



Report # 72-4-2007
April 19, 2007

Homicides of Workers in Washington State Washington FACE Program: 1998 – 2006

The Washington Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program has tracked workplace fatalities in Washington State since 1998. The following presents a summary of the 51 incidents where workers were killed as a result of violence from another individual in Washington State from 1998 to 2006.

Incidents of workplace homicides were placed into four categories of violence to workers:

Type 1 – Violence committed by strangers where the assailant has no legitimate business relationship to the workplace (for example, entering the workplace to commit a robbery).

Type 2 – Violence committed by customers or clients (current or former) to those who usually provide direct services to the public. For example, perpetrators would include passengers, patients, students, inmates, criminal suspects, or prisoners.

Type 3 – Violence committed by current or former co-workers, employees, supervisors, or managers.

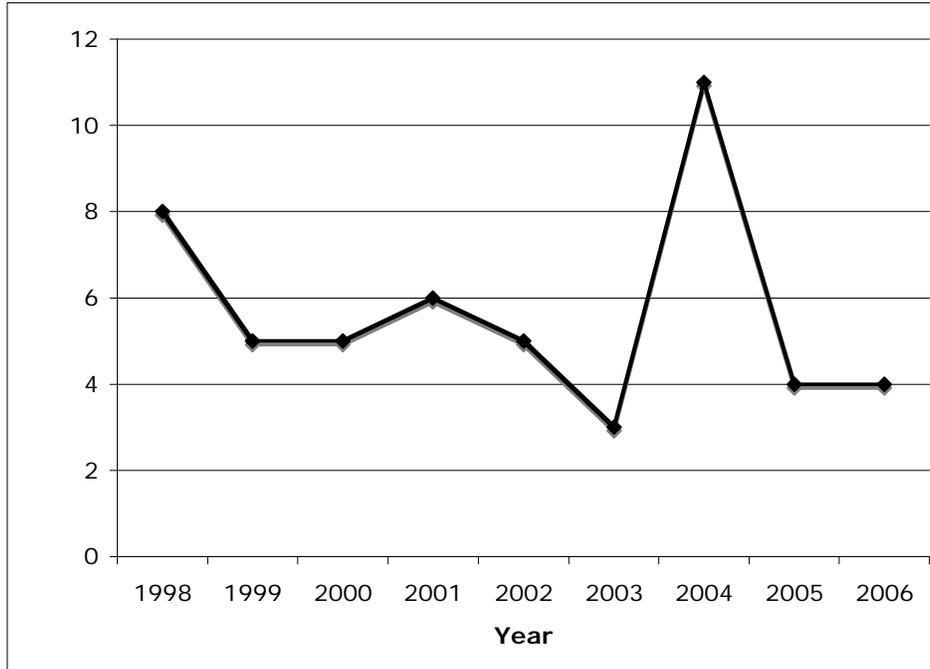
Type 4 – Violence committed by an assailant who confronts an individual in the workplace with whom an outside personal relationship exists. This may include a current or former spouse, lover, relative, friend, or acquaintance.

The following are some specific findings from the data:

- Thirteen (25%) of the workplace homicides were working as cashiers or sales workers.
- Nine (18%) incidents involved police or sheriff's officers killed while apprehending a suspect.
- Twenty (39%) homicides occurred in King County, followed by Pierce County with 6 incidents.
- Over 70% of the homicides were a result of assault with a firearm.
- 78% of the victims were white, 20% were Hispanic, and 86% were male.
- Homicides by strangers (27%) and by customers/clients (25%) were the top two types of violence in the recorded workplace incidents.
- Almost half (48%) of the victims were between the ages of 40-49.
- Nine (18%) of the incidents occurred to retail or restaurant sales workers on the job between the hours of 10pm and 5am.
- Of the seven women fatalities, three (6%) were a result of domestic violence in the workplace.

During the years 1998-2006 the average number of workplace homicides was approximately 6 per year, with a high of 11 incidents in 2004 and a low of 3 in 2003. Services (excluding public administration) had the most incidents by industry with 16. Wholesale and Retail Trade, and Public Administration each had 10 workplace homicide incidents during this time period.

