

# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Multiple attackers, many baffling details

Rubin, Joel; Serna, Joseph . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Dec 2015: B.3.

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## ABSTRACT

The assault rifles used, the coordinated nature of the attack and the shooters' ability to escape before police arrived pointed to a level of preparedness and professionalism that runs against a typical mass shooting scenario, Astor said.

## FULL TEXT

As soon as the first, frantic reports of a shooting came in, one detail above others worried police.

Witnesses said multiple people had stormed into a conference room at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino on Wednesday and opened fire.

The fact that more than one assailant appeared to have taken part in the massacre told law enforcement officials that something unusual was at play, even if they didn't know anything else at first about the shooting that left 14 people dead and more wounded.

In the scores of mass shootings that have occurred in the U.S. over the last 15 years, nearly all of them have involved an attacker acting alone.

A recent FBI analysis of 160 "active shooter" incidents from 2000 to 2013, in which assailants were "actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people," found that only two were carried out by two or more people working in tandem.

In 2011, a 22-year-old man and one or more unidentified shooters opened fire at a house party in Queens, N.Y. The man had been at the party earlier that night but left after arguing with others at the event and returned shortly afterward.

A year later, two men fired handguns in the streets of Tulsa, Okla., killing three people and wounding two, according to the FBI analysis.

By nightfall Wednesday in San Bernardino, a man and a woman had been shot dead by police and were identified as suspects in the killings at the Inland Regional Center. Officials had yet to publicly explain what might have motivated the attack.

Ron Avi Astor, a behavior health professor and mass shooting expert at USC, said the details of the shooting that

had surfaced so far raised more questions than they answered.

On one hand, Astor said, reports that one of the shooters had attended a holiday gathering of county health workers at the conference hall and left after having an argument of some sort pointed to the possibility that the shooting was rooted in a workplace grudge.

But the police account that more than one person took part in the shooting didn't fit with the idea that the killings were part of an attempt to settle one man's scores, Astor said.

"You don't just go home to a friend or family member, hand them a rifle and say, 'Come help me,'" Astor said. "There had to be discussion and planning beforehand about carrying out something like this."

The question of whether the suspects were terrorists driven by religious or political ideology loomed over the investigation. David Bowdich, the region's top FBI official, said at a news conference Wednesday night that investigators had reason to believe it may be a factor.

That possibility further muddied the water, Astor said.

The assault rifles used, the coordinated nature of the attack and the shooters' ability to escape before police arrived pointed to a level of preparedness and professionalism that runs against a typical mass shooting scenario, Astor said.

And yet, he said, a holiday party for local civil servants is not a that carries the symbolic weight terrorists look for when planning their attacks.

"The target is a very soft target. The whole thing seems strange," he said. "What meaning does the place have and why kill so many people there?"

"There's more to this story than what we know right now," he said.

Although it is rare to encounter multiple shooters, police train for the possibility, said John Incontro, police chief in San Marino and a former Los Angeles police captain who oversaw the department's SWAT unit.

"This is exactly what we train for," he said.

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## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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Horror in San Bernardino; The U.S. infatuation with guns, inflamed by the ludicrous stances of the NRA, is suicidal.

## ABSTRACT

The Supreme Court lent credibility to the fully-armed-America crowd in its 2008 Heller decision, which held that the 2nd Amendment guarantees an individual's right to bear arms for "traditionally lawful purposes," such as self-protection in the home.

## FULL TEXT

Fourteen dead and 17 wounded in San Bernardino, according to the early reports. And that follows just five days after the attack on a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, Colo., in which three people died and nine were wounded. A month earlier, nine people were slain at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Ore. In August, eight people were shot dead in a house outside Houston. In June, nine people were gunned down at a prayer meeting in a Charleston, S.C., church. In May, nine people were killed in a shootout among police and bikers in Waco, Texas. And on it goes.

President Obama said after the Planned Parenthood attack that "this is not normal." But sadly it is becoming altogether too normal in the United States. On Wednesday the president added that the U.S. has a pattern of mass shootings "that has no parallel anywhere else in the world."

It will be days, most likely, before sufficient details and context are known to understand the atrocious act of violence that occurred Wednesday at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino. But it is not too soon to say that the common element in the vast majority of these mass killings -- and in the daily parade of violence across the country -- is the easy access to firearms. From 1998 to 2013, an average of 11,500 homicides each year were committed with guns in the U.S., according to data compiled by GunPolicy.org. For the last few years, there have been more guns than people in the United States, by several counts.

When these mass murders occur, the instinct is to take a deep dive into the details to learn as much as is possible about who did what and why. That's important to the investigation of the specific incident, obviously, but it misses the bigger picture, which is that such attacks have become so routine they have almost lost their ability to shock. Phrases such as "active shooter" and "shelter in place" are now part of our lexicon. The Department of Homeland Security has posted a webinar for schools and churches on how to respond to shooters.

Enough. This nation's infatuation with guns -- inflamed by the ludicrous stances of the NRA, and abetted by Congress' fear of that powerful but irresponsible group -- is suicidal. There are too many guns, too easily obtained. Often they are in the hands of those who should not have them at all, such as the mentally ill.

It's absurd that one of the richest, freest, and most advanced societies in world history endures such a scourge with such equanimity. But there is hope. A Gallup poll in October found that 55% of Americans support stronger gun control measures, and other surveys have found that even a majority of NRA members support mandatory background checks -- something the NRA itself has assiduously opposed. There is broad political support for stronger laws to address the nation's gun addiction, but gun control advocates have so far been unable to counter

the money and organizational heft of the NRA. It's obscene that a single interest group is able to endanger an entire nation's safety.

The Supreme Court lent credibility to the fully-armed-America crowd in its 2008 Heller decision, which held that the 2nd Amendment guarantees an individual's right to bear arms for "traditionally lawful purposes," such as self-protection in the home. It's a wrongheaded interpretation of wording that for decades was rightly understood to mean that organized military units, such as the National Guard, have a right to keep and bear arms.

We're stuck with the Heller ruling for now. But thankfully, the court also said the right to gun ownership was not absolute, and that the nation's history of gun ownership has also been one of gun regulation. So let's get at it. There is no need for civilians to own military-style weapons, or magazines that hold large numbers of cartridges that maximize carnage. There is no justification for selling or transferring a firearm to anyone who has not passed a stringent background check, whether it's a father turning over a gun to a daughter, or a gun shop selling to a stranger. We need to get rid of most concealed-carry laws and make sure there are no guns on school campuses. We need more trigger locks, locked cabinets and gun buybacks.

This crisis in American society must be combated through the ballot box, and through lobbying to loosen the iron grip the NRA holds on Congress and many state legislatures. That is where the pushback against this culture of death needs to occur. And it needs to occur now.

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; RAMPAGE KILLS 14; SHOOTERS ATTACK SAN BERNARDINO OFFICE; Two suspects killed after car chase; officer wounded; Holiday party suddenly turns into nightmare

Esquivel, Paloma; Sahagun, Louis; Serrano, Richard A . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Dec 2015: B.1.

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## ABSTRACT

Masked assailants armed with assault rifles opened fire on a holiday banquet for county employees in San Bernardino on Wednesday, killing 14 people and plunging a nation already on edge about terrorism and mass shootings into hours of tense uncertainty. Farook worked for the San Bernardino County Public Health Department as a health inspector, according to public records and co-workers.

## FULL TEXT

Masked assailants armed with assault rifles opened fire on a holiday banquet for county employees in San Bernardino on Wednesday, killing 14 people and plunging a nation already on edge about terrorism and mass shootings into hours of tense uncertainty.

The massacre at the Inland Regional Center set off a surreal day in which hundreds cowered in their offices, schools went on lockdown, SWAT teams swarmed neighborhoods and a four-hour manhunt played out on live TV. The finale was a gun battle on a residential street that left two suspects dead.

San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan said investigators had not determined a motive for the shooting, but an official at the FBI, which is working with local agencies, said he could not rule out terrorism as a motive.

"It is a possibility, but we don't know that yet, and we aren't willing to go down that road yet," said David Bowdich, assistant director in charge of the FBI's Los Angeles office.

Authorities identified the dead suspects as Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and Tashfeen Malik, 27. A family member said they had been married for two years and had a 6-month-old daughter.

Farook was a U.S. citizen, born in Illinois, and a five-year employee of the government agency holding the holiday banquet. His co-workers said Farook, a Muslim, had traveled in recent years to the Middle East.

Burguan said he could not rule out that a personal conflict led to the shooting. During the banquet, "there was some type of dispute," and Farook left the gathering angrily, the chief said, and he returned with his wife and they opened fire.

Law enforcement officials said they recovered four firearms, at least two of which were legally purchased.

Farook worked for the San Bernardino County Public Health Department as a health inspector, according to public records and co-workers. One co-worker, Patrick Baccari, told The Times that Farook was present when the banquet began but disappeared before a staff photo was taken.

"I guess he's missing the photo this year," Baccari recalled thinking.

By the time scores of officers arrived at the shooting scene, the assailants had fled. Witnesses said they left in a black SUV. Another tip led police to a home in nearby Redlands. As officers arrived about 3 p.m., a black SUV drove away.

Officers pursued the vehicle to San Bernardino, where it stopped on San Bernardino Avenue near Mountain View Street. A gun battle between the suspects and about 20 officers ended with the couple dead and an officer wounded. The officer's injuries were not considered life-threatening.

Farook and Malik were dressed in what the chief called "assault-style clothing," and both were armed with assault rifles and handguns.

Police saw a third person running from the area and detained him for questioning, Burguan said. He said it was unclear whether he was involved in the shooting.

Investigators said they were concerned about possible explosives or booby traps at the Redlands home and near the SUV. An object hurled from the vehicle was initially believed to have been a pipe bomb, but on closer inspection it was not, Burguan said.

The FBI's Bowdich said investigators searching the Redlands home were also on guard for explosives.

"We are certainly going to proceed very cautiously into that house to preserve life and limb of our employees."

The shooting Wednesday was a grim marker: It was the deadliest mass shooting since the massacre of 20 children and six teachers at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., in 2012. It stood apart from many other mass murders in that there were at least two assailants and one was female.

President Obama said the killings were yet more evidence of the need for stricter gun laws.

"The one thing we do know is that we have a pattern now of mass shootings in this country that has no parallel anywhere else in the world," he said in an interview with CBS.

Late Wednesday, Farhan Khan, introduced as Farook's brother-in-law, appeared at a news conference called by the L.A.-area office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

"I just cannot express how sad I am for what happened," Khan said. "My condolences to the people who lost their lives. ... I am in shock that something like this could happen."

When asked if his brother-in-law had been religious, he declined to comment.

The shooting began at about 11 a.m. in a building on the campus of the Inland Regional Center, a nonprofit that serves people with developmental disabilities in Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

The county public health department had rented a large conference room for its annual holiday potluck. Employees were gathered for lunch when suddenly the doors burst open.

Banquet attendee Denise Peraza, 27, said two people in black clothes and black masks entered brandishing "big ol' guns."

"Everyone dropped to the floor," Peraza said in a phone call from Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. "The guys opened fire for 30 seconds, randomly, then paused to reload and began firing again."

Peraza, who was hiding under a desk, was hit in the lower back. The gunfire eventually stopped. The conference room, scattered with the bodies of the dead and injured, was eerily silent, Peraza said. Then, after what seemed like five minutes, the doors opened again and police officers yelled out: "Anyone who can move, leave immediately and find cover behind vehicles."

Seventeen people were wounded and taken to area hospitals, authorities said. Some were reported to be undergoing surgery Wednesday night.

While stunned survivors rushed from the conference room, others in the building were laughing at what they

assumed was yet another safety drill. In her second-story office, Dorothy Vong trained her cellphone camera on a swarm of heavily armed police officers sprinting across parking lots and vaulting hedges.

"They're all geared up!" a colleague remarked, according to Vong's video. "Rifles and everything!"

Then the reality set in.

"Well it's real," Vong texted her husband, adding later, "We're in a locked office."

The shooting rippled across San Bernardino. All county schools, as well as city government buildings and courthouses, were locked down as police searched for the assailants.

Hundreds of people on the campus grounds at the time of the attack were evacuated in stages, some on school buses to sites where they were interviewed by police and reunited with anxious relatives.

