

## Maryland child deaths related to intimate partner violence 2004-2016



**CourtWatch**  
**MONTGOMERY**  
A Public Eye on Domestic Violence

Since 2007, at least 35 children have been killed state-wide in intimate partner related violence. Almost a third were killed during dangerous court-ordered exchanges for visits or during unsupervised visits with dangerous or unstable parents.

Many deaths similar to the 35 child deaths described below can be prevented by the following improvements in Montgomery County and across the state of Maryland:

- Make safe visitation services widely available;
- Better enforce current federal and state gun laws;
- Increase the number of domestic violence victims that have viable safety plans and that obtain strong Final Protective Orders;
- More vigorously prosecute violent crime; and
- Expand access to mental health services, particularly for those who may be suicidal.

### Maryland child deaths 2004-2016 that were related to intimate partner violence



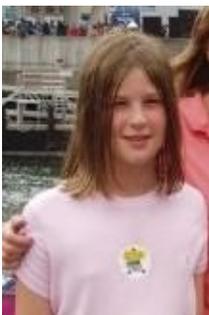
**Samuel Asefa, 3 months, shot.** Father shot Samuel's mother while she was holding the baby. The bullet traveled through her, also killing the 3 month old.\* The father then killed himself. Frederick County, 2013.



**Brandon Brockdorff, 6, shot.** Father shot Brandon, Brandon's mother and two siblings with a shotgun during an unsupervised court-ordered visitation exchange in a Montgomery County park. The father then killed himself. Montgomery County, 2007.



**David Brockdorff, 12, shot.** Father shot David, David's mother and two siblings during an unsupervised court-ordered visitation exchange in a Montgomery County park. David loved books and wanted to be a sportscaster. The father then killed himself. Montgomery County, 2007.



**Meagan Brockdorff, 10, shot.** Father shot Meagan, Meagan's mother and her two brothers during an unsupervised court-ordered visitation exchange in a Montgomery County park. The father then killed himself. Montgomery County, 2007.



**Kymici Brown, 17, shot.** Boyfriend shot this high school junior using an illegally owned handgun. Kymici ran track and danced. Anne Arundel County, 2016.



**Athena Castillo, 2, drowned.** Father drowned Athena and her two siblings during an unsupervised court-ordered visit. Mother had pled with a Montgomery County Circuit Court judge to require supervision during visits. The father had a documented history of mental health problems. Athena was just beginning to talk. Lived in Montgomery County, killed in Baltimore City, 2008.



**Anthony Castillo, 6, drowned.** Father drowned Anthony, his brother and his sister, during an unsupervised court-ordered visit. The father had a documented history of mental health problems. Mother had pled with a Montgomery County Circuit Ct. judge to require supervision during visits. Lived in Montgomery County, killed in Baltimore City, 2008.



**Austin Castillo, 4, drowned.** Father drowned Austin his brother and his sister, during an unsupervised court-ordered visit. The father had a documented history of mental health problems. Mother had pled with a Montgomery County Circuit Court judge to require supervision during visits. Lived in Montgomery County, killed in Baltimore City, 2008.



**Charles Dalton, Jr. , 14, shot.** Father shot Charles, his sister and mother. The father then killed himself. Charles Jnr. was in the ninth grade and a junior firefighter at the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company. Frederick County, 2009.



**Emmaline Dalton, 7, shot.** Father shot Emmaline, her brother and mother, their dog, and then himself. Frederick County, 2009.



**Daniel Dana, 5, forced to ingest medicine.** Mother killed son by forcing him to ingest a full bottle of medicine in the midst of a bitter custody battle with her husband. She then doused the car holding Daniel's body with gasoline and set it on fire. Montgomery County, 2015.



**Carlos Danforth, 1, asphyxiated.** Father asphyxiated Carlos and his sister when their mother attempted to separate. The father then killed himself. Montgomery County, 2007.



**Maria Danforth, 2, asphyxiated.** Father asphyxiated Maria and her brother when their mother attempted to separate. The father then killed himself. Montgomery County, 2007.



**Chloe Davis-Green, 2, shot.** Father shot Chloe and her mother outside their home when he became angry about having to pay child support. Prince George's County, 2016.



**Jacob Dunn, 23 months, asphyxiated.** Father asphyxiated his son during a visit amidst a heated court battle over child support. Jacob was a blond, curly-haired boy who slept with a blue blanket. The father then killed himself. Montgomery County, 2006.



**Natalie Hayward, 2, killed in an intentional house fire; may have been shot before fire.** Father killed Natalie and her mother and burned and cut her 12 year old brother before killing himself. The brother survived. The homicides followed 9 years of abuse and a protective order.\* Calvert County, 2012.



