

Monica's Law

Prevent Domestic Homicide

Make Non-Fatal Strangulation a Felony in Ohio

Please help prevent domestic homicide in Monica's memory by urging lawmakers to initiate felony strangulation legislation in Ohio!

On January 31, 2014 Monica Weber Jeter was strangled by her husband until she was "dizzy and unable to call for help". The attack occurred while she was sleeping and their five young children were in the home. One of the children disrupted the attack and called 911. Monica's husband pled "no contest" and was found guilty on a **MISDEMEANOR** domestic violence charge. He was sentenced to **11 DAYS** of a possible 180 days **IN JAIL** and six months of probation. The protection order was lifted a month after the attack.

Nine months later, on October 8, 2014, Monica's husband assaulted her again. This time viciously beating and stabbing her while she slept in their North College Hill Ohio home. Two of the children witnessed the attack—their twelve year old daughter called 911. Monica endured multiple stab wounds, massive blood loss, painful surgeries, and major organ failure. She spent thirty-two days in critical condition at University of Cincinnati Hospital in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit. She fought so hard to survive for her family but her injuries were just too severe. She died on November 9, 2014. She was thirty-six years old.

Monica's large heartbroken family is completely dedicated and focused on raising awareness and making real change in her honor. **Our first goal is to get legislation passed in Ohio that specifically makes non-fatal strangulation a felony.**

The statistics regarding domestic violence and strangulation are staggering. Almost half of all domestic violence murder victims have suffered at least one incident of attempted strangulation prior to a fatal or near fatal violent incident. Strangulation is lethal force and is one of the best predictors of a future homicide in domestic violence cases.

Strangulation is a red flag for future domestic homicide! If Monica's husband had been convicted of a FELONY for the January strangulation attempt, he could have been in prison on October 8, 2014 and Monica might be alive today. Felony strangulation laws not only secure tougher punishment for domestic abusers; but also promote awareness of a crime that often precedes murder. Ohio needs to join the 30 plus states that have already made this life threatening crime a felony!

Please support Monica's Law by signing and sharing our petition:

https://www.change.org/p/support-monica-s-law-prevent-domestic-homicide-make-non-fatal-strangulation-a-felony

To learn more about Monica's story and support our efforts to make a difference please check out Monica's Facebook page at <u>www.facebook.com/prayersformonicaweberjeter</u>.