As night fell, some family members were still waiting for news. Mindy Velasco called hospitals, police, evacuee centers, looking for anyone who might have information about her niece, Yvette Velasco, who was at the banquet.

No one knew anything.

"I'm fearing the worst," Velasco said, her voice breaking. "She would definitely be in contact after something like this."

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### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: EVACUATED WORKERS join in a circle to pray on the San Bernardino Golf Course across the street from where a shooting occurred at the Inland Regional Center.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: FARHAN KHAN, center, joins a Council on American-Islamic Relations news conference in Anaheim. He identified himself as Syed Farook's brother-in-law.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Luis Sinco Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES crouch behind a minivan on Richardson Street during a search for the assailants who had killed 14 people at the Inland Regional Center.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: WORKERS WAIT to be evacuated by bus as law enforcement officers search to secure the building.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Rick Loomis Los Angeles Times; GRAPHIC: MAP: San Bernardino; CREDIT:Paul Duginski Los Angeles Times

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Cellphones cut through the chaos

Parvini, Sarah; Linthicum, Kate; Esquivel, Paloma; Mather, Kate . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Dec 2015: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Campos waited Wednesday at a Shell gas station not far from the regional center, looking for her daughter among dozens of evacuees who were bused to another location to be interviewed by law enforcement officers. Kat Kit had been waiting for her daughter to come out of routine surgery at the hospital when helicopters started unloading shooting victims and emergency workers set up triage stations.

## FULL TEXT

"Drill started," Dorothy Vong texted her husband, Mark.

It was about 11 a.m. Wednesday.

The Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, where Dorothy is a nurse, conducts active-shooter drills every month or so.

Vong assumed that's why she could see heavily armed law enforcement officers sprinting toward the building.

She walked to a window and made a cellphone video of the scene. She sent it to her husband.

On the video, a voice can be heard saying: "They're all geared up! Rifles and everything!"

In the background, there is laughter.

Then reality intruded.

Vong texted her husband again: "Well, it's real."

And a few minutes later: "We're in a locked office."

Vong emerged unharmed. Others were not so fortunate.

Fourteen people were killed and 17 wounded when gunmen opened fire on a holiday gathering inside the regional center. For parents, spouses and friends of those inside the building, cellphones were the primary source of information. Through that fragile connection, they consoled, counseled, prayed and hoped.

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Active shooter.

Mary Campos, 54, received the text at 11:34 a.m.

It was from her daughter, Monica Siegers, 34, reporting that she and her co-workers were hiding under their desks, crying.

Campos turned on the TV and heard the news: There had been a mass shooting at the building where Siegers has worked for two years as a case manager for adults with disabilities.

"Oh, my God," Campos thought. "It's happening everywhere."

She dressed and drove to the scene. The next text from her daughter reported that SWAT officers were escorting survivors to buses. But her daughter didn't know where they were being taken, and her cellphone was running out of power.

Campos waited Wednesday at a Shell gas station not far from the regional center, looking for her daughter among dozens of evacuees who were bused to another location to be interviewed by law enforcement officers.

"I just need to see her," Campos said.

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Angela Stutte stood on the corner of Waterman Avenue and Orange Show Road, near the center, clutching her phone. Her 21-year-old daughter, Miranda Stutte, had also been inside.

The younger Stutte, a vector control officer for San Bernardino County, was in a meeting when she heard shots, Angela Stutte said. The daughter locked herself in a bathroom. She emerged unharmed but told her mother that a few friends had been injured.

"I'm relieved," her mother said. "Now we are just waiting. She has never had an experience like this."

As she spoke, other women feverishly checked their phones. Their loved ones had been in the building too, they said, fighting tears.

Angela Stutte's phone rang.

"Honey?" she said, speaking to her husband. "I'm going to wait for Miranda, OK?"

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Olivia Navarro's daughter Jamile called her just after 11 a.m. and told her she was hiding in a room at the center, where she works as a case manager for special-needs children.

There were multiple shooters in the building, the daughter said.

Navarro told her to turn off all the lights.

Jamile followed the advice. She told everyone in the room to stay quiet too. Her phone died soon after.

Her mother grew frantic, wondering if her daughter was among the dead.

Police later told Olivia Navarro that her daughter had been evacuated safely. The mother cried as she recalled this and said she didn't understand why someone would open fire in a place that helps children with disabilities.

"I don't understand it," Olivia Navarro said as she stood down the street from the scene of the shooting.

Navarro said all she wanted was to see her daughter.

"I want to hold her and thank God that she's alive," she said.

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Nerves were frayed in the waiting room at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

Kat Kit had been waiting for her daughter to come out of routine surgery at the hospital when helicopters started unloading shooting victims and emergency workers set up triage stations.

"I'm afraid, I'm scared and I'm sad," said Kit, who lives in Fontana.

"They haven't caught them yet," said Linda Frankenbergen, who was waiting for her husband to come out of previously scheduled surgery. "And that's scary," Kit said, "because they could come in here."

With many streets closed and schools locked down as the manhunt unfolded, residents across the Inland Empire stayed glued to news updates and exchanged urgent calls with friends and family.

Kathy Hotetz, 37, waited anxiously outside Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton. She said her sister, Denise Peraza, 27, had been inside the regional center and was being treated for a gunshot wound.

"She's alive. That's all I know," Hotetz said. "Not knowing any more than that is the scariest part."

Among a dozen people holding hands in a prayer circle outside the hospital was Carlos Ortiz, 54, whose son Kevin Ortiz, a county environmental inspector, was shot twice in the leg and once in the shoulder.

Amid the chaos, the 24-year-old managed to call his wife of two weeks and father to tell them he was alive.

"Kevin said he had been shot three times and that he was in pain, but he was all right," Dyana Ortiz, 23, recalled. "Then he said 'I love you,' and I said 'I love you.' "

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Gabriel Torres was reunited with his wife, Katrina, at the Rock Church and World Outreach Center in San Bernardino, near the shooting scene. Katrina Torres, a social worker, was among evacuees who had been bused to the church.

Gabriel Torres said his wife had called him about 11:30 a.m. Wednesday morning to tell him she could hear gunfire. She hid in a filing room. They stayed on the phone for 30 minutes. She spoke in whispers. He tried to console her.

"She said she didn't know if she would make it," Torres recalled. "I was terrified."

About 20 evacuees were gathered in the church driveway. As they waited to be reunited with loved ones, a handful of buses guided by a police escort pulled up.

A man bolted down the driveway, as fast as his legs would carry him.

As his mother walked toward him, he flew into her arms.

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Times staff writer Doug Smith contributed to this report.

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; In Congress, sympathy, bitterness and caution; California Democrats are frustrated by lack of action to prevent a too-familiar tragedy.

Wire, Sarah . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Dec 2015: B.2.

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## ABSTRACT

Rep. Norma Torres (D-Pomona), who once represented the San Bernardino area in the state Senate, learned about the shooting when her son called as she left the House floor. Democratic Caucus Chairman Xavier Becerra of Los Angeles said the House had held so many moments of silence for the victims of mass shootings -- most recently on Tuesday for three people killed at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, Colo. -- that the moments had become bitter because they weren't followed by action.

## FULL TEXT

Rep. Pete Aguilar was leaving the House floor after the first votes of the day when his staff broke the news: There was an active shooter in his district. He never made it back for the next series of votes.

"My heart aches that the out-of-control gun violence epidemic has come to our community," the Redlands Democrat tweeted at 2:45 p.m. Wednesday before boarding a plane home to California.

By the time he landed, officials said at least 14 were dead and 17 more were wounded in the shooting at the San Bernardino Inland Regional Center. Two suspects were dead.

At the Capitol, Democratic members of California's delegation vacillated between anger and frustration that Congress hadn't implemented background checks and other protocols to reduce shootings. Some Republicans pointed to legislation to make it harder for people with mental illnesses to get guns, or said the government wasn't doing enough to enforce current laws.

Rep. Norma Torres (D-Pomona), who once represented the San Bernardino area in the state Senate, learned about the shooting when her son called as she left the House floor.

"That was hard – very, very hard," she said, adding that she was "just imagining the worst."

Torres spent much of Wednesday calling people in the district. One call was to connect an intern with her parents in Fontana.

"I told Assembly member Cheryl Brown, 'I wish I could just reach over and hug you and know that you are OK,'" Torres said. "That's what is so hard, being so far away from home."

Her district office in Ontario stayed open with heightened security throughout the day Wednesday so someone could answer worried constituents' phone calls. She planned to fly home Thursday.

Rep. Lois Capps (D-Santa Barbara) said the news took her back to the May 2014 shooting in Isla Vista in her district. "When it happens in your own community, you really are changed. It rocks you to the core.... it forever changes a community," she said.

She said fellow members of Congress would embrace Aguilar and the community in the coming days. Dozens of lawmakers have found their districts the scenes of mass shootings.

"We become a family when this happens. Unfortunately there is a history here; it doesn't affect just one member," Capps said. "There's a lot of sympathy and reaching out now, but that needs to be sustained."

Some in Congress had bleary eyes and were visibly emotional.

Democratic Caucus Chairman Xavier Becerra of Los Angeles said the House had held so many moments of silence for the victims of mass shootings – most recently on Tuesday for three people killed at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, Colo. – that the moments had become bitter because they weren't followed by action.

"We'll do a moment of silence next week when Congressman Aguilar comes back from his district, but that's about it," Becerra said. "There's this emptiness to it. It's got this hollow sense."

Rep. Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena), head of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, said Congress was too often "silent": "Congress has been derelict in its duty. It's shameful and it's cowardice."

Several Republicans said too little was known to offer comment.

"No reason to jump to any conclusions yet. We need to figure out what's going on," said Rep. Devin Nunes of Tulare. "Let's just wait and let law enforcement figure it out."

Rep. Ed Royce (R-Fullerton) put his focus on mental illness, though little was known about the shooters.

Other Republicans questioned the need for more gun control, even as Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) accused Congress of "a debilitating fear of upsetting the gun lobby."

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: AS PEOPLE evacuated, Rep. Pete Aguilar of Redlands was already rushing to board a jet back to his district.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Rick Loomis Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Shootings; Mental disorders; Mass murders; Bills
<b>Location:</b>	California
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	CALIFORNIA CONGRESS (U.S.) POLITICS SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS GUN CONTROL
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Co-workers express shock over suspect

Dolan, Jack; Ceasar, Stephen; Pringle, Paul . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Dec 2015: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The couple had a baby and appeared to be "living the American dream," said Patrick Baccari, a fellow health inspector who shared a cubicle with Farook.

## FULL TEXT

As the holiday gathering got underway Wednesday morning, Syed Rizwan Farook joined dozens of his colleagues

from San Bernardino County's public health department. Farook, an inspector, seemed quiet during the early hours of the event, then vanished just as a group photo was about to be taken.

Shortly afterward, gunfire erupted at the Inland Regional Center where the employees filled a conference room. By the end of the day, police had identified Farook, 28, as a suspect in the massacre and said he was one of two people shot to death in a gun battle with officers. The other was 27-year-old Tafsheen Malik, who a family member said was Farook's wife.

Police officials said Farook had worked for the county for five years. San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan said that there were reports of a dispute before Farook left the party.

Co-workers told The Times they were shocked to hear Farook's name linked to the shooting. Two who were in the restroom when the bullets began to fly said he was quiet and polite, with no obvious grudges.

They said Farook recently traveled to Saudi Arabia and returned with a new wife he had met online. The couple had a baby and appeared to be "living the American dream," said Patrick Baccari, a fellow health inspector who shared a cubicle with Farook.

Baccari and Christian Nwadike said Farook, who worked with them for several years, rarely started a conversation. But the tall, thin young man with a full beard was well liked and spent much of his time out in the field.

They and other colleagues said Farook was a devout Muslim, but rarely discussed religion at work.

"He never struck me as a fanatic, he never struck me as suspicious," said Griselda Reisinger, who worked with Farook before leaving the agency in May.

Reisinger said she heard that the office recently threw a baby shower for Farook and that he had taken paternity leave.

Later Wednesday night, Farhan Khan, a brother-in-law of Farook, said he knew the suspect for much of his life and last saw him a week ago.

"I cannot express how sad I am," he said at an Islamic Center in Anaheim. "I have no idea why he would do that.... I am in shock that something like this would happen.... My condolences to the people who lost their life."

