Jonathan Ferrell
Charlotte, NC | September 14, 2013
Jonathan Ferrell was a 24-year-old man, a beloved son and brother who had played football at Florida A&M University. He had recently moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, where he was engaged to be married. He had aspirations to become an automotive engineer.

A police officer's bullets ended all of that on the morning of September 14th. After a serious car accident that crumpled his car, Jon escaped his wrecked car and then ran to the first house he saw for help. The woman inside, frightened at having been awakened at 2:30AM, called 911. When the cops arrived, they tasered him, and then Officer Randall Kerrick shot Jon 12 times, hitting him 10 times, killing him.

Immediately after the killing, people nationwide expressed their outrage at another young Black life being snuffed out. Activists in Charlotte and Greensboro held public events denouncing the killing and calling for justice for Jon. In an extremely rare move, the Charlotte police arrested the officer who killed Jon. Anti-brutality activists in NC see this as a sign that the power structure senses a widespread public outrage in the wake of the George Zimmerman verdict that will no longer just sit back and watch these injustices.

Timothy Russell and Melissa Williams
Cleveland, OH | November 29, 2012
On the night of November 28, 2012, 34-year-old Timothy Russell and 30-year-old Melissa Williams were driving in downtown Cleveland when the police began chasing them, joined by the highway patrol, sheriffs and two other communities’ cops. After a 23-minute chase, which continued despite being called off by a police supervisor, the two ended up trapped in a cul-de-sac in East Cleveland, a poor, mainly Black community. As the car was stopped, 13 Cleveland cops shot 137 bullets into the car, 25 bullets hitting Timothy and 24 bullets hitting Melissa. The police claim they heard a gunshot coming from the car Timothy was driving, but no gun or shells were found in the car or along the route of the chase. His brother said the car had a bad muffler and frequently backfired.

As the news broke, people were shocked, outraged and shaken. What happened is a modern-day lynching. A rally and march was held days later near the murder site. Several people spoke, including family members and people from a number of groups.

Patrick O’Meara
Seattle, WA | June 18, 2013
On June 18, 2013, police in Tillicum, Washington killed 28-year-old Patrick O’Meara. He was suspected of stealing a generator and was inside the house. Police were outside, and say that they shot through a window that he had a gun.

No reason was given as to why they did not move away or wait. Patrick’s mother said, “They were all up and down Union Avenue, had the dogs out looking for him. And then the next thing I got a call that there was five shots fired, and he was dead . . . They won’t give me any information. They won’t let me see him - nothing . . . Over a generator, they shot and killed him.” No gun was found. Police did produce a toy cap pistol they say they found in the house. The shooting by Lakewood Police Officers Darrell Moore and Jeremy Vahle was ruled justified by the Pierce County Prosecutor’s Office.

Jack Sun Keewatinawin
Seattle, WA | February 26, 2013
On February 26, 2015, Seattle police shot and killed young mentally-disabled Native American Jack Sun Keewatinawin. The officers who formed this execution squad were Michael Spaulding, Stephen Sperry and Tyler Speer. They used pistols and a shotgun, shooting him nine times. They say they killed 21-year-old Jack for raising a one-pound rebar at them. Other witnesses say Jack was having a mental problem and was terrified and trying to get away because they had shot him with a taser.

STOLEN LIVES PLEDGE

I, ________________ pledge that the life & humanity of these Stolen Lives will not be forgotten. I pledge that their highest hopes & aspirations will live on in us, & that I will seek justice for these & all Stolen Lives. In this way I pledge that their memory will stay alive & inspire us to fight for justice & a better world.

Volunteers are needed to help with the research and editing. Please contact oct22national@gmail.com for more information.


Contributions to this project are also needed. Tax-deductible checks or money orders should be made out to “RFC/Oct 22” with “Stolen Lives” on the memo line, and mailed to P.O. Box 2617, New York, NY 10009.

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There is a nationwide epidemic of police brutality in the United States. The victims are overwhelmingly African American, Latino and other people of color.

The Stolen Lives Project provides important and compelling exposures of the nationwide epidemic of police brutality and murder. People who’ve been killed, their families and loved ones, and communities under the gun speak through the pages and tell their stories. And they get a platform to speak out even more broadly.

Among people who don’t deal with police brutality in their daily lives, this project shows that it’s more than just a “few bad apples” or some “isolated incidents.” Many such people will be moved to join the struggle against police brutality and stand with those under the gun when they see the shocking scope of this epidemic.

The mission of the Stolen Lives Project is to assemble a national list of people killed by law enforcement agents from 1990 to the present. Through grassroots efforts, over 2000 cases were documented in the second edition of the Stolen Lives book, which was published in 1999. To this day, the project continues to document nationwide.