

NYC CRIME

Ex-cop fatally shoots wife in front of her kids: 'Daddy just shot my mommy'

The unidentified woman was rushed to Jamaica Hospital after being shot in the upper body in the couple's home in Ozone Park, Queens. Neighbors and police sources identified the gunman as Kevin Canty, 43.

BY CAITLIN NOLAN, BARRY PADDOCK, STEPHEN REX BROWN / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS /

Published: Saturday, April 19, 2014, 12:13 PM / Updated: Saturday, April 19, 2014, 3:56 PM

A A A

280

34

g+

4

SHARE THIS URL

nydn.us/1nyJ1iH



ROBERT STRIDIRON/NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

The suspected gunman, identified by sources and neighbors as Kevin Canty, 43, handcuffed inside an NYPD cruiser.

An unhinged former cop shot and killed his wife in front of their two young children Saturday morning, a police source and neighbors said.

The victim was shot in the upper body inside the couple's home on 104th St. near 101st Ave. in Ozone Park, Queens just before 11 a.m., officials said.

She was taken to Jamaica Hospital but could not be saved, officials said.



ROBERT STRIDIRON

Female victim's children are removed from home to safe location after they witnessed their mother getting shot by their father, say cops.

The 43-year-old ex-cop, identified by neighbors and police sources as Kevin Canty, was taken into custody a mile-and-a-half from the home, near 97th St. and Centreville St., officials said.

A police spokesman would not officially confirm the suspect once worked for the NYPD. The name of his wife was not yet available.



ROBERT STRIDIRON/ NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

The female victim, identified by sources and neighbors as Canty's wife, is removed by medics from the home in Ozone Park, Queens.

A grocer at Casablanca deli said a mortified neighbor brought the victim's traumatized kids into his store.

"They said, 'My daddy just shot my mommy.' The neighbor said, 'I had to take them out of there - they can't be seeing that.' Then police put them in an ambulance," said the grocer.



ROBERT STRIDIRO/NY YORK DAILY NEWS

A deli worker said a neighbor rushed the traumatized children into his store. "My daddy just shot my mommy," he recalled one of the kids saying.

He added that the suspect and his family were regulars at the deli.

"I'd see him everyday," he said. "I knew what he'd want when he came in. He would come in, get a pack of Newports."

"His wife would come in, in the morning with the kids," he added. "She'd buy the girl a bag of potato chips and the boy pistachios. Then this happened."

A post on the NYPD's Facebook page from July 2012 hailed Canty's heroics when he and three fellow officers saved the life of a man who suffered a heart attack at the Union Square subway station.

A neighbor, Chris Ris, said he often saw Canty around the neighborhood wearing construction boots and dusty pants, apparently on the way home from a worksite. Canty's wife often sat on the stoop with her children.

"To me he seemed like a nice guy," said Ris, a music producer who has lived in the neighborhood for four years. "I'd never dream he'd kill his wife."

bpaddock@nydailynews.com



ROBERT STRIDIRON/NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Police prepare to enter the home where the sources say the ex-cop allegedly shot his wife in front of her kids.