Baccari said he was about to dry his hands in the restroom when bullets ripped into the towel dispenser, sending shrapnel into his face and blood spilling into his eyes. The rounds pocked the walls as he dived for cover onto the floor. He and another man pushed the door closed with their legs and waited for police.

Later, Baccari remembered his co-worker disappearing before the photo session.

"Where's Syed?" he recalled someone asking.

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Times staff writers Rong-Gong Lin II and Laura Nelson contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: POLICE TAKE position during a standoff outside a house in San Bernardino after the mass shooting.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Maternity &paternity leaves
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; New shock for a city in recovery; As San Bernardino tries to emerge from bankruptcy, residents fear the shootings may further sully its image.

Mozingo, Joe; Jamison, Peter . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Dec 2015: B.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

[...]even here -- in a place battered by drug addiction and decades of economic decline, culminating in the city's bankruptcy three years ago -- the kind of crime that sent an army of law enforcement officers into the streets Wednesday still has the power to spread fear and grief.

## FULL TEXT

The whine of police sirens is familiar on the streets of San Bernardino.

But even here -- in a place battered by drug addiction and decades of economic decline, culminating in the city's bankruptcy three years ago -- the kind of crime that sent an army of law enforcement officers into the streets Wednesday still has the power to spread fear and grief.

The shooting rampage that left 14 dead and at least 17 wounded at a social-services center would be a tragedy for any city. But it has special overtones in San Bernardino, which is among the nation's poorest big cities and has arguably become California's starkest example of urban blight.

In the hours after the shooting, as schools and government buildings were locked down and armored police vehicles rolled through downtown, some San Bernardino residents were already expressing anger, sorrow and resignation at the knowledge that their city, for years synonymous with civic dysfunction, could now be known nationally for something worse.

"It's shocking, because nothing like this ever happened in San Bernardino," said Rosalinda Rosales, 28, whose 10-

year-old daughter was sequestered Wednesday afternoon at Juanita Blakely Jones Elementary School. "I've heard a lot of shootings. But a shooting like this?"

Patrick Morris, the city's mayor from 2006 to 2014, said he worried the shooting would "unfairly tarnish" the city's image as it slowly climbs out of bankruptcy.

"It deeply, deeply troubles me that this happened in our city -- in any city," he said. "But it's a real double-whammy for this to happen during our recovery."

This city of 214,000 has long suffered from the steady grind of crime that often accompanies poverty, drug use and slashed city services. Methamphetamine use is widespread. The county assessor himself was arrested for possessing the drug in a 2009 raid.

Gang violence is common here and a biker shootout earlier this year drew national attention. But violence on this scale was unheard of.

The number killed Wednesday at the Inland Regional Center is roughly a third of the 43 murders committed in the city last year.

The center sits in a commercial zone that has attracted some of San Bernardino's newer and more upscale development.

Michael Segura, 23, an artist and community activist, said it would be unfortunate if San Bernardino, for all its real problems, was identified with the shocking gun violence that has erupted in recent years from Connecticut to Colorado.

"These mass shootings are happening everywhere. It's a soullessness in the culture. We're losing our humanity," Segura said. "It just sucks this happened to happen in San Bernardino. It just puts more negative light on the city."

Much about the shooting was still unclear Wednesday night. Following a dramatic, televised car chase, police fatally shot a man and woman they said were connected to the shooting, but disclosed no information about their potential motives. Authorities later identified the two slain suspects as Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik.

Meanwhile, San Bernardino appeared emptier and more desolate than usual, as public facilities were locked down and authorities advised residents to stay indoors.

Rosales and her mother, Theresa Crowell, found the downtown bank they had planned to visit closed and instead opted for a meatloaf dinner at Molly's Cafe, a restaurant that sits alongside stores advertising loans, jewelry and check-cashing.

"It's like a ghost town right now," said Crowell, 58.

Some, like Diane Hayes, 57, decided the safest place was home. She bought her clapboard house with periwinkle trim on 9th Street 14 years ago. After years of dragging their feet, she said, city officials tore down a crumbling building next door -- only to look the other way as the now-vacant lot became a popular trash-dumping ground. Hayes, unlike some, said she didn't think the mass shooting's setting in San Bernardino was entirely coincidental.

"In this city, nothing surprises me anymore," she said. "People know it's a city in crisis. They're going to do what they want to do, because we've had to cut back on police and fire and code enforcement."

On Wednesday afternoon, Hayes sat inside her house with her granddaughter, Esmeralda, whom she had picked up from her locked-down middle school. The metal security door was closed and locked.

With the police busy chasing the shooters, Hayes said, there was no telling what could happen elsewhere in San Bernardino.

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## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Violence, then resignation; Frequency of mass shootings is boosting the public's sensitivity -- and acceptance.

Curwen, Thomas; Garrett Therolf . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Dec 2015: B.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The victims are mind-numbing in their innocence -- community college students in Roseburg, Ore.; parishioners in Charleston, S.C.; soldiers at a recruiting center in Chattanooga, Tenn.; the children at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut.

## FULL TEXT

Attackers with long guns and body armor storm a holiday party at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, and what follows is a routine that has become so commonplace as to be predictable.

Word of the shootings spreads quickly over Twitter and other social media. Hashtags: activeshooter, sanbernardino and 2ndamendment.

People around the world respond by switching on television sets to see live overhead pictures of mayhem and tragedy, scenes that are being repeated at an alarming rate in the United States: Emergency vehicles parked askew, lights flashing. Bloodied victims on streets and stretchers. EMTs scurrying. Police officers with revolvers in hand and SWAT teams arriving in armored vehicles.

Loved ones collapsing in grief.

Elected leaders respond to the attacks with well-practiced language.

Conservatives offer condolences and praise for law enforcement, and liberals add calls for gun control.

"Praying for the victims, their families & the San Bernardino first responders in the wake of this tragic shooting," tweets Jeb Bush.

"Good luck to law enforcement and God bless," writes Donald Trump. "This is when our police are so appreciated!"

Hillary Clinton: "I refuse to accept this as normal. We must take action to stop gun violence now."

Bernie Sanders: "Mass shootings are becoming an almost-everyday occurrence in this country. This sickening and senseless gun violence must stop."

The victims are mind-numbing in their innocence -- community college students in Roseburg, Ore.; parishioners in Charleston, S.C.; soldiers at a recruiting center in Chattanooga, Tenn.; the children at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut.

Yet their deaths have become routine, so much so that our language has changed.

On social media, the talk is of "active shooters" and "AK-47s" and "body armor," all terms rarely heard outside of military and police circles a generation ago but common in an age when everyone can be a reporter or commentator.

J. Reid Meloy, a forensic psychologist in San Diego who consults on threat assessment for schools and corporations, said that the repetitive nature of the shootings paradoxically caused people to become both sensitive to them and inured to them.

"When you have an event that is happening frequently, people will resign themselves to the recurrence of the event," Meloy said.

The result is hypersensitivity to personal safety and an acceptance when it happens to others.

A study by the Harvard School of Public Health and Northeastern University documents a threefold rise in mass shootings in the United States since 2011, leaving some experts to wonder whether the attention paid to each incident only encouraged copycats.

"One of the reasons I would cite for why we are seeing more now: We have the impact of social media and the mass publicity," said Jeffrey Simon, a visiting lecturer at UCLA and author of "Lone Wolf Terrorism: Understanding the Growing Threat." "That encourages people who want to go out in a blaze of glory."

Ron Astor, a USC professor who has studied violence for more than 30 years, sees a nation that is failing its victims -- those dead and those who will die in the future.

"Mass shootings are blended together into mass murder, and what is missing is a moral response," Astor said.

Killing is understood as a method for spreading a particular message, and the message is only reinforced by the attention that it receives.

Breaking this cycle requires a broader understanding of its causes and a new way to frame the discussion, Astor said.

"The killing of innocent people is treated as a tragedy, but until we focus on the victims themselves, we will not summon up the moral outrage that we need to condemn this violence," he said.

"It's not the language that we use but the language that we don't use," Astor said. "It is not enough to say these actions are crazy. What needs to be addressed is the sanctity of human life."

As he and others observed, the underlying message of the violence Wednesday is clear: Mass shootings have created a disquiet that is all too familiar -- and all too easily dismissed.

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: A WOUNDED VICTIM is taken into Loma Linda University Medical Center. Some experts wonder whether attention paid to mass shootings encourages copycats.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Barbara Davidson Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: MASS SHOOTINGS in the U.S. have risen threefold since 2011, a study found. A vehicle is surrounded after the San Bernardino rampage.; PHOTOGRAPHER:KTLA

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Social networks; Armor; Bill of Rights-US; Firearm laws & regulations; Law enforcement; Murders & murder attempts; Violence; Mass murders
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<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS VIOLENCE
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# CALIFORNIA; Exemptions added to L.A. ammunition law; City Council votes to let retired and reserve officers use magazines of over 10 rounds. But it's not a final action.

Emily Alpert Reyes . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Dec 2015: B.5.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The debate pitted the Los Angeles Police Department and the police union, a politically muscular group that has been an important player in local elections, against some of the gun-control activists who had championed the L.A. ban on such ammunition magazines as a way to force attackers to interrupt their rampages sooner to reload.

## FULL TEXT

In a hotly contested move, Los Angeles lawmakers decided Wednesday to carve out more exemptions to a city law meant to curb the carnage of mass shootings, arguing that it would better protect the public from such attacks.

The Los Angeles City Council voted 11 to 4 to allow some retired and reserve police officers to possess firearm magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition. The City Hall deliberations played out at the same time that reports emerged of a mass shooting in San Bernardino – news that Councilman Mitch Englander shared just before the vote.

The debate pitted the Los Angeles Police Department and the police union, a politically muscular group that has been an important player in local elections, against some of the gun-control activists who had championed the L.A. ban on such ammunition magazines as a way to force attackers to interrupt their rampages sooner to reload.

Police argued that exempting retired and reserve officers from the citywide ban, which was passed earlier this year, would ensure they were equipped to face threats to public safety. In the throes of an attack, "wouldn't you want some guy to stand up with a gun and be able to defend people?" asked Peter Repovich, director of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.

Gun-control supporters countered that carving out exemptions to the rules would only weaken the ordinance. "We don't have any data that says that providing high-capacity ammunition magazines to retired officers actually increases public safety," said Daniel Healy, associate director of the Violence Prevention Coalition of Greater Los Angeles.

It also stirred concerns for City Atty. Mike Feuer, who privately warned lawmakers earlier this year that the carve-out could create a legal risk for the city. Los Angeles already is being sued over the city ordinance by gun-rights groups and other critics who argue it is preempted by California law and adds to a confusing patchwork of local rules that gun owners must navigate when they travel.

The L.A. law, passed earlier this year, already exempted police and military on active duty, licensed firearms dealers and several other categories of gun owners.

Under the new exemptions, the rules also would be lifted for retired law enforcement officers who have permits to carry concealed weapons, as well as reserve officers who work for agencies that already authorize them to possess such gun magazines.

At a Wednesday hearing, LAPD Deputy Chief of Detectives Kirk Albanese said the department was "absolutely" in favor of exempting retired and reserve officers from the rules so that trained veterans of the police force could save lives.

City Councilman Mitch Englander, who is an LAPD reserve officer, recounted incidents in which retired officers stopped robberies or other attacks and emphasized that the exemptions would apply only to officers who were deemed "qualified" under state or federal laws. And Councilman Mitch O'Farrell said it made no sense to bar police from using such ammunition magazines once they retired.

"I am of the firm belief that once a cop, always a cop," O'Farrell said.

Their arguments failed to sway Council Members Mike Bonin, Paul Koretz, Nury Martinez and David Ryu, who opposed the proposed exemptions. If the goal is to help retired officers fend off attacks on the public, "I'm not sure there are many cases that you could point to where you absolutely needed to spray 20 or 30 bullets" to stop a threat, Councilman Koretz said before voting against exemptions.

"The danger is that retired police officers are not necessarily magically any different than anybody else" and could suffer depression or other problems after retiring, Koretz added.

Feuer, the city attorney, also warned lawmakers against the idea: In a confidential report to the council obtained by The Times earlier this year, he said exempting retired officers would pose "significant legal risk" because it would be hard to show that it was "rationally related to a legitimate state interest."