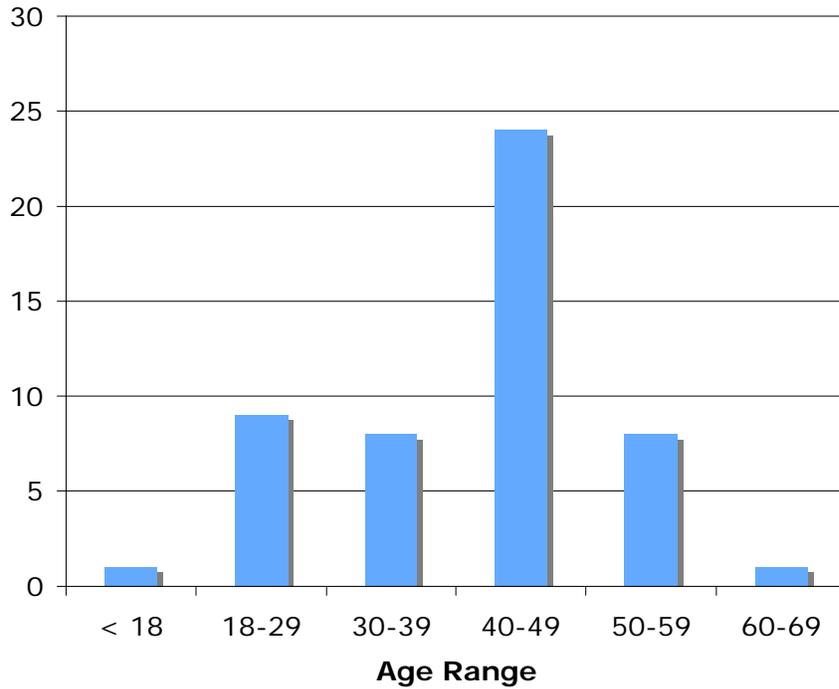
Workplace Homicides in Washington State by Year, 1998-2006



Workplace Homicides in Washington State by Industry, Occupation and Type of Violence, 1998-2006

	Numbers by Violence Type					Total (%)
	Strangers (Type 1)	Customers or Clients (Type 2)	Current or Former Co- workers (Type 3)	Outside Work Personal Relation (Type 4)	Unknown	
Industry						
Services (Excluding Public Administration)	8	-	4	2	2	16 (32%)
Wholesale and Retail Trade	5	-	1	2	2	10 (20%)
Public Administration	-	10	-	-	-	10 (20%)
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	-	-	1	1	4	6 (12%)
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	1	2	1	1	-	5 (10%)
Construction	-	-	2	-	-	2 (4%)
Manufacturing	-	-	-	-	1	1 (2%)
Healthcare & Social Assistance	-	1	-	-	-	1 (2%)
Total	14	13	9	6	9	51 (100%)
Occupation						
Sales and Related Occupations	7	-	-	3	3	13 (26%)
Police and Sheriff's Patrol	-	9	-	-	-	9 (18%)
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	-	-	1	-	5	6 (12%)
Transportation and Material Moving	1	2	1	1	-	5 (10%)
Managers	2	-	2	1	-	5 (10%)
Construction and Extraction	-	-	4	-	-	4 (8%)
Others	4	2	1	1	1	9 (18%)
Total	14	13	9	6	9	51 (100%)

**Workplace Homicides by Age of Victim, 1998-2006
WA State, FACE Program**

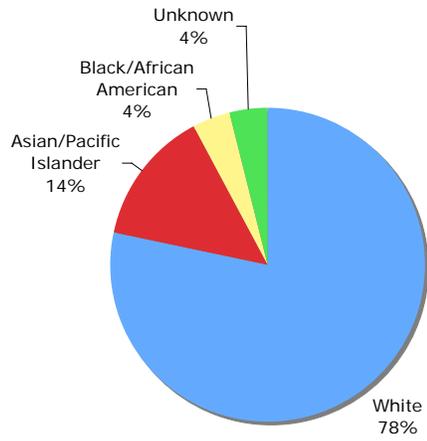


**Workplace Homicides by County, 1998-2006
WA State, FACE Program**

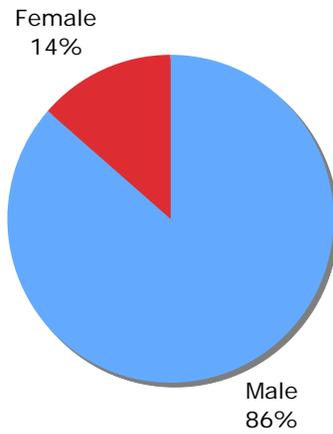
(Counties not listed had zero homicides)

