

Stolen Lives

killed by Law Enforcement

Some Stolen Lives Stories across the nation from 2012-2013.



Jose De La Trinidad
Los Angeles, CA | November 10, 2012

Jose De La Trinidad was a 36 yr old hardworking family man who was killed by Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies Alejandro Gonzalez and Angel Grandes in an unincorporated area of Compton.

He was a passenger in his brother's car while they were on their way home after leaving his niece's Quincienera, which he attended with his family. Shortly after leaving the family celebration, they were pulled over for a routine traffic stop, but his brother did not pull over right away because he was on probation and in fear of the police. Jose asked his brother to stop and let him out of the car, as he did not want to be part of any pursuit or problems with the law. After Jose was let out of the car, the cops ordered him to the sidewalk, and to turn around and put his hands on his head. He fully complied, only to be shot 7 times in the back as he stood with his hands above his head. The sheriff's deputies claimed that he appeared to reach for his waistband, but the autopsy report and eyewitness reports contradict this. He left behind his wife and two young daughters, whom he loved more than anything in the world.

Ronald Aduddell
San Jose, CA | March 2, 2013

On March 2, 2013, San Jose police began chasing 28-year-old Ronald Aduddell in a vehicle and pursued him 24 cop cars deep. When Ronny came to a stop, no commands were given, he was never given a chance to surrender, and the police shot at him 16 times, severing his spinal cord. Ronny was unarmed.

Ronny's sister said, "me and my mother had to watch the police 'investigate' while my brother's body went cold in the street for 8 1/2 hours.



That day our whole world was put upside down and we still have no idea why this had to happen. He could have been arrested and given a trial by a jury. Instead he was given the death sentence - no judge, no jury, no justice ... He was loved, he was important, and he will be missed. We want justice and we won't stop until we get it!"

Israel Hernandez-Llach
Miami, FL | August 6, 2013

On August 6, 2013, 18-year-old Israel "Reefa" Hernandez, an inspiring graffiti artist, was tased to death by Miami Beach Police officer Jorge Mercado for tagging a vacant McDonald's. As Israel lay dying, the officers reportedly "high-fived" one another in celebration after apprehending him. Israel was unarmed, weighed a mere 150 lbs, had no prior criminal record, was considered by all who knew him to be gentle and peaceful, and posed no danger to anyone. On police recordings from the day of Israel's death, officers conceded during his pursuit that the alleged crime for which Israel was being chased is a misdemeanor and not a felony. Also, while Israel had no prior criminal record, Officer Mercado has a history of alleged misconduct, including previous use of excessive force. To date, no results have been released regarding the autopsy or the investigation. In response to inaction in the face of this horrible tragedy, Miami residents demand that police officer Jorge Mercado be charged, arrested, and disciplined and that the city of Miami Beach change its policies so that no one else will ever meet Reefa's fate again.



Terrance Franklin
Minneapolis, MN | May 10, 2013

Terrance, age 22, was shot 10 times after police followed him, claiming that someone identified him as looking like someone who had been involved in a burglary a week prior. Police found Terrance in the basement of a house. After releasing a dog on him, police opened fire. Two of the officers received gunshot wounds to their legs from friendly fire and received Purple Hearts five months later for their injuries. Police claimed Terrance tried to take their gun, but he was shot in the back and the back of his head. A grand jury decided not to charge any of the cops.



Parish Duke Denison
Albuquerque, NM | March 5, 2013

Parish "Duke" Denison was killed by the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) on March 5, 2013. Duke was a 41-year-old father of two and a grandfather, a free-spirit, a natural artist who created art in many mediums, and a man who found himself, at times, in trouble. What defined Duke was his extreme love and dedication to his family. He cared for his grandmother until her dying day and was her primary caregiver. He was a good father and son to his mother, and never forgot her on Mother's Day. He loved telling stories and making people laugh. On March 5th, Duke found himself in a situation where he was being approached by APD. He ran, and the police pursued him. He ran and hid many times, but when he came out of hiding, the police immediately started firing. He was shot eight times. The police did not send for medical help; they sent in a police dog. The police did not know who he was, only that he had run and hid from them. Three officers were pinpointed as being responsible for his death, but none were held responsible. APD has yet to provide the names of the officers to the family. His family is shocked at what happened and how Duke was portrayed.

Kimani Gray
New York, NY | March 9, 2013

On the evening of March 9, 2013, 16-year-old Kimani "Kiki" Gray was shot 7 times, 3 times in the back, by plainclothes NYPD officers, sparking a weeklong uprising as outraged community members held nightly vigils to honor Kiki, and to protest the institutional protection of the two officers involved - Mourad Mourad and Jovaniel Cordova. NYPD response to the protests was severe with beatings, many arrests and complete occupation of the East Flatbush neighborhood by hundreds of officers in riot gear. Although the NYPD claimed Kiki was armed and pointed a revolver at the officers prior to his death, no crime scene photographs corroborated this claim and every single eyewitness account of the incident described the teenager as unarmed. NYPD Commissioner Raymond Kelly said that Kiki's murder was justified and the City of New York continues to support and pay Mourad and Cordova, who, on the night they killed Kiki, were already facing five federal lawsuits for previous civil rights violations including illegal stops, seizures and false arrests.