Englander bristled at that argument, contending other attorneys had told him it was "absolutely false" that exempting retired officers would pose such a legal problem. City lawyers said Wednesday that Feuer stood by his advice.

Chief Assistant City Atty. David Michaelson added that if the exemptions were found unconstitutional, the city law included a provision that could allow the exemptions to be removed without jeopardizing the entire ordinance. But he cautioned that the city would have to persuade a judge to do so and could still face legal costs for damages.

Because the exemptions were not unanimously approved Wednesday, they must undergo a second reading at City Hall before getting final approval. Mayor Eric Garcetti is expected to sign off on the exemptions, his spokeswoman, Connie Llanos, said.

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: ACTIVISTS gather at City Hall on July 28 before the council voted to ban large-capacity firearm magazines.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Mark Boster Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Local elections; City ordinances; Ammunition; Firearms; State laws; Public safety; Mass murders
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<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Police Department-Los Angeles CA; NAICS: 922120
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## LINKS

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# Senate OKs bill to end health law; The legislation, sure to be vetoed, is a first for the chamber.

Mascaro, Lisa . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: A.7.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

[...]the bill would halt Obamacare's expansion of Medicaid for the poor, which has been embraced by 31 states, including some led by Republican governors.

## FULL TEXT

This time, the vote in Congress to send a bill repealing the Affordable Care Act to President Obama's desk was supposed to be easy.

After trying – and failing – dozens of times to stop Obamacare since it became law five years ago, Congress, now with a Republican majority, envisioned a pathway to victory in 2015 because the party controlled not only the House, but also the Senate.

Republicans understand that Obama will veto any measure to undo his signature domestic policy accomplishment. But that doesn't matter. As the party in charge, Republicans believe they owe it to the constituents who put them in office to force the issue.

But yanking about 17 million Americans off health insurance may be easier as a campaign slogan than a policy initiative, and Thursday's long-awaited vote to pass a repeal bill in the Senate – a first – proved difficult until the final gavel.

Even the mass shooting in San Bernardino briefly threatened to derail the Obamacare debate as Democrats took over the floor Thursday to push several gun control amendments.

Senate Republicans blocked the Democratic gun-related amendments and narrowly approved the measure to repeal Obamacare by a vote of 52 to 47. The measure has one more stop at the House before being sent to Obama's desk.

"President Obama will have a choice: He can defend a status quo that's failed the middle class by vetoing the bill, or he can work toward a new beginning and better care by signing it," said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.).

The difficulty in passing the repeal bill was a familiar story of GOP discord. Party leaders had to gut a House-passed repeal bill and cobble together a replacement that would appease the right flank – namely presidential candidates Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), who panned earlier attempts as too weak but voted Thursday in favor of the bill.

At the same time, McConnell had to be careful not to lose the support of more moderate-minded members, particularly key senators up for reelection in 2016.

Republicans included a provision to defund Planned Parenthood – which they hope will also cool enthusiasm among some conservatives to include the abortion-related measure in the upcoming spending fight. But the inclusion of the Planned Parenthood provision caused discomfort among swing state senators who would prefer to focus attention on Obama's Affordable Care Act.

That provision led Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine) to vote against the bill.

The Senate passed the measure thanks to the special budget reconciliation procedure that allows the party in power to pass the bill with a simple 51-vote majority in the Senate, rather than the usual 60 votes needed to avoid a filibuster. But due to the GOP internal divisions, even reaching 51 proved to be a challenge for Senate Republicans, who hold 54 seats.

The Senate bill wouldn't fully repeal Obamacare, but it would end some of the law's key provisions. It would remove the mandate to buy health insurance imposed on individuals and on larger employers by reducing the fines for noncompliance to zero.

The bill also would do away with a long list of taxes imposed on wealthy individuals, pricey "Cadillac" insurance plans and health-related industries that help pay to cover the uninsured.

But perhaps most important for conservatives -- and most dicey for lawmakers -- the bill seeks to end the two avenues that have allowed millions of Americans to gain insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

First, it would do away with the subsidies provided to about 6 million low- and moderate-income Americans to buy their own insurance when they cannot get covered through their employers.

Secondly, the bill would halt Obamacare's expansion of Medicaid for the poor, which has been embraced by 31 states, including some led by Republican governors.

Ending the federal money for subsidies and Medicaid was not part of the House bill.

Realizing the political difficulty of abruptly pulling millions of low-income Americans from their new healthcare coverage, the Senate bill would delay the Medicaid cuts and the termination of subsidies for two years. But it still made for difficult votes for several GOP senators.

Republicans have long vowed to provide an alternative healthcare plan.

"There will be a transition period for the phase-out, and it would give the states an opportunity -- with federal assistance -- to address that issue in their own way," said Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.).

More than 60 votes have been held in the House to repeal or curtail the Affordable Care Act since Republicans took control in 2011. Thursday's vote in the Senate was that chamber's 16th.

Because the Senate had never before passed a repeal bill, none of those efforts made it to Obama's desk, depriving the GOP of the political bounce they expect by pushing the president into a veto. Democrats say Republicans are pandering to conservatives who want to see the party confront Obama.

"They want to do this to satisfy a few radical right-wing people," said Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.), the minority leader.

"Everyone knows this bill can't become law," he said, calling the proceedings a "total waste of time."

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Bills; Health insurance; Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act 2010-US; Subsidies; Firearm laws & regulations; Medicaid
<b>People:</b>	Obama, Barack
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940; Name: Planned Parenthood; NAICS: 813319, 621410
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	UNITED STATES LEGISLATION HEALTH CARE REFORM
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<b>Section:</b>	Main News; Part A; National Desk
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; In the darkest hours, TV news still shines

Battaglio, Stephen . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Fox News anchor Shepard Smith agreed that the stream of information online only makes it more of an imperative for TV – which still has the largest news audiences – to ensure a trusting bond with viewers.

## FULL TEXT

The San Bernardino shooting rampage showed that television news is still vital in the social media age.

Fox News, CNN and MSNBC saw their audience levels surge Wednesday as viewers watched the real-time drama that included a police search and a climactic shootout.

ABC, CBS and NBC devoted hours of airtime to continuous coverage led by their signature anchors, some of whom got on planes later that night to report on the investigation at the scene Thursday.

"Breaking news will always require wall-to-wall coverage, and television is the place for it," said Judy Muller, a USC journalism professor and former correspondent for ABC News. "It's a visual story. It's unfolding in front of you. How is that different from 'CSI'? We're so accustomed to watching crime unfold and be wrapped up on television. As horrifying as it is and as appalled as we are, you can't not watch."

But TV news professionals believe that breaking stories with life-and-death outcomes also heighten the value of their medium, which has seen its market share diminish against new competitors and technologies. Even younger viewers who grow up without the TV news habit turn to established networks and personalities in times of crisis.

"Everybody is a reporter now because they can tweet," CNN President Jeff Zucker said. "Everybody is a reporter now because they have a blog. Whatever it is, social media has changed everything. We're very conscious at CNN that you're going to find out about what's going on Twitter or Facebook or whatever social media that you frequent. But we know that you're going to come to CNN to see if it's true. And that's really the role we think we play now."

Fox News anchor Shepard Smith agreed that the stream of information online only makes it more of an imperative for TV – which still has the largest news audiences – to ensure a trusting bond with viewers.

"It's not ever a time to try to win," Smith said. "It's not a time to get scoops. It's a time to let the facts unravel without getting people alarmed. I've always felt if we keep it calm and always tell people what we don't know as well as the things that we do, our relationship will be maintained."

The broadcast network news divisions were able to rely on their locally owned stations in the Los Angeles market for their San Bernardino coverage, and Muller believed they did well. "The networks can go to them because who knows the territory better?" she said.

But as the casualties escalated and the investigation into the backgrounds of the shooters, who killed 14 people and injured 21, intensified, the broadcast networks needed to make the call on whether to send anchors to the scene.

Although viewer interest in a major breaking story can be a high-profile platform for TV news talent, "there is no one-size-fits-all approach" on the decision to dispatch a big name, CBS News executive editor Steve Capus said.

CBS turned to "CBS This Morning" co-anchor Norah O'Donnell, who was at the White House, to interview President Obama when news of the shootings spread. After she delivered her exclusive report on the president's first comments from the White House lawn, O'Donnell and "This Morning" executive producer Chris Licht flew to Southern California, where she co-anchored the program the next morning.

"There was a moment where we looked at each other and said let's go," Licht said. "By adding your anchor there, it signifies it's a big story, but there are a lot of big stories where you don't send your anchor there. We always ask, 'Is this going to be value added?' It's a case-by-case valuation."

Licht's competitors came to the same conclusion. In addition to O'Donnell, anchors Matt Lauer of NBC's "Today" and Amy Robach of ABC's "Good Morning America" were set up in the cold, predawn hours in San Bernardino to report for their programs' East Coast feeds. All three were once simultaneously employed by NBC News, but no one was in the mood for a reunion.

"You just put your head down and do your thing," Licht said. "It's such a horrible story and nobody wants to be there."

But being there does help the networks as law enforcement officials will spend more time talking to a news personality they recognize and trust.

"They are less likely to brush you off," Licht said. "That's the best way to put it."

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Television news; Social networks; Television networks; Television programs
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: CNN; NAICS: 515210; Name: Fox News Channel; NAICS: 515120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS TELEVISION NEWS
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS

Publication info: Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.6.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## FULL TEXT

Caption text only.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: FABIO AHUMADA, an emergency medical technician, and his colleagues join a sea of mourners at a vigil at San Manuel Stadium in San Bernardino on Thursday night for the 14 people killed and 21 injured in Wednesday's rampage.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Barbara Davidson Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: SISTERS Michelle, left, and Melissa Zamora comfort each other at the candlelight vigil at San Manuel Stadium.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Barbara Davidson Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: A MOURNER prays at the vigil at San Manuel Stadium, where the names of the victims were read aloud.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# Obama looks to use executive power to close gun loophole; Effort comes as bills to tighten background checks are blocked.

Parsons, Christi; Memoli, Michael A . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Almost three years ago, after the killing of 20 children and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., President Obama asked Congress to change the law to require background checks for weapons sold outside the network of licensed gun dealers, including sales at gun shows or through the Internet.

## FULL TEXT

White House officials are seeking a way to use executive authority to close the so-called gun show loophole that allows thousands of people to buy firearms each year without a background check, but complicated legal issues have slowed the process.

Almost three years ago, after the killing of 20 children and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., President Obama asked Congress to change the law to require background checks for weapons sold outside the network of licensed gun dealers, including sales at gun shows or through the Internet. A bill to tighten the background system died in the Senate a few months later -- dashing the administration's hopes for legislative action.

The deadlock in the Senate continued Thursday as Republicans blocked several efforts by Democrats to add gun control provisions to a budget measure.

In one of a series of near-party-line procedural votes, the Senate by 54 to 45 blocked a proposal by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) that would have stopped people on the government's anti-terrorist "no fly" list from buying guns. Republican opponents said that the no-fly list includes too many errors to be used for preventing gun sales.

By a 50 to 48 vote the chamber also blocked a measure by Sens. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.) and Patrick J. Toomey (R-Pa.) to tighten the background-check system.

All Republicans voted to block the Feinstein measure except Sen. Mark Steven Kirk of Illinois, who faces a difficult reelection campaign next year in a heavily Democratic state. On the background-check measure, Kirk, Toomey and fellow Republican Sens. John McCain of Arizona and Susan Collins of Maine voted with the Democrats.

On both measures, all Democrats were in favor except Sen. Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota, who voted no, and Sen. Mark R. Warner of Virginia, who did not vote. A spokesman for Warner said he was unable to vote because of a prior commitment but would have supported both measures.

This fall, after a shooter at a community college in Oregon killed nine people and then shot himself, Obama directed his aides to step up efforts to get around that congressional stalemate by using his executive powers.

Since then, White House officials have been trying to draft an executive order that would reinterpret existing law to require all or most gun sales to go through the background check system.

But despite Obama's visible frustration with the lack of action, a solution has proved complicated. Many had expected the White House to announce plans for an executive order by Dec. 14, the anniversary of the Sandy Hook shooting. That now seems less likely.

Requiring background checks for all weapons sales might not have had any effect on Wednesday's shootings in San Bernardino in which at least 14 people were killed. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has determined that Syed Rizwan Farook, one of the two shooters, legally purchased two of the weapons at a gun shop in Corona. Two others were legally purchased and given to him by a friend, federal officials said Thursday.