County	Number
King	20 (40%)
Pierce	6 (12%)
Yakima	5 (10%)
Clark	3 (6%)
Okanogan	3 (6%)
Chelan	2 (4%)
Clallam	2 (4%)
Grant	2 (4%)
Kitsap	2 (4%)
Benton	1 (2%)
Franklin	1 (2%)
Grays Harbor	1 (2%)
Jefferson	1 (2%)
Lincoln	1 (2%)
Whatcom	1 (2%)
Total	51 (100%)

**Workplace Homicides by Race, 1998-2006
WA State FACE Program**



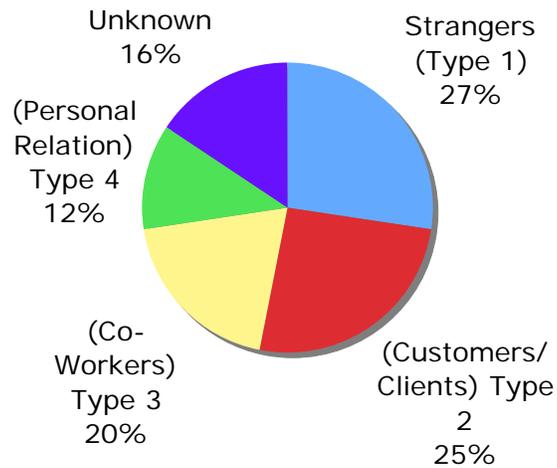
**Workplace Homicides by Gender, 1998-2006
WA State FACE Program**



**Workplace Homicides by Type of Assault, 1998-2006
WA State FACE Program**

Assault by	Number
Handgun	31 (62%)
Cutting or piercing instrument	10 (20%)
Shotgun or rifle	4 (8%)
Striking by blunt or thrown object	2 (4%)
Other and unspecified firearm	2 (4%)
Hanging and strangulation	1 (2%)
Unspecified means	1 (2%)
Total	51 (100%)

**Workplace Homicides by Type of Violence, 1998-2006
WA State FACE Program**



Workplace Homicide Incident Summaries, Washington State 1998-2006

Incident date: 12/10/06
Violence type: Unknown
County: King
Industry: Convenience Stores
Occupation: Convenience store clerk
Time: 04:20
Age: 49
Incident description: A convenience store clerk was shot in the head as he sat in a chair outside the front of the convenience store.

Incident date: 12/2/06
Violence type: 2
County: King
Industry: Executive Offices
Occupation: Deputy sheriff
Time: 01:45
Age: 46
Incident description: A deputy sheriff was fatally shot while responding to a disturbance at a residence.

Incident date: 7/28/06
Violence type: 1
County: King
Industry: Other Social Service Advocacy Organizations
Occupation: Fundraising director
Time: 16:03
Age: 58
Incident description: An employee of a social advocacy organization was shot and killed by a gunman who entered the organization's office. Five other employees were shot and wounded.

Incident date: 4/20/06
Violence type: 1
County: Clark
Industry: Limited-Service Restaurants
Occupation: Fast food worker
Time: 20:18
Age: 17
Incident description: An employee of a fast food restaurant was on break sitting at a table in the dining area when a man entered the restaurant and fatally stabbed her with a knife.

The assailant was mentally ill and did not know the victim.

Incident date: 11/11/05
Violence type: 1
County: Pierce
Industry: Convenience Stores
Occupation: Convenience store clerk
Time: 21:00
Age: 30
Incident description: A clerk at a convenience store was shot by an assailant during an attempted robbery.

Incident date: 11/4/05
Violence type: 2
County: Kitsap
Industry: Other Individual and Family Services
Occupation: Social worker
Time: 17:30
Age: 46
Incident description: A mental health professional performing a field assessment (at the client's home) of a client for possible involuntary detention was stabbed with a knife by the client.

Incident date: 8/20/05
Violence type: 1
County: King
Industry: Supermarkets and Other Grocery Stores
Occupation: Convenience store clerk
Time: 00:16
Age: 45
Incident description: An assailant entered a convenience store and shot a clerk with a handgun. The shooter had been drinking and entered the store to confront the victim about a previous perceived verbal slight that had occurred at the store.

