas County

Hidi Gower, 31

Kempner

7/4/2007

Hidi was shot outside a VFW hall. Her husband Donald Gower 39, was sentenced to life without parole for a murder-for-hire plot against Hidi. The shooter Chaka Johnson was found guilty of capitol murder.

### Lubbock County

Wendy Taylor, 33

Lubbock

8/19/2007

Wendy was shot by her estranged husband Shadricke Taylor, 31, who then killed himself. The couple had recently filed for divorce. Three of the couple's four children were at the residence at the time of the shooting.

### McLennan County

Lana Hughes, 42

Axtell

1/18/2007

Lana was shot by her ex-husband Ronnie Hughes, 45. The couple was recently divorced. Ronnie was indicted for Lana's murder. The couple had two daughters, ages eight and 11.

Alyne Nelson, 83

Waco

6/6/2007

Alyne was shot by her husband George Edwin Nelson, 86, who then shot himself. A family member discovered their bodies in their bedroom.

Erica Rivera, 25

Waco

4/26/2007

Erica was killed by her boyfriend Eric Williams, 36. Erica had a three-year-old daughter.

## Montgomery County

Peggy Sue Cruise, 48

Conroe

12/22/2007

Peggy was smothered by her boyfriend Jackie Dale Watkins, 27. He confessed to police.

Jessica Hays

Jessica was shot in the head by her boyfriend Duane Shannon Hill. Duane was charged with her murder.

Terry Leigh Lee, 44

Conroe

7/15/2007

Terry was burned to death by her boyfriend John Marshall Dodd, 41. Police charged John with murder. Terry had one 15-year-old daughter.

## Nueces County

Claudia Gongora, 31

Corpus Christi

6/27/2007

Claudia was strangled by her husband David Gongora, 40. David then hung himself. David had a history of family violence, and Claudia had an active protective order at the time of her death. The couple had two children.

Lucia Gonzalez, 45

Corpus Christi

3/2/07

Lucia was burned by her boyfriend Kenneth Keene, 55. Kenneth received a life sentence for killing Lucia.

Melissa Vargas, 28

Corpus Christi

5/27/2007

Melissa was stabbed by her husband George Fred Vargas, 29. She was in the process of leaving the relationship and had moved into an apartment. George was convicted and sentenced to 40 years in prison for her murder. The couple had two children, ages seven and 11, who were in the home at the time of Melissa's murder.

### Pecos County

Sylvia Muniz, 49

Coyanosa

2/17/2007

Sylvia was stabbed to death by her husband Jesus Muniz, 61. Jesus then hung himself.

### Potter County

Tamara Bell

Amarillo

Tamara was shot by her boyfriend Carlos Vigil. Carlos has been charged with murder.

### San Jacinto County

Teri Ann Smith

Teri Ann was shot by her boyfriend Christopher Jennings. Approximately two weeks after killing Teri, Christopher died of meningitis in the San Jacinto County Jail.

### San Patricio County

Laverne Trudeau

Portland

Laverne was shot by her husband Joseph R. Trudeau who then shot himself.

### Starr County

Andriana Arevalo, 38

Roma

6/17/2007

Andriana was murdered by her ex-husband Julio Moreno, 40. Julio then killed himself. The couple had two children together.

### Tarrant County

Susan Bucks, 49

Fort Worth

3/5/2007

Susan was shot by her boyfriend Larry Deatherage, 47. The couple had an argument outside a restaurant, and when Susan tried to walk away, Larry shot her and then shot himself.

Barbara Chinworth, 46

Fort Worth

Barbara was shot by her husband Alan Chinworth, 52. Alan then killed himself. The couple had a 16-year-old daughter.

Deshaun Johnson, 35

Fort Worth

7/12/2007

Deshaun was killed by her boyfriend Clifford Charles Ford, 24. Clifford was arrested the following day after a four-hour standoff with police at his friend's house. He had attempted to shoot himself in the head but survived.

Vicki Overstreet, 51

Eules

12/12/2007

Vicki was smothered and raped by her estranged husband Jerome Overstreet, 52. Vicki had recently relocated to Eules from Kansas to get away from Jerome. Jerome received life without the possibility of parole for killing Vicki.

Donna Sandlin, 47

Keller

Donna was strangled by her husband Richard Sandlin, 47. Richard confessed to killing Donna.

Heather Weed, 18

Fort Worth

6/27/2007

Heather was raped and beaten to death by her boyfriend Albert Gatica, 19. Albert and a friend brought Heather to the hospital, where she died. He was charged with capital murder.

Donna Willhite, 65

North Richland Hills

3/19/2007

Donna was shot by her husband Freddie Willhite, 67. He called 911 and told an operator that he had shot his wife. Freddie had a history of committing family violence.

## Taylor County

Cindy Cortinaz, 36

Abilene

8/3/07

Cindy was beaten to death by her boyfriend Louis Varrientes. Louis was charged with her murder.

Luz Marie Gomez, 16

Abilene

6/8/07

Luz Marie was shot by her boyfriend Torrey Torres, 17. Torrey was sentenced to life in prison.

## Travis County

Paula Marie Griffith, 46

Jonestown

8/24/2007

Paula was killed by her ex-boyfriend Paul Devoe, 44. Paul also killed Paula's boyfriend, Jay Feltner, 48, her daughter, Haylie Maria Feltner, 15, and her daughter's friend, Danielle Hensley, 17. Paul threatened to kill his current girlfriend and another ex-girlfriend on the day of Paula's death. Paul fled the scene and killed Betty Jane DeHart, 81, while stealing her car. Paul has been charged with capital murder.

## Tyler County

Dulce Mayeli Zaragoza, 27

Woodville

6/28/2007

Mayelia was shot by her ex-boyfriend Gustavo Longoria-Aldaba, 24. They had recently seperated. Mayelia was driving to a friend's house when Gustavo shot her as she got out of her car. She was holding their three-month-old baby, who was unhurt. Gustavo then killed himself.

## Van Zandt County

Robin York

Van

12/5/2007

Robin was shot by her estranged husband Bobby York, 47, who then shot himself. Bobby's father found the bodies in a trailer behind Robin's home. The couple had an eight-year-old son.

### Victoria County

Courtney Nichole Arroyo, 28

Telferner

7/17/2007

Courtney was strangled by her husband Robert Arroyo, 51. He then drove to a police station and turned himself in. He was later sentenced to 50 years in prison for Courtney's murder.

### Wichita County

Frances Louise Helm McCulley, 45

Wichita Falls

5/20/2007

Frances was stabbed by her common-law husband Mark Alan McCulley, 46, during an argument in their home. Mark had a history of family violence.

### Williamson County

Joy Bennett Lytle, 26

Cedar Park

12/28/2007

Joy was shot by her estranged husband Jason Karl Lytle, 31. Jason shot Joy at her mother's home, where she was staying, then drove to a friend's house and killed himself. The couple had two children, ages one and three.

### Wood County

Nicole Payne, 35

Quitman

12/11/2007

Nicole was shot by Jason Payne, 38. Jason also shot Nicole's son Austin Taylor Wages, 16. Jason was charged with two counts of murder for the deaths.