In most other mass shootings in recent years, the perpetrators also purchased their weapons legally through licensed firearms dealers.

Federal law requires those dealers to get federal licenses and conduct background checks on their customers. But the law offers an exemption to hobbyists, collectors and others who make "occasional sales" and are not considered to be "engaged in the business" of gun dealing.

How often such private sales take place remains unclear. One oft-cited figure suggests 40% of guns that change hands in the U.S. each year are transferred without background checks. Some of those transfers, however, are not sales, and the figure comes from a survey that is two decades old.

That lack of statistical evidence troubles those who worry about government interference with the 2nd Amendment right to bear arms.

But White House officials and their allies continue to see expanding background checks as the most promising way to prevent at least some gun deaths. While perpetrators of mass shootings have typically passed background checks, a large percentage of shooters who kill people in street violence in U.S. cities buy guns through a black market that is fueled by private sales, they say.

One option for Obama is to set a threshold for the number of guns a person would be allowed to sell without obtaining a license. Anyone selling more would automatically be deemed to be "in the business" of dealing guns and would be required to have a license and conduct background checks.

Another option would be to describe the type of sales activity that would require a seller to get a license, based on its business methods, such as record keeping, advertising and payment to employees.

"The law is very clear that those engaged in the business of dealing in guns must become licensed, but the exemption for occasional sales is confusing," said Chelsea Parsons, vice president of guns and crime policy at the Center for American Progress, which has close ties to the administration. Current regulations do not "provide sufficient guidance to individuals seeking to sell guns in compliance with the law or to law enforcement attempting to identify those who are brazenly violating it," she said.

Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton released a gun control plan in October in which she pledged to take executive action if Congress "refuses to act" to tighten the background check system.

Clinton also promised to close another gap in the system that allows a gun sale to proceed if law enforcement officials are unable to complete a background check within three days.

Supporters of that idea refer to the three-day rule as the "Charleston loophole" because it allowed a gun sale to Dylann Roof, the man accused of killing nine worshipers at a church in Charleston, S.C., in June. The same provision has been involved in other mass shootings in recent years.

Over the last couple of months, administration officials have been reviewing state and local efforts, looking for successful programs that have reduced gun violence and searching for ways to confront what they see as a scourge.

In a somber statement in the Oval Office on Thursday morning, Obama once again called on lawmakers to change the law.

"We all have a part to play," Obama said, including "legislators" in the list of those who must work to make it more difficult for violent people to get access to weapons.

"Right now, it's just too easy."

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Times staff writer Lisa Mascaro contributed to this report.

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Firearms; Background checks; Bills; Political campaigns; Mass murders
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
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<b>Pages:</b>	A.1
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<b>Dateline:</b>	WASHINGTON
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<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1739191875?accountid=7285">http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1739191875?accountid=7285</a>
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Candidates starkly divided after attack

Bierman, Noah; Halper, Evan . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

After the mass shooting in San Bernardino, Democrats forcefully demanded a tightening of the country's gun laws, laying blame on a culture that allows even people who are not permitted to board airplanes to buy guns with ease.

## FULL TEXT

On the presidential campaign trail, in the White House and on Twitter, it was as though politicians were responding to completely different events.

After the mass shooting in San Bernardino, Democrats forcefully demanded a tightening of the country's gun laws, laying blame on a culture that allows even people who are not permitted to board airplanes to buy guns with ease. Republicans talked of an entirely separate policy failure, drawing on news reports that the massacre may have been spurred by religious extremists to warn that the country is under attack and ill-equipped to deal with it.

The starkly disparate takeaways from the rampage showed the distance between the two parties on an issue that has become increasingly vital to Americans: their personal safety in the face of mass violence and terror. The rampage put presidential candidates in a quandary on a day when almost all of them were holding public events and found themselves under pressure to address the violence in California, even as the facts remained murky.

As more details about the attackers were made public through the day, GOP candidates -- nearly all of whom spoke at a Washington forum hosted by the hawkish Republican Jewish Coalition -- issued increasingly harsher attacks on what they said was the Obama administration's unwillingness to come to terms with the true threat posed by Muslim extremists.

The "horrific murder underscores that we are at a time of war, whether or not the current administration realizes it," Texas Sen. Ted Cruz said, conceding the causes weren't yet fully clear.

Like others, he was adamant that the Obama administration has held back in the name of political correctness.

"We need a president who will call the enemy by its name: radical Islamic terrorism," Cruz said. "There's a power of

speaking the truth."

The White House avoids terms such as "Islamic extremism" and "Muslim terrorists" to keep from alienating the world's billion or so Muslims, including the leaders of crucial allies in the Middle East.

Some Republicans, such as Ben Carson and Jeb Bush, avoided mentioning the bloodbath altogether. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, on the other hand, built much of his message to the influential Jewish group around the attack in California that killed 14.

"From the time I began to watch the events unfold last night, I [was] convinced that it was a terrorist attack," he said.

He warned that the event should be a wake-up call, but for stepped-up national defense and intelligence. He, like others who spoke, made no mention of gun control.

"If a center for the developmentally disabled in San Bernardino ... can be a target for a terrorist attack, then every place in America is a target for a terrorist attack," Christie said. "We need to come to grips with the idea that we are in the midst of the next world war."

As the candidates attacked Obama at an auditorium a few blocks from the White House, the president met with reporters following his briefing from FBI Director James Comey. He emphasized the need to "get the facts" before making a judgment about the case.

"At this stage, we do not yet know why this terrible event occurred," he said.

But, he added, "right now, it's just too easy" for people who are determined to kill others to "get access to weapons."

The combination of a mass shooting with the possibility that it was fueled by terrorism puts the U.S. political debate "on new ground," said Jim Kessler of the centrist Democratic think tank Third Way, a veteran of previous battles over gun control. He predicted that Americans will demand new answers from elected officials on how they approach public safety.

"There is a reset that may be going on with the American people," he said. "That may entail re-looking at a whole series of issues, including guns."

As the Obama administration desperately searched for executive actions that the president could take to close what it sees as dangerous and gaping loopholes in the nation's gun laws, Hillary Clinton doubled down on her crusade for the same.

The outbreaks of mass shootings have been the backdrop for a crop of Democratic candidates who are, across the board, more stridently in favor of gun control than at any time in recent memory. The complex politics of gun ownership, in which Democrats at the top of the ticket had long been careful to avoid offending members of the powerful National Rifle Assn., have yielded to jarring statistics of gun violence and outrage over the inability to pass what Democrats argue are common-sense laws.

"We cannot go on with losing 90 people a day to gun violence," Clinton wrote on Twitter. "We need to take action

now."

But it was Donald Trump who ramped up the rhetoric further than all the others. As his remarks turned to San Bernardino, Trump said Obama's refusal to use the terms "radical Islamic terrorism" indicates that "there is something going on with him that we don't know about." The ominous comment echoed Trump's history of questioning Obama's birthplace and airing of false claims that the president practices Islam.

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Times staff writers Michael A. Memoli and David Lauter contributed to this report.

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Presidential elections; Terrorism; Shootings; Islamism; Mass murders; Extremism
<b>Location:</b>	California
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# BUSINESS BEAT; Shootings show Snapchat's quirks as a news source; San Bernardino videos uploaded to the app have already disappeared.

Dave, Paresh . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: C.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Venice-based Snapchat compiled many of those videos into one collection, so users could access content related to the shootings in one place.

## FULL TEXT

People around the world followed minute-by-minute action from the shootings in San Bernardino on Wednesday, tuning in to their TVs, Twitter, news websites -- and Snapchat.

Residents in the region used the smartphone app to share raw, on-the-ground perspectives. There were Snapchat videos showing police cars speeding by, with the sounds of gunfire in the background. Others showed students being instructed on lockdown procedures and people evacuating the area by bus.

Venice-based Snapchat compiled many of those videos into one collection, so users could access content related to the shootings in one place. The company declined to comment on viewership of content related to Wednesday's shootings.

Snapchat has become a major hub for millions of people to share a variety of short video bursts throughout their day and has been moving to better organize publicly shared posts into easily discoverable groupings.

The videos on Snapchat often are better than what's found on rival sites because they are quickly filmed and then immediately uploaded to the app. That has made Snapchat the go-to place for a whole generation to share things in near-real time.

But Snapchat has some quirks. Viewers must have Snapchat to access videos because the company contends that the best place to experience content captured on Snapchat is on the app itself. In other words, you're unlikely to find a collection of Snapchat videos licensed to a TV news broadcast any time soon.

If you look for the group of shooting-related videos now, you're too late. Snapchat content disappears after about a day unless it is saved by viewers. The special collections in other social apps are short-lived too, but they are at least featured for as long as the topic stays "trending."

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are racing to bolster their video capabilities. Each of the destinations for news, entertainment and chat generates revenue through advertising.

Facebook announced Thursday that it's beginning to release a feature that enables users to broadcast live smartphone video onto friends' news feeds. It just might be a step quicker than Snapchat, and the video will definitely be longer-lasting: It can be replayed forever.

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## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Rampage victims are remembered

Zarembo, Alan; Branson-Potts, Hailey; Bermudez, Esmeralda . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Many were health inspectors charged with making sure San Bernardino County's restaurants, pools and other gathering spots were clean and safe for the public. Jennifer Thalasinis said her husband, who was outspoken about his conservative political views, was a health inspector who worked with Farook, one of the assailants, at the county's environmental services division.

## FULL TEXT

The victims ranged from 26 to 60 years old. They hailed from across Southern California: Los Angeles, Fontana, Upland, San Jacinto and Santa Ana.

Many were health inspectors charged with making sure San Bernardino County's restaurants, pools and other gathering spots were clean and safe for the public.

In their time off, they were known for enjoying life. One coached youth soccer, another dressed as Santa Claus for kids. One played a peasant dancing through the crowds at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire. Another cherished her job and family, having fled Iran as a child to escape the country's Islamic Revolution.

Massacres have now torn up schools, churches and theaters across the country. Still, relatives and friends of the victims couldn't understand why Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, the heavily armed couple who riddled a holiday gathering with gunfire, had to add San Bernardino to the list.

"It's really hard," said Jenni Kosse, 50-year-old environmental health worker who counted three friends among the dead. "It's hard to process so much loss."

In San Bernardino, several government buildings were closed. On Facebook, workers added a black bar to the iconic arrowhead on the county shield, and hundreds of people attended vigils across the Inland Empire.

Hours before finding out that her husband, Michael Wetzel, had been killed, Renee Wetzel wrote on Facebook: "So many prayers needed."

The 37-year-old was well-known in the tight-knit San Bernardino mountain communities where he was raised and still lived. He was often seen with several of his kids – three from his first marriage, three from his second, said family friend Arlene Arenas, 40.

He spent seven years coaching boys' and girls' soccer.

"He was super-tall, and the littlest of girls thought he was a giant," said Arenas, whose daughter played on the team. "He had no qualms about letting them follow him around, or walking around like a monster, with the little ones shrieking and hanging off his legs."

Speaking outside her Colton home, the wife of another victim, 52-year-old Nicholas Thalasinis, remained composed as she spoke to reporters in her driveway.

"As soon as I heard what had happened, I pretty much knew that he was gone," she said. "I just had a feeling."

Jennifer Thalasinis said her husband, who was outspoken about his conservative political views, was a health inspector who worked with Farook, one of the assailants, at the county's environmental services division.

"They got along," she said. "As far as I know, [Syed] got along with everybody. That's what's so shocking."

The Thalasinisoses, both Messianic Jews, met online and had been together for 14 years. Thalasinis said her husband wore a tie clip with the Star of David.

"My husband was just a very devout believer," she said. "He became born again a couple of years ago and because of that I had a very strong faith, so I know that he's in a much better place."

By Thursday evening, little was known about Shannon Johnson, 45.

And some victims' loved ones remained reluctant to say much, so soon. A relative of Isaac Amanios, 60, of Fontana, called him "an amazing father, brother, an amazing everything."

The family of one of the shooting's youngest victims, Yvette Velasco of Fontana, described the environmental health specialist as "full of life and loved by all who knew her."

Other family and friends wanted to discuss their heartache.

Aurora Godoy and her husband, James Godoy, had met in 2003 during a Junior ROTC class at Carson High School, her husband said.