Incident date: 6/23/05
Violence type: 4
County: Kitsap
Industry: Supermarkets and Other Grocery Stores
Occupation: Owner
Time: 13:22
Age: 48

Incident description: The owner of a convenience store was shot and killed in the parking lot of his store. The shooter was an acquaintance who drove into the parking lot and opened fire with a shot gun.

Incident date: 10/28/04

Violence type: 4

County: King

Industry: Limited-Service Restaurants

Occupation: Owner

Time: 18:00

Age: 41

Incident description: The co-owner of a restaurant was killed when her husband, also a co-owner, walked into the restaurant and stabbed her. He then fatally stabbed himself.

Incident date: 9/4/04

Violence type: 1

County: Benton

Industry: Elementary and Secondary Schools

Occupation: Middle school teacher

Time: 23:30

Age: 44

Incident description: A middle school teacher returning a video to the school late in the evening was assaulted in the hallway of the school by an assailant wielding a knife.

Incident date: 7/30/04

Violence type: 2

County: Clark

Industry: Other General Government Support

Occupation: Sheriff's sergeant

Time: 20:17

Age: 49

Incident description: A county sheriff's officer was killed when his patrol car was rammed by a vehicle driven by a suspect that he and other officers were attempting to apprehend.

Incident date: 2/24/04

Violence type: 1

County: Pierce

Industry: Hardware Merchant Wholesalers

Occupation: Owner/salesman

Time: 13:00

Age: 55
Incident description: A self-employed tool salesman was robbed and murdered while enroute to making a delivery to a customer. He was suffocated.

Incident date: 7/24/04
Violence type: 3
County: Whatcom
Industry: Temporary Help Services
Occupation: Day laborer
Time: 08:57
Age: 25
Incident description: A worker was stabbed to death by a co-worker. They were both cleaning a parking lot to prepare it for sealing. The site was part of a remodeling project at a supermarket.

Incident date: 7/17/04
Violence type: Unknown
County: Grant
Industry: Grape Vineyards
Occupation: Laborer/irrigation worker
Time: 06:30
Age: 35
Incident description: An employee at a vineyard was found dead of stab wounds near the field where he worked. He had been assaulted by an unknown assailant.

Incident date: 6/14/04
Violence type: 4
County: Okanogan
Industry: Video Tape and Disc Rental
Occupation: Owner
Time: 18:15
Age: 48
Incident description: The owner of a video store was shot by an acquaintance that walked into the store. The assailant then shot and killed himself.

Incident date: 5/31/04
Violence type: 1
County: King
Industry: Hotels and Motels
Occupation: Owner
Time: 16:50

Age: 44
Incident description: The owner of a motel was shot during an attempted robbery.

Incident date: 4/12/04
Violence type: Unknown
County: King
Industry: Offices of Lawyers
Occupation: Lawyer
Time: 22:00
Age: 57
Incident description: A lawyer was found beaten to death in his office.

Incident date: 3/31/04
Violence type: 4
County: Clallam
Industry: Nursery, Garden Center, and Farm Supply Stores
Occupation: Owner
Time: 10:00
Age: 35
Incident description: The owner of a business was shot and killed by her estranged husband. The incident took place inside the victim's office at a bark and topsoil yard.

Incident date: 1/31/04
Violence type: 1
County: King
Industry: Taxi Service
Occupation: Taxi cab driver
Time: 04:30
Age: 39
Incident description: A taxi cab driver on the way to pick up a passenger was shot in the head.

Incident date: 8/2/03
Violence type: 2
County: King
Industry: Executive Offices
Occupation: Police officer
Time: 10:25
Age: 46
Incident description: A police officer attempting to restrain a suspect was shot by the suspect who grabbed the officer's service handgun from his holster. The officer was

wearing a bullet proof vest, but the bullet struck him in the abdomen just below the vest.

Incident date: 6/26/03
Violence type: 2
County: Chelan
Industry: Other General Government Support
Occupation: Deputy sheriff
Time: 18:03
Age: 35
Incident description: A sheriff's deputy pulled a vehicle to the side of the road to investigate the driver who was believed to be driving without a license. The suspect fled his vehicle and the deputy followed. There was a struggle during which the suspect grabbed the deputy's service handgun and shot him in the head.