**Tre Hendershot, 11, stabbed.** Tre and his grandmother were stabbed to death by his grandmother's female intimate partner. Tre was a sixth grader at Sligo Middle School. Montgomery County, 2004.



**Lacole Hines, 17, shot.** Two weeks prior to Lacole's death a warrant was issued to arrest the father of her new baby for assaulting Hines and threatening her and another person with a gun. The warrant was misfiled. When the offender offered to bring Lacole's 6 week old child to a liquor store to meet she agreed. Her boyfriend shot her in the head with an illegally owned handgun. Prince George's County, 2010.



**Jason Holland, 3, forced to ingest drugs.** Killed by his father during an unsupervised court-ordered visit. The perpetrator had previously denied that Jason was his son and was fighting a court requirement to pay child support. Prince George's County, 2014.



**William McQuain, 11, blunt force trauma.** Stepfather beat William to death with a baseball bat. The father also beat and stabbed his estranged wife to death. Montgomery County, 2011.



**Molly Mendoza, 15, shot.** Father shot Molly and his wife, then killed himself. Molly was a freshman at Loch Raven High School. She worked part-time at a retirement home, and loved to draw.\* Baltimore County, 2015.



**Laila Miller, 3, shot and throat slashed.** Father took a selfie with his daughter, then shot her and slashed her throat. He also shot both of Laila's grandparents, who survived.\* Laila's father killed himself after a car chase with the police. Prince George's, 2014.



**Jessica Nguyen, 12, stabbed.** Stepfather stabbed Jessica with a small sword to punish Jessica's mother, who he felt was slowing down their divorce unfairly. Montgomery County, 2011.



**Darry'el Parker, 4, shot.** Mother's fiancé shot and killed both Darry'el and her mother, who was pregnant with twins.\* Baltimore County, 2011.



**TaiShawn Pugh, 15, shot.** Stepfather shot and killed TaiShawn, her twin brother and mother, then killed himself. TaiShawn was in 10th grade.\* Anne Arundel County, 2011.



**TreShawn Pugh, 15, shot.** Stepfather killed TreShawn, his twin sister, and mother, then killed himself. TreShawn was in 10th grade.\* Anne Arundel County, 2011.



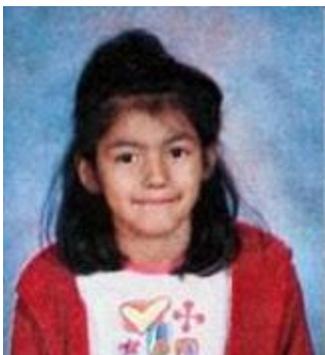
**Prince Rams, apparent drowning.** Rams appears to have been killed during an unsupervised court-ordered visit (trial pending). The boy's mother had begged a Montgomery County Circuit Court judge to require supervision during visits, to no avail. Father had taken out a half million dollar insurance policy on the boy & is under investigation for the murder of 2 additional relatives. Lived in Montgomery County, died in Virginia, 2012.



**Angel Rodriguez, , 2, blunt force.** Father killed Angel, his three sisters, his mother, and then himself. Frederick County, 2007.



**Carena Rodriguez, 1, asphyxiated.** Father suffocated Carena and her three siblings and strangled her mother. He then killed himself. Frederick County, 2007.



**Elsa Rodriguez, 9, asphyxiated.** Father suffocated Elsa and her three siblings and strangled her mother. He then killed himself. Frederick County, 2007.



**Vanessa Rodriguez, 4, asphyxiated.** Father suffocated Vanessa and her three siblings and strangled her mother. He then killed himself. Frederick County, 2007.



**Chandler Wood, 5, shot.** Father shot Chandler, 2 siblings and their mother. He then killed himself. Frederick County, 2009.



**Fiona Wood, 2, shot.** Father shot Fiona, 2 siblings and their mother. He then killed himself. Frederick County, 2009.



**Gavin Wood, 4, shot.** Father shot Gavin, 2 siblings and their mother. He then killed himself. Frederick County, 2009.

\* We do not yet know if the guns used in these homicides were legally obtained.

**Methodology:** Cases were found by reviewing MNADV's homicide tracking system and online media reports. This document may be incomplete.

**Note:** Numerous unborn children are also killed during domestic violence homicides in Maryland in this time period. Many children in Maryland also suffered non-fatal impacts from intimate partner violence in their families. Many children survived the murder of a parent; of course all are traumatized by their devastating loss. Many other children witnessed a homicide, an assault or its aftermath.

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