They dated for about eight years before eloping in 2012. They bought a home in San Jacinto. And she gave birth to their son, Alexander, who will turn 2 in January.

Speaking by telephone as his son fussed in the background, Godoy said of her wife's devotion to the boy: "It was all about him."

Kosse, the county worker who lost three friends, felt numb as she thought of returning to work and not seeing her colleagues.

Among those lost was Robert Adams, a 40-year-old health specialist from Yucaipa who left behind a 20-month-old daughter.

Adams and his wife, Summer, grew up in the Inland Empire and were high school sweethearts, Kosse said. They had tried to have kids for some time and adored their daughter, Savannah. Adams loved taking her to the park and uploaded new pictures of her to Facebook almost every night.

"When you saw the three of them together," Kosse said, her voice breaking, "you just wanted to jump in the middle and think, 'I want to have fun too.'"

Adams' death, along with that of Thalasinios and Wetzel, whom she had known since high school, left her devastated.

"I just keep going through it in my head and picturing where they're supposed to be -- at their desks," she said. "They're not and they won't be."

On Facebook, Tamishia Clayborn grieved the loss of her sister, Sierra Clayborn, 27, of Moreno Valley.

"I just found out the most horrible news of my life," she wrote. "RIP Baby sis I love you more than you ever knew."

On her own page, Sierra Clayborn had just written that she loved her "blooming career" in public and environmental

health. Her final Facebook post was a tribute to the victims of the Paris attacks.

Bennetta Betbadal, the Iranian immigrant, left behind a husband and three children, ages 10, 12 and 15.

She was married to a police officer and led a team of restaurant inspectors for the county, said Mark Russell, a friend acting as a spokesman for the family.

A fundraising page set up for Betbadal's children said that she left for work Wednesday eager to deliver a presentation to her colleagues.

In Santa Ana on Thursday night, four generations of family gathered to grieve 31-year-old Tin Nguyen, who used to rise each day at 5 a.m. for her two-hour commute to work as a health inspector in San Bernardino.

The day of the shooting, she headed out to buy doughnuts for the office party, said her mother, Vanessa.

Nguyen was her only daughter. The two fled Vietnam to rebuild their life in a place they considered "a safe country where younger people would find their rewards through education."

In recent weeks, Nguyen had been trying on wedding dresses to prepare for her wedding in 2017. She insisted on a ceremony in her beloved St. Barbara's Catholic Church, a few miles from her house.

"She promised that no matter what, she would return to have her wedding there," her mother said. "And now we're having a funeral. What will become of our lives?"

The torment set in for Ryan Reyes early Wednesday afternoon, moments after he heard about the shooting.

His boyfriend of three years, a friendly, Renaissance Faire aficionado named Larry Daniel Kaufman, ran the coffee shop in building 3 at the Inland Regional Center, training developmentally disabled clients.

Reyes called him over and over, but the phone went straight to voicemail.

"Call me ASAP!" he texted.

There was no reply.

The next few hours turned into a torturous waiting game for the Rialto resident, as for many others. Many turned to prayer and social media. Some raced from hospitals to police stations; others patiently hovered at a local community center as traumatized shooting survivors were dropped off by the busloads.

Reyes watched the buses all evening -- until there were no more.

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Staff writers Marisa Gerber, Laura J. Nelson, Corina Knoll, Anh Do, Matthew Hamilton, Louis Sahagun, Ben Poston, Sarah Parvini and Taylor Goldenstein contributed to this report.

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(BEGIN TEXT OF INFOBOX)

Killed in the shooting in San Bernardino

Robert Adams, 40, Yucaipa

Isaac Amanios, 60, Fontana

Bennetta Betbadal, 46, Rialto

Harry Bowman, 46, Upland

Sierra Clayborn, 27, Moreno Valley

Juan Espinoza, 50, Highland

Aurora Godoy, 26, San Jacinto

Shannon Johnson, 45, Los Angeles

Larry Daniel Kaufman, 42, Rialto

Damian Meins, 58, Riverside

Tin Nguyen, 31, Santa Ana

Nicholas Thalasinis, 52, Colton

Yvette Velasco, 27, Fontana

Michael Wetzel, 37, Lake Arrowhead

### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: MOURNERS GATHER Thursday night at a makeshift memorial for the 14 victims killed in Wednesday's shooting rampage in San Bernardino.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Luis Sinco Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: MICHAEL WETZEL, Lake Arrowhead; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: LARRY DANIEL KAUFMAN, Rialto; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: SIERRA CLAYBORN, Moreno Valley; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: ROBERT ADAMS, Yucaipa; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: BENNETTA BETBADAL, Rialto; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: NICHOLAS THALASINIS, Colton; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: SHANNON JOHNSON, Los Angeles; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: DAMIAN MEINS, Riverside; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: YVETTE VELASCO, Fontana; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO:

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; For Muslims, new heartache; Before taking time to grieve, once again the community strives to defend Islam and enlighten others.

Curwen, Thomas; Shyong, Frank . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

According to a recent poll, 56% of Americans believe that the values of Islam are at odds with U.S. values. According to Nizaam Ali, 23, a member of Dar Al Uloom Al Islamiyah of America and an acquaintance of Farook's, the mosque received a death-threat phone message, targeting its members.

## FULL TEXT

Shortly after the news came out that the assailants in the San Bernardino shooting had ties to the local Muslim community, the national leadership of the Islamic Circle of North America gathered on a conference call.

They needed to issue a statement, but as they began to talk, they found themselves pushed into a corner. Yet again they had to explain themselves and their faith to America – when their first instinct was to pray for the victims.

"We are not able to grieve with our fellow Americans when tragedies like this happen," said Waqas Syed, a director of the organization. "We have to think about defending ourselves and praying that the perpetrators are not Muslim."

Syed and his colleagues have been here before.

In the years since 9/11, Islamic organizations in America have become increasingly adept at crisis communications.

Just eight hours after the shooting was reported, various Muslim advocacy groups had located one shooter's brother-in-law and held a news conference condemning the shooters' actions. Mosques organized vigils and services on behalf of the victims, and Islamic scholars began to work on sermons repudiating gun violence.

Their message is especially sensitive at a time when anti-Islamic sentiment, stoked by the terrorist attacks in Paris and the Syrian refugee crisis, is running high in the United States.

According to a recent poll, 56% of Americans believe that the values of Islam are at odds with U.S. values. Hate

incidents against Muslims rose 14% in 2014, according to recently released FBI statistics, which charted a decline in similar cases against other groups.

Authorities are still investigating the motivations of Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, for the Wednesday rampage at the Inland Regional Center, but American Muslim leaders were quick to condemn the attack and repudiate any ideology that could justify such violence.

"Please do not implicate Islam or Muslims because, whoever has done that, our faith has nothing to do with that. Our faith is against this kind of behavior," said Muzammil Siddiqi, religious director of the Islamic Society of Orange County and chairman of the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California.

Yet for the more than 2.5 million Muslims living in the United States, these implications have been unavoidable, cropping up on Facebook status updates, bouncing around Twitter and expressed by politicians.

Even as officials warned against drawing conclusions about the shooters' intent, Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz, a senator from Texas, tweeted that the San Bernardino killings underscored that the U.S. was at a time of war. Candidate Donald Trump, in a speech to the Republican Jewish Coalition, linked the incident to radical Islamic terrorism.

Democrats have used the occasion to call for a tightening of the country's gun laws. Both Hillary Clinton and Sen. Bernie Sanders tweeted in separate messages that gun violence must stop.

Meanwhile, at the mosque in San Bernardino that Farook once attended, security has been increased.

According to Nizaam Ali, 23, a member of Dar Al Uloom Al Islamiyah of America and an acquaintance of Farook's, the mosque received a death-threat phone message, targeting its members. Ali was concerned especially since young children come to the mosque to study the Koran.

"I hope the community doesn't backlash," he said. "We hope and pray that it comes to an end."

Youssef Maguid, an architecture student at UCLA, shared a similar feeling of uncertainty.

"We hoped and prayed that the attackers wouldn't be Muslim or Arab, because we knew what would happen after," Maguid said. "The backlash would open up."

Ali and Maguid are part of a generation of young Muslim Americans who faced hostility and ridicule in the aftermath of 9/11.

Shortly after the 9/11 attacks, Maguid's father was laid off and struggled to find a job. He began to use the name "Mo," instead of Mohamed.

It was, Maguid said, the hardest period of his life, and he is reminded of it every time an act of violence goes viral and its perpetrator is associated with Islam. But Maguid said Muslim American kids today have it much worse.

"With social media and everyone having cellphones, the proliferation of this material is everywhere," Maguid said. "It's easier for children to absorb the ignorance and the hatred. The bullying cycle is 24/7 now."

In an effort to dispel myths about Islam and rebrand its image in America, the Islamic Circle of North America recently placed billboards in nine American cities, including Los Angeles.

While the response from the Islamic community has been quick and proactive, some are arguing that changing public sentiment will take more than addressing Islam's image.

"We have a double burden," said Amjad Mahmood Khan, a national director for public affairs for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Los Angeles. "We must condemn the attacks and deal vocally with what appears to be the troubling and growing trend of radicalization of Muslims who have hijacked our faith."

Khan, also an adjunct professor of law at UCLA, believes the Islamic community must be more transparent if it wants to assimilate with American society.

"We don't want to go down a path where we are scapegoated as a particular community, and we need to be cognizant as a community of the need not to reform Islam or the faith, but the behavior of some radical youth," he said.

Their numbers may be small, Khan said, but their actions can swiftly change public opinion. He cited Faisal Shahzad, the Pakistani American who was arrested in 2010 for attempting to detonate a car bomb in New York City's Times Square, and the Tsarnaev brothers, who in 2013 bombed the Boston Marathon.

As Muslims attend Friday prayer, scholars associated with the Islamic Circle of North America recommended that sermons focus on Islamic principles of peace and its teachings against anger.

Yet, for some, the tragedy of Wednesday's shooting is that these steps need to be taken at all.

"In a perfect world," said Hussam Ayloush, director of the Los Angeles chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, a Muslim advocacy group, "no community would ever have to comment on or condemn an act just because the perpetrator looks or sounds like or shares a skin color or faith with the rest of the community. That's not the world we live in today."

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Times staff writer Soumya Karlamangla contributed to this report.

### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: A PRAYER VIGIL and news conference is held by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community at Baitul Hameed Mosque in Chino. The Ahmad-iyya group and other local Muslims were quick to condemn the massacre and repudiate any ideology that could justify such violence.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Michael Robinson Chavez Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: A REDLANDS police officer take a statement from Rhian Beutler, center, and an unidentified woman at right who reported being repeatedly harassed by a driver.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Irfan Khan Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Social networks; Muslims; Firearm laws & regulations; Murders & murder attempts; Violence; Criminal investigations; Islam
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<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Islamic Circle of North America; NAICS: 813410
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## LINKS

# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; SHOOTERS HAD CACHE OF BULLETS AND BOMBS; AS FBI SEEKS MOTIVE, TERRORISM NOT RULED OUT; Coroner releases the names of those killed in San Bernardino; Investigation into possible extremist link

Serrano, Richard A; Dolan, Jack; Bennett, Brian; Zarembo, Alan . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

When police searched Farook and Malik's home, they recovered a dozen pipe bombs, 2,000 9-millimeter handgun rounds, 2,500 .223-caliber assault rifle rounds and "hundreds of tools" that could have been used to make more explosive devices, San Bernardino police Chief Jarrod Burguan said.

## FULL TEXT

As San Bernardino mourned its victims, authorities Thursday detailed a massive cache of weapons, ammunition and explosives found in the shooters' home and contacts with suspected extremists that pointed to terrorism as a possible motive.

Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, the heavily armed couple who authorities say unleashed volleys of gunfire on a holiday party, had amassed an arsenal in their Redlands home that included a dozen pipe bombs and thousands of rounds of ammunition, officials said.

"The amount of armaments that he had, the weapons and ammunition, there was obviously a mission here," David Bowdich, assistant director in charge of the FBI office in Los Angeles, said at a news conference. "We do not know why. We don't know if this was the intended target, if there was something that triggered him to do this immediately."