Incident date: 4/29/03
Violence type: 4
County: Jefferson
Industry: Motor Vehicle Towing
Occupation: Owner
Time: 15:30
Age: 62
Incident description: The owner of a towing yard was shot by a former son-in-law wielding a handgun. The shooting happened at a towing yard.

Incident date: 9/30/02
Violence type: 3
County: Okanogan
Industry: Apple Orchards
Occupation: Orchard supervisor
Time: 09:00
Age: 44
Incident description: An orchard worker was repeatedly stabbed with a knife by a co-worker at an apple orchard. He was hospitalized and died 5 weeks later.

Incident date: 9/30/02
Violence type: Unknown
County: Yakima
Industry: All Other General Merchandise Stores
Occupation: Owner
Time: 14:18
Age: 53

Incident description: The owner of a variety store was found with multiple stab wounds on the porch of her store.

Incident date: 7/20/02

Violence type: 1

County: Grant

Industry: Women's Clothing Store

Occupation: Owner/operator

Time: 00:46

Age: 47

Incident description: A vendor selling novelties in a campground after a concert was shot by an unknown assailant.

Incident date: 6/12/02

Violence type: 2

County: Lincoln

Industry: Regulation and Administration of Transportation Programs

Occupation: Field tax auditor

Time: Unknown

Age: 56

Incident description: a state Licensing Dept. auditor disappeared on June 12, 2002 after he left his office to meet with a truck driver and conduct an audit of his tax records. His body was found in a ditch by a rural road ten days later. He had been shot in the head. The truck driver was charged with murder.

Incident date: 6/22/02

Violence type: 2

County: King

Industry: Police Protection

Occupation: Deputy sheriff

Time: 1700

Age: 46

Incident description: A county sheriff's deputy was attempting to apprehend a suspect when the man grabbed the officer's gun and shot him.

Incident date: 12/19/01

Violence type: 1

County: Chelan

Industry: Video Tape and Disc Rental

Occupation: Video store clerk

Time: 20:50

Age: 22
Incident description: A video store clerk was shot in an apparent robbery. The victim was found in the video rental store with a gunshot wound to the head. The money was missing from the cash register.

Incident date: 5/17/01
Violence type: 3
County: King
Industry: Residential Remodelers
Occupation: Temp help laborer/construction worker
Time: 12:00
Age: 42
Incident description: A construction worker was found unconscious in front of a residence where he had been working. He was hospitalized and died 2 days later. It was determined that he died of multiple blunt force injuries the head as a result of a homicidal attack. He had been hired from a job referral service by the homeowner to work on their home. Two day laborers who had been working at the same site were charged with murdering the victim by beating him with a 2-by-4.

Incident date: 5/17/01
Violence type: 1
County: Pierce
Industry: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Occupation: Professor
Time: 14:50
Age: 40
Incident description: A university professor was shot to death on campus in a random attack by a man who then committed suicide.

Incident date: 3/7/01
Violence type: 2
County: King
Industry: Police Protection
Occupation: Police officer
Time: 01:20
Age: 33
Incident description: A police officer in a patrol car stopped four pedestrians along a roadway early in the morning. He was shot by one the individuals.

Incident date: 1/13/01
Violence type: 3

County: Clark
Occupation: Grocery store clerk
Industry: Supermarkets and Other Grocery Stores
Time: 19:30
Age: 20
Incident description: A courtesy clerk at a grocery store was murdered by a coworker during the course of a fight in the backroom of the store.

Incident date: 1/4/01
Violence type: Unknown
County: King
Industry: Offices of Real Estate Agents and Brokers
Occupation: Real estate agent
Time: 12:00
Age: 40
Incident description: a real estate agent was stabbed to death by an unknown assailant while he was inside a house being sold by the real estate company for which he worked.

Incident date: 11/28/00
Violence type: 4
County: Yakima
Industry: Floriculture Production
Occupation: Flower decorator
Time: 12:00
Age: 28
Incident description: A decorator employed by a flower company was shot and killed by her estranged husband. He came to her place of work and they stepped out of the building and into the company parking lot where he fatally shot her with a handgun.

Incident date: 10/30/2000
Violence type: 1
County: King
Industry: Gasoline Stations with Convenience Stores
Occupation: Owner gas station/minimart
Time: 02:00
Age: 50
Incident description: A co-owner of a gas station/convenience store was found shot to death in his office. A police investigation determined that he was shot by an unknown assailant. Valuables were stolen from the store.

