

## *Fatal Domestic Shooting*

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At 9:50pm Friday (July 4) evening OPD responded to a shooting at a residence in the 200 block of West Prudhomme St. Officers arrived on the scene of what appeared to be a murder suicide.

Kerry J Varis 36 years age of 1125 Plaisance St approached his wife, 32 year old Nancy Varis, at a family gathering in the 200 block of West Prudhomme St, and shot her once in the head. According to eye witnesses Varis then walked away from the residence pointed the gun at his head and pulled the trigger. Kerry Varis died on the scene. The weapon, a 38 cal revolver, believed to have been used was located next to Mr. Varis. His wife was transported by ambulance to OGHHER and died a short time later.

This is a very tragic situation, the couple leaves behind 9 children ages 18 to 5.

Officers' responded to this same residence at 127am Friday morning regarding a disturbance between Mr. and Mrs. Varis. Mrs. Varis indicated then that she simply wanted him to leave her sisters residence. Officers then instructed Mr. Varis to leave and he complied.

According to family members present, Mrs. Varis wanted to end the marriage; however, her husband did not. Family members indicated that she felt her husband would never carry out the threats he sometimes made towards her.

Our prayers go out to their children.

## *Update July 8, 2014*

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A fund "The 9 Children's Fund" has been set up C/O St. Landry Bank Attn. Monette Clay 132 E Landry St. Opelousas, La. Account # 10082022 in regards to the 9 children left behind as a result of the murder/suicide on July 4th here in Opelousas.

Contacts: Monette Clay @ St. Landry Bank (337)948-2469 and Marie Renaud @ Opelousas City Hall (337)945-1982.