The FBI expanded its investigation to a search of computer files, social media and Farook's travel history, which included trips to Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

Farook's foreign travel didn't raise the usual alarms with federal agencies because he didn't spend several months overseas or travel to places where he could have spent time in a militant training camp, a senior law enforcement

official familiar with the investigation said. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

Farook traveled to Saudi Arabia in 2013 during the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca and again in July 2014 for nine days to pick up Malik and bring her to the United States on a K-1 fiancée visa. Neither trip lasted very long, the official said.

Malik applied for lawful permanent residency on Sept. 30, 2014, and, after a background check by the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, received her permanent resident green card in July 2015.

A senior federal official said agents believe Farook was in contact with a small number of suspected extremists, adding that they have picked up indications that he "communicated" with at least one individual whom U.S. law enforcement officials were monitoring.

Farook's connection to the potential terror suspect may only be tangential, the source said, but the link suggests there may be a "deeper terror matrix" behind the San Bernardino shootings.

Still, authorities and officials, including U.S. Atty. Gen. Loretta Lynch, said it was premature to characterize the event as terrorism.

Farook and Malik fired at least 65 bullets when they stormed the office party in a conference room Wednesday morning at the Inland Regional Center. Police said 75 to 80 people were in the room when the shooting started; 12 of the 14 who died, and 18 of the 21 who were injured, were county employees.

Hours later, the couple exchanged fire with police on San Bernardino streets, launching bullets into homes and terrifying residents.

When police searched Farook and Malik's home, they recovered a dozen pipe bombs, 2,000 9-millimeter handgun rounds, 2,500 .223-caliber assault rifle rounds and "hundreds of tools" that could have been used to make more explosive devices, San Bernardino police Chief Jarrod Burguan said.

The couple had 1,400 assault rifle rounds and 200 handgun rounds in their car as they fled from police, Burguan said. They fired 76 rounds at officers during the shootout, and officers shot 380 rounds in return.

Farook was born in Chicago and had worked at the Health Department as an inspector for five years. Malik was born in Pakistan, according to a federal law enforcement source who requested anonymity. The couple had a 6-month-old daughter.

As their investigation widened, federal officials identified three men who "were in phone contact" with Farook and Malik in the days leading up to the shooting, a government official said. He said it was not yet clear whether those men were involved in the shooting.

Two of them, Roshan Zamir Abbassi and Nizaam Ali, told The Times they had been interviewed by the FBI about texts and phone calls they exchanged with Farook. Both said they had not spoken to him recently and had no knowledge of his militant activities.

Abbassi – an assistant imam at the Dal-Al-Uloom Al-Islamiyah of America mosque in San Bernardino, where Farook had regularly worshiped – told The Times he barely knew Farook. He said he told the FBI that his 36 calls with Farook all were very brief.

One federal law enforcement source said that while investigators have yet to establish a clear motive in the shooting, they are leaning toward a possible "combination of terrorism and workplace" conflict.

"We're ... trying to see if the motive was something inspired by a terrorist organization or directed by a terrorist organization, or whether he was self-radicalized," said the source, who requested anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

As expected, the shooting is already a new chapter in the ever-divisive national gun debate. President Obama said it was still "too easy" for people who want to kill large numbers of people to get access to high-powered weapons in the U.S.

"We're going to have to, I think, search ourselves as a society to make sure that we can take basic steps that would make it harder -- not impossible, but harder -- for individuals to get access to weapons," he said.

The San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner's office released the names of the 14 slain victims, who ranged in age from 26 to 60.

Vigils were held Thursday night at a mosque, a stadium and a church in the Inland Empire. Another at UC Riverside was scheduled for Friday.

Harrowing stories of those caught in the massacre continued to be told Thursday.

Julie Swann-Paez, an inspector with the Health Department, was supposed to receive an employee of the year award at the party, according to relatives. But she was shot twice when Farook and Malik stormed the conference room. She suffered a shattered pelvis and other serious injuries.

"I thought she was dead," her 26-year-old son, Nick Paez, said as he sat in his parents' home with his younger brother and sister. Photos of the family filled the small room.

Swann-Paez's loved ones weren't allowed to visit her until 10 p.m. Nick Paez said he told his mother that her co-worker, Farook, may have been the shooter.

"That doesn't make sense," Swann-Paez said, according to her son. "They were congratulating him for having a baby."

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: RYAN REYES breaks down after learning that his boyfriend, Larry Daniel Kaufman, was among the victims killed in the San Bernardino mass shooting.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Rick Loomis Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: PASTORS LARRY JONES, left, of Crossover Outreach Church; Jeannetta Million of Victoria's Believers Church; and Arnold Morales of King of Glory Church pray during a vigil at the scene where, the day before, 14 people were killed in San Bernardino mass shooting.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: LISA GONZALEZ is consoled after returning to her home, near where police had killed the assailants.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Ammunition; Law enforcement; Extremism; Militancy
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; It's not 'OK that we not act'

Wire, Sarah . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

When will we say enough is enough?" Several Democrats in California's House delegation expressed frustration Thursday that the House has paused to recognize American shooting victims -- five times so far in 2015, according to the Congressional Record -- but hasn't voted on legislation to address the massacres.

## FULL TEXT

One California member of Congress will no longer stand on the House floor to pay tribute to mass shooting victims. The day after the horrific attack at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, Rep. Jackie Speier says she'll boycott the congressional chamber or stay seated instead.

"I'm not going to stand up for a moment of silence again and then watch us do nothing," the Hillsborough Democrat said.

"I've had it. I have had it with inaction. I've had it with the sense that it's OK that we not act," she said. Speier was shot five times while on a congressional fact-finding mission into the People's Temple in Jonestown in 1978.

Rep. Pete Aguilar, who represents the San Bernardino area, went directly to the emergency command center when his plane from Washington landed Wednesday, his staff said. The Redlands Democrat visited victims at the Loma

Linda University Medical Center and was scheduled to attend a candlelight vigil at San Manuel Stadium.

On Friday, Aguilar will lay flowers at the memorial site and is scheduled to attend several local religious services, including an interfaith prayer meeting at the Islamic Center of Redlands.

Aguilar said in a statement Thursday, "How many more times will we weep with our neighbors and fellow Americans while our communities are terrorized by the ongoing gun violence epidemic in this country? When will we say enough is enough?"

Several Democrats in California's House delegation expressed frustration Thursday that the House has paused to recognize American shooting victims – five times so far in 2015, according to the Congressional Record – but hasn't voted on legislation to address the massacres. None of the lawmakers who spoke with The Times joined Speier's pledge of refusing to stand.

"The tragedies continue and the Congress does nothing ... and shame on the Congress," said Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-Menlo Park). "To say over and over and over again, 'You have our thoughts and prayers,' doesn't seem very sincere to me anymore."

Rep. Jeff Denham (R-Turlock) said he's satisfied with the country's gun laws, joining Rep. David Valadao (R-Hanford) in demurring because of the fluidity of the situation.

"I don't believe Congress should ever have a knee-jerk reaction on something," Denham said.

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Mass murders; Bills
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Shooters kept plans and weapons secret

Karlamangla, Soumya; Esquivel, Paloma; Nelson, Laura J . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.1 .

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The couple's daughter was born in the spring and co-workers at the San Bernardino County Public Health Department, where Farook worked for five years as an inspector, said some of them had thrown him a baby shower. According to law enforcement, Farook traveled to Saudi Arabia in 2013 during the hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims who are able should perform at least once in their lives.

## FULL TEXT

Early Wednesday morning, Syed Rizwan Farook asked his mother for the sort of favor grandmothers love to grant: A few hours of babysitting. Farook told her that he and his wife, Tashfeen, had a doctor's appointment and didn't want to take their 6-month-old daughter.

In an account of the conversation provided by a relative through a local Islamic leader, the grandmother agreed. She was caring for the child at the couple's Redlands home when news of a mass shooting in nearby San Bernardino broke.

Fearing her son and daughter-in-law were victims, "she started calling. No answer," said Hussam Ayloush, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations' Los Angeles office.

It was only after reporters started phoning her that she realized the couple were the assailants.

That Farook's own mother had apparently sensed nothing wrong underscored a feeling among investigators and acquaintances Thursday that the couple responsible for the massacre at a holiday party inside the Inland Regional Center scrupulously concealed their views, plans and a cache of weapons and explosives.

Of particular interest to investigators is the relationship between Farook, a 28-year-old U.S. citizen of Pakistani descent, and Tashfeen Malik, 27, a Pakistani national. While his upbringing and adult life in Riverside is chronicled in school files, work documents and other records, little is known publicly about her.

Authorities said Thursday that she was more than just an accomplice. At one point as the couple attempted to elude police, Malik fired an assault rifle out the back window of their sport utility vehicle at pursuing officers.

Nizaam Ali, who worshiped with Farook at a San Bernardino mosque, said he had met Malik on a few occasions, but she wore a head scarf that obscured her face.

"If you asked me how she looked, I couldn't tell you," Ali said.

The couple met online a few years ago and married last year in Islam's holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, according to co-workers at the public health department and others who knew them. The Saudi Embassy in Washington confirmed that Farook spent nine days in the kingdom in summer 2014.

Authorities said that when he returned to the U.S. in July 2014, he brought Malik with him on a fiancee visa. After a background check by the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, she was granted a conditional green card last summer.

The couple held a walima, a celebration after the wedding, at the Islamic Center of Riverside for people who couldn't attend the Saudi ceremony. Ali said a few hundred people attended. The couple's daughter was born in the spring and co-workers at the San Bernardino County Public Health Department, where Farook worked for five years as an inspector, said some of them had thrown him a baby shower.

An online baby registry in Malik's name listed a large box of Pampers, Johnson's safety swabs, a car seat and baby wash.

The idea of a new mother helping carry out a mass murder perplexed many. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), who had a classified FBI briefing on the shooting Thursday, said leaving an infant for a suicide mission was "not something a woman would easily do."

"So it's going to be very interesting for me to see what her background was, what level of animus she had, because she had to have a considerable level," Feinstein said.

Meanwhile, acquaintances and colleagues of Farook were struggling to reconcile the soft-spoken man they knew with the masked rampage killer who shot up a room filled with co-workers.

At the Islamic Center of Riverside, where Farook had worshiped until about two years ago, mosque director Mustapha Kuko described him as quiet, private and devoted to Koran study.

"He knows that we believe that to take one life is to take all life. So for him to do the opposite of what we as Muslims believe ... I don't know," Kuko said.

One victim, who worked in the same department as Farook, was also a member of the congregation, he said.

"He shot her," Kuko said. "Point blank."

The victim's husband reported she is in stable condition, he said.

Recently, Farook had worshiped at a San Bernardino mosque, Dar-Al-Uloom Al-Islamiyah of America. Farook was "a very nice person, very soft," said Ali, a mosque regular. He said Farook had memorized the Koran, a rare accomplishment for even devout Muslims.

According to law enforcement, Farook traveled to Saudi Arabia in 2013 during the hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims who are able should perform at least once in their lives.

Another congregant saw Farook at the mosque a few weeks ago. Gasser Shehata said Farook had hurt not just his victims, but his own child.

"She will grow up knowing what her parents did," Shehata said.

Farook was born in Chicago, the son of Pakistani immigrants. The family subsequently moved to Riverside, where his father worked as a truck driver and his mother as a clerk at Kaiser Permanente.

He and his siblings attended public schools. Yearbooks from La Sierra High School in Riverside show a smiling Farook during his sophomore and junior years. He was a member of the school's Muslim club.

Farook loved fixing up old cars, neighbors said.

His mother, Rafia, portrayed family life as chaotic and sometimes violent in divorce papers she filed in 2006 to end her marriage of 24 years. She recounted an occasion when one of her two sons – it is unclear which – had to defend her from his father.

Farook got a bachelor's degree in environmental health from Cal State San Bernardino in 2010. His older brother,

Syed Raheel, who also attended La Sierra, joined the Navy immediately after high school. He served from 2003 to 2007 and was awarded two medals for service in the "Global War on Terrorism."

In a profile on an Indian matrimonial site, Imilap.com, a user identified as "farooksyed49" described himself as a 22-year-old Muslim living in Riverside and working as a county health inspector.

"Enjoy working on vintage and modern cars, read religious books, enjoy eating out sometimes travel and just hang out in back yard doing target practice with younger sister and friends," the profile read.

In May, Farook and his family moved into the Redlands home where authorities said he and his wife stashed the weapons. Judy Miller, his landlord, described Farook as a model tenant.