Incident date: 8/5/00
Violence type: 2
County: Clallam
Industry: Police Protection
Occupation: sheriff's deputy
Time: 12:30
Age: 48
Incident description: A sheriff's deputy responding to a disturbance complaint at a residence was shot in the head by the gun wielding resident. The shooter had a history of mental illness.

Incident date: 6/28/00
Violence type: 3
County: King
Industry: Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools
Occupation: Director of medical division of hospital
Time: 15:45
Age: 57
Incident description: A resident at a medical center entered the office of a doctor who was his supervisor and shot him in the chest, killing him. He then fatally shot himself.

Incident date: 5/22/00
Violence type: 3
County: Pierce
Industry: Residential Remodelers
Occupation: construction supervisor
Time: 07:28
Age: 50
Incident description: a construction worker shot and killed his supervisor with a .45 caliber handgun during an altercation at a construction site.

Incident date: 12/28/99
Violence type: 3
County: King
Industry: Taxi Service
Occupation: Cab driver
Time: 15:45
Age: 44
Incident description: Cab driver shot by coworker

Incident date: 11/3/99

Violence type: 3
County: King
Industry: Marinas
Occupation: Shipyard electrician
Time: 10:30
Age: 43
Incident description: A former coworker entered the offices of a boat repair shop and shot four employees, killing two.

Incident date: 11/3/99
Violence type: 3
County: King
Industry: Marinas
Occupation: Shipyard supervisor
Time: 10:30
Age: 27
Incident description: A former coworker entered the offices of a boat repair shop and shot four employees, killing two.

Incident date: 10/7/99
Violence type: 2
County: Franklin
Industry: Police Protection
Occupation: State patrol officer
Time: 21:00
Age:31
Incident description: A state patrol officer was shot during a traffic stop.

Incident date: 3/5/99
Violence type: 2
County: Pierce
Industry: Taxi Service
Occupation: cab driver
Time: 3/5/99
Age: 45
Incident description: cab driver shot several times in the head. He was found in his cab. A man who was a fare of the victim was arrested.

Incident date: 12/5/98
Violence type: 3
County: Pierce

Industry: Apple Orchards
Occupation: Orchard laborer
Time: 10:10
Age: 18
Incident description: An orchard worker was shot in the abdomen by a coworker. This happened on employer's premises.

Incident date: 11/27/98
Violence type: 2
County: King
Industry: Bus and Other Motor Vehicle Transit Systems
Occupation: Bus driver
Time: 15:30
Age: 44
Incident description: While performing his duties as a bus driver the victim was shot multiple times in the abdomen by a passenger.

Incident date: 8/17/1998
Violence type: Unknown
County: Grays Harbor
Industry: Sawmills
Occupation: Timber salvage laborer
Time: 10:15
Age: 23
Incident description: The victim was working in a field at a cedar salvage operation when a coworker heard gunshots. He was found with gunshot wounds to the head.

Incident date: 7/5/98
Violence type: 1
County: Pierce
Industry: Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)
Occupation: Waitress
Time: 01:50
Age: 21
Incident description: Victim was shot, along with 4 other people, when gunmen entered a café and opened fire.

Incident date: 7/5/98
Violence type: 1
County: King
Industry: Parking Lots and Garages

Occupation: Parking lot attendant
Time: 00:30
Age: 40
Incident description: The victim was a parking garage attendant/cashier who was shot after a thief asked for and received money from the till.

Incident date: 5/22/98
Violence type: Unknown
County: Yakima
Industry: Other Noncitrus Fruit Farming
Occupation: Farm worker
Time: 13:30
Age: 36
Incident description: The victim and a coworker were refilling tank sprayers at a cherry orchard. Both victims were shot in the head multiple times by an unknown assailant.

Incident date: 5/22/98
Violence type: Unknown
County: Yakima
Industry: Other Noncitrus Fruit Farming
Occupation: Farm worker
Time: 13:30
Age: 24
Incident description: The victim and a coworker were refilling tank sprayers at a cherry orchard. Both victims were shot in the head multiple times by an unknown assailant.

Incident date: 3/25/98
Violence type: 2
County: King
Industry: Police Protection
Occupation: Police officer
Time: 22:07
Age: 43
Incident description: The victim was responding to a report of a disturbance at a motel. While the victim and his partner confronted the person involved in the disturbance the victim was shot in the head.