



**WESTMORELAND COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE CORONER**

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Paul B. Cycak, Jr.
Chief Deputy

Kenneth A. Bacha
Coroner

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PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 21, 2014

<u>Nature of Release:</u> Double Homicide Investigation	<u>Date and Time of Incident:</u> August 20, 2014 8:26 AM
<u>Incident Location:</u> 400 Block of 4 th Avenue City of New Kensington	
Victim: John T. Russ, 43 y/o male Address: 4 th Avenue City of New Kensington, Westmoreland County Date and Time of Death: August 20, 2014 at 9:54 AM. Cause of Death: Multiple Gunshot Wounds Due to: Shot by Actor(s) Manner of Death: Homicide	Victim: Shannon Bongartz, 28 y/o female Address: Verona Road Penn Hills Township, Allegheny County Date and Time of Death: August 20, 2014 at 9:55 AM. Cause of Death: Multiple Gunshot Wounds Due to: Shot by Actor(s) Manner of Death: Homicide
Incident Details: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Westmoreland County Coroner, Kenneth A. Bacha, has released the following information.▪ New Kensington Police responded to a call of shots fired at the above incident location.▪ John T. Russ was discovered inside a vehicle and Shannon Bongartz was discovered lying across the street.▪ Both victims appeared to have been shot multiple times.▪ Deputy Coroner John A. Ackerman pronounced both victims dead at the scene.▪ An autopsy was performed by Dr. Cyril H. Wecht and Pathology Associates on August 20, 2014.▪ Autopsy results are reflected in the causes of death.▪ Coroner Kenneth A. Bacha has ruled both deaths a homicide.▪ Toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.▪ Duster Funeral Home will be handling funeral arrangements for John T. Russ.▪ Jarvie Funeral Home will be handling funeral arrangements for Shannon Bongartz.▪ New Kensington Police and the Westmoreland County Detective Bureau are investigating and will release additional information at their discretion.	
***** <u>No further information is available from this office at this time.</u> *****	