"He appeared as a very gentle person," said Miller, 73.

She saw no signs of weapons when she visited. After Wednesday's shootings, Miller said she immediately handed over a copy of Farook's lease to FBI agents.

"I interviewed a whole bunch of people," she said. "And he was the one I chose."

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Times staff writers Harriet Ryan, Dexter Thomas, Matt Hamilton, W.J. Hennigan, Brian Bennett, Peter Jamison, Jack Dolan, Richard Winton, Richard A. Serrano and Joel Rubin contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: A MOSQUE leader described Syed Rizwan Farook as quiet, private.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Department of Motor Vehicles

## DETAILS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Their training kicked in; Experts say police 'did what they were supposed to do,' and well

Chang, Cindy; Winton, Richard . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

When Reitz joined the LAPD SWAT team in the 1980s, the biggest threat of mass carnage was from hostage-takers who would demand a ransom or a platform for their views. Since the Columbine High School shootings in 1999, law enforcement agencies have changed their tactics, rushing into buildings rather than sitting back and waiting.

## FULL TEXT

Lt. Mike Madden was on his way to lunch and happened to be nearby when the first 911 calls came in.

He could tell from the dispatcher's voice that something out of the ordinary was happening at the center for people with developmental disabilities in San Bernardino.

"We have an active shooter," Madden reported to the dispatcher, pleading for reinforcements.

A minute later, he entered the building with three other San Bernardino police officers. There, he found 14 people dead and 21 wounded in the nation's worst mass shooting since the 2012 attack at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

"The situation was surreal," Madden, a 24-year veteran, said Thursday night. "It's something that we prepare for, and an active shooter, they talk about sensory overload. ... It was all of that and more. It was unspeakable the carnage we were seeing."

Madden's recollections, along with recordings of Wednesday's police radio traffic, show how quickly the events unfolded as 300 officers from various agencies sped to the scene, evacuated the victims and tracked down the suspects.

Law enforcement experts on Thursday praised the San Bernardino Police Department, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and others for their handling of the incident.

"There was a very short response time, they did a follow-up very rapidly and got on top of the suspects," said Scott Reitz, a former Los Angeles Police Department SWAT officer and instructor. "I'm absolutely impressed. That sometimes takes hours or days."

When Reitz joined the LAPD SWAT team in the 1980s, the biggest threat of mass carnage was from hostage-takers who would demand a ransom or a platform for their views.

Since the Columbine High School shootings in 1999, law enforcement agencies have changed their tactics, rushing into buildings rather than sitting back and waiting.

The San Bernardino officers "did what they were supposed to do: come to the location, get together with a team of three or four or five officers and make entry," said San Marino Police Chief John Incontro, a former LAPD captain who oversaw the department's SWAT team. "The goal is to find the suspect and stop the threat."

As the tragic day wore on and law enforcement officers raced to confront the suspects in their black SUV, images of armored vehicles and officers in tactical gear filled television screens across the country.

The Sheriff's Department has been one of California's largest recipients of military-grade equipment under a controversial Pentagon program that transfers surplus weapons and vehicles to local law enforcement.

The program came under fire last year after police in Ferguson, Mo., used armored vehicles and other military equipment to confront demonstrators during protests over the shooting death of a black teenager, Michael Brown, by a white police officer.

Seth Stoughton, a former police officer and a professor at the University of South Carolina School of Law, said use of the equipment should be limited to hostage-takings, active shooters and other violent situations.

"If SWAT and military equipment were restricted to those situations, I don't think anyone would have a problem with that," Stoughton said.

Madden said he and his colleagues still believed there were attackers inside the Inland Regional Center. The scene was chaotic, he said, with the air smelling of gunpowder, fire alarms going off, injured people wailing and others with a look of "pure panic" on their faces.

"This was a tragedy I've never experienced in my career," he said. "But we had to deal with it. We had to help bring them to safety."

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Times staff writer W.J. Hennigan in Washington contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: INVESTIGATORS search the SUV rented by the assailants in San Bernardino's mass shooting. The county Sheriff's Department, one of California's largest recipients of military-grade equipment, used armored vehicles and officers in tactical gear during the pursuit.; PHOTOGRAPHER:KTLA; PHOTO: "IT'S SOMETHING that we prepare for, and an active shooter, they talk about sensory overload. ... It was all of that and more," one officer said. Above, crime scene photographs are displayed at a news conference.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Luis Sinco Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

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**Fed chief cites reasons to raise key interest rate; In congressional testimony, Janet Yellen downplays risks of another recession.**

## ABSTRACT

Sen. Dan Coats (R-Ind.), the committee's chairman, asked Yellen whether "coordinated terrorist attacks or just an acceleration of the kind of violence we're seeing – mass shootings and so forth" could have a negative effect on the economy by causing people to hold back on spending or fear going to a mall to shop.

## FULL TEXT

One by one, lawmakers bombarded Federal Reserve Chairwoman Janet L. Yellen with reasons to hold off on raising a key interest rate for the first time in nearly a decade: slow wage growth, the strong dollar, recession fears and recent attacks in Paris and San Bernardino.

Yellen downplayed each one of them Thursday. She didn't definitively indicate that Fed policymakers would nudge up the benchmark rate when they meet Dec. 15-16, but Yellen solidified the expectations of analysts who now see it as a near certainty.

"It sure sounds to me like she's seen what she's looking for" in the recovery, said Gus Faucher, senior economist at PNC Financial Services Group. "If anybody's surprised the Fed raises rates in two weeks, they haven't been paying attention."

Although Yellen said the U.S. economy has "recovered substantially since the Great Recession," she acknowledged risks, including slower global growth and outbreaks of domestic or international violence.

But she said one reason to raise the so-called federal funds rate, which affects terms for consumer and business loans, is so the Fed has the flexibility to lower it if those risks cause the economy to falter in the future.

The federal funds rate has been near zero since December 2008 in an attempt to boost economic growth during the Great Recession and its aftermath. The Fed began lowering the rate in 2007 from 5.25% as the economy slowed.

A rate increase "will be a testament ... to how far our economy has come in recovering from the effects of the financial crisis and the Great Recession," Yellen said during a hearing by Congress' Joint Economic Committee.

"In that sense, it is a day that I expect we all are looking forward to," she said.

But several lawmakers peppered her with worries about the state of the U.S. economy and concerns that the Fed was moving in a different direction than the European Central Bank, which announced new stimulus measures Thursday.

Sen. Dan Coats (R-Ind.), the committee's chairman, asked Yellen whether "coordinated terrorist attacks or just an acceleration of the kind of violence we're seeing – mass shootings and so forth" could have a negative effect on

the economy by causing people to hold back on spending or fear going to a mall to shop.

Yellen said the Fed watches those risks "very carefully."

"I would not say that I see a significant effect at this point, although certainly in the aftermath of the financial crisis, we've seen rather cautious behavior on the part of households and firms," she said.

She promised that the Fed would move cautiously, inching the interest rate up slowly. Some analysts have predicted the Fed could wait as long as six months after the first 0.25 percentage point increase to enact another one.

But Yellen warned that Fed policymakers couldn't wait too long because there are "well-documented lags in the effect of monetary policy" on the broader economy. The longer the Fed waits, the faster it might have to raise rates, which could harm the economy, she said.

"Such an abrupt tightening would risk disrupting financial markets and perhaps even inadvertently push the economy into a recession," Yellen said.

She downplayed the short-term risk of a U.S. recession, discounting a Citigroup report this week that there was a 65% chance that would happen next year.

"I can't put a number on the risk of a recession, but I absolutely wouldn't see it as anything approaching 65%," Yellen said.

Based on history, the economy is well past due for a recession after expanding for more than six years. But the sluggish pace of economic growth has helped stave off circumstances, like a housing bubble or overextended consumers, that would trigger a downturn, said Faucher, the economist.

"The flip side of the disappointing recovery means we can continue at this pace for a while longer without creating the conditions for a recession," he said, putting the risk at 15% next year.

Fed policymakers will look closely at Friday's job report, the last before their meeting, Yellen said. The report is expected to show solid growth of about 190,000 net new jobs in November -- although down from 271,000 the previous month -- and the unemployment rate holding steady at 5%.

Wages also are forecast to increase, continuing what Yellen said was "tentative evidence" of a trend that would push low inflation closer to the Fed's 2% annual target.

But she indicated that a weaker-than-expected report might not be enough to wait on a rate hike.

"We need to be looking at underlying trends in the data and not over-weighting any number," Yellen said.

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## Illustration



Caption: PHOTO: FED CHAIRWOMAN Janet L. Yellen solidified the expectations of analysts who now see a hike in the central bank's benchmark rate as a near certainty.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Nicholas Kamm AFP/Getty Images; PHOTO: IN A HEARING before Congress' Joint Economic Committee, Fed chief Janet L. Yellen said a rate hike "will be a testament ... to how far our economy has come in recovering from the effects of ... the Great Recession."; PHOTOGRAPHER:Jacquelyn Martin Associated Press

## DETAILS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; To gun enthusiasts, the solution is obvious

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[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

McGuire makes no apology for his business, and unlike other gun shop owners I have encountered after tragedies, was not defensive, angry or wary of a reporter holding a recorder.

## FULL TEXT

Around 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Vanessa Nestic, a stay-at-home mom, walked into Get Loaded, a gun shop five miles south of the Inland Regional Center, where 14 people were slain Wednesday in yet another horrific gun attack.

"I want to protect myself," said Nestic, 31. She has a handgun at home, and wanted to talk about modifying it with a lighter trigger. "I don't have that much strength."

Her mother's neighbor, she said, was shot in the rampage, and remained hospitalized. Nestic said she plans to apply for a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

Gus Zaharopoulos, a 68-year-old crane inspector who lost the tip of his right trigger finger in an industrial accident, was shopping for a handgun he could shoot left-handed. "I used to have a strong hand and a weak hand," he said. "Now I have a weak hand and a weaker hand."

Zaharopoulos moved to San Bernardino County from Greece at age 5 and grew up shooting rabbits in wide-open spaces now crowded with homes. He bought his daughter her first rifle when she was 3.

"Last night on the news, Scott Pelley called San Bernardino a 'quiet little town,' " said Zaharopoulos, who worked as a San Bernardino police detective until a medical retirement in 1990. "It's not. For years, it was the murder capital of the country."

As anguished voices call for policymakers to do something, anything to rid us of gun violence, the respectful conversations I had at Get Loaded demonstrate why eliminating guns is a nonstarter. For gun enthusiasts, the answer to the kind of tragedy that has become all too commonplace is more guns, not fewer.

"The biggest problem is that it was a gun-free zone," said Get Loaded owner Terry McGuire, 49, a bald, burly guy who looks he would be right at home among the many cops and deputies to whom he caters. "You aren't allowed to carry guns into county buildings."

McGuire makes no apology for his business, and unlike other gun shop owners I have encountered after tragedies, was not defensive, angry or wary of a reporter holding a recorder.

"If people are going to kill people, they're going to find a way to do it," McGuire said. "Those people yesterday had bombs. I mean, France probably has the strictest gun laws of any country, and look what happened there."

The Islamic State attacks in Paris, however, were outliers. As President Obama noted Thursday, "We should never think that this is something that just happens in the ordinary course of events, because it doesn't happen with the same frequency in other countries."

Alex Chavez, 39, a Get Loaded customer who lives in Moreno Valley and teaches gun handling and safety to novices, concurred with McGuire. "Let's say that 15 of those people had had guns in that place. Maybe 14 wouldn't have died. Maybe only eight would have died. I tell my wife all the time, 'That ain't going to happen to me.' I am going to give myself a shot to get out of that situation."

Everyone in the shop embraced the importance of vigilant efforts to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and others who are unfit to own them.

In California, a state with perhaps the most stringent gun laws in the country, sellers have discretion over who may buy a gun. McGuire adheres strictly to the law – and to his own intuition about whether someone should have a firearm. He said he does not hesitate to turn people away. I found that encouraging.

If McGuire thinks a customer is trying to make a straw purchase – that is, trying to buy a gun for someone else, which is illegal – he will refuse the sale. "People get really mad. But I have a moral and an ethical obligation," he said.

Chavez made similar decisions when he sold guns at a sporting goods store. "One time, a kid came in and he was acting really weird, waving a piece of paper," Chavez said. