

WHEEL

**WOMEN IN BLACK** **SILENT VIGIL**

**for 22 outdoor/violent homeless  
deaths December 2016-January 2017:**  
**Henry Alexander, Thomas Payne, Jr, Aaron Roberts,**  
**John Cress, Jose Roman-Muniz, Robert C. Patterson,**  
**Iris Cloud, Jeffry Bierig, Nicole Williams,**  
**Kevin W. Bouwkamp, Bruce Sarvis, Robert Trevino,**  
**Hong Ha, Patrice Pitts, Drew Fife, David Chaney,**  
**Kevin Hitchye, Paul Duran, Lannette Deffley,**  
**Mark Rice, Kerry Ewing, & James McGinnis**

**12 NOON—1 PM**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8th, 2017**

**In front of Municipal Courthouse/Seattle Justice Center  
5TH & CHERRY STREETS**

***Every time a homeless person is found dead outside or dies by violence in King County, WHEEL (a homeless women's organizing effort) mobilizes for our silent witnessing vigil called Women in Black.***

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After an unprecedented delay, our group today received a new Medical Examiners Office list of homeless deaths by name, location and cause for the months of December 2016 through and including February 2017. There were a shocking, heartbreaking and enraging number of outdoor/violent deaths on this list, totaling 22 altogether, and including FOUR hypothermia deaths in a one-week span in December.

**On Wednesday, March 8th, we will stand to honor and remember these 22 beloved and not-forgotten people. We will put out a Public Statement at or before this vigil. Please join us as we call out these names and cry out for justice. We'll be remembering:**

- **Henry Alexander, 41**, who appears to have been hit by a car and killed in the 7200 block of Lake City Way on 12/8.
- **Thomas Payne Jr, 59**, who died of hypothermia at the 2900 block of Colorado S on 12/8.
- **Aaron Roberts, 48**, who died of hypothermia in Federal Way on 12/9.
- **John Cress, 50**, who died of hypothermia at 1419 Alaska Way S on 12/9.

**--OVER--**

- **Jose Roman-Muniz, 51**, who died of hypothermia at 7201 E Greenlake Dr N on 12/14.
- **Robert C Patterson, 37**, who died of natural causes at 408 Corson (Georgetown) on 12/20.
- **Iris Cloud, 45**, beloved of DESC, who died by OD at Courthouse Park on 12/24.
- **Jeffrey Bierig, 27**, who died of toxic asphyxia at the Jiffy Car Wash in SeaTac on 12/31.
- **Nicole Williams, 36**, who died on 1/7 at the 7900 bl Aurora; cause of death pending.
- **Kevin W. Bouwkamp, 60**, who appears to have been hit by a car and killed at MLK Way/Cherry on 1/9.
- **Bruce Sarvis, 62**, who died on 1/7 at an undisclosed location, unknown cause of death.
- **Robert Trevino, 27**, who died by OD at the Northgate Library on 1/20.
- **Hong Ha, 52**, who died on 1/18 at an undisclosed location, unknown cause of death.
- **Patrice Pitts, 52**, who was shot to death at 619 Third Avenue on 1/29.
- **Drew Fife, 62**, who died of natural causes at a Federal Way restaurant on 2/4.
- **David Chaney, 23**, who died of blunt force injury at 2501 N Northlake Way on 2/5.
- **Kevin Hitchye, Jr, 24**, who drowned in Federal Way on 2/8.
- **Paul Duran, 46**, who died of sepsis at Aurora Ave N/John St on 2/14.
- **Lannette Deffley, 52**, who died at an undisclosed location on 2/17, unknown cause of death.
- **Mark Rice, 67**, who died of natural causes at Franklin Ave E/E Blaine on 2/21.
- **Kerry Ewing, 56**, who died at Terminal 30 on 2/21; cause of death pending.
- **James McGinnis, 62**, who died at 8<sup>th</sup>/Pike on 2/23; cause of death pending.

Much more information about these beloved individuals might be known by the time of our March 8th vigil. We will be making a statement by that time, and will share information as we get it.

**By our current reckoning, at least 62 homeless people died outside or by violence in 2016, which is the 2nd-highest number of deaths in one year in our history.**

**By our current reckoning, at least 15 have died outside or by violence already this year, which is by far a record-breaking rate of death in our City and County.**

*"The dead exert a protective influence and their spirits rejoice when they know that their names are still used in the world!" --Louise Erdrich, "The Antelope Wife"*

**PLEASE JOIN US, CRY OUT THESE NAMES, AND DEMAND JUSTICE FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE DEAD WITH US!**

**For more info: WHEEL #956-0334 or [wheelorg@yahoo.com](mailto:wheelorg@yahoo.com)  
or Homeless Remembrance Project on Facebook  
Men are welcome to help leaflet at vigils or stand with us in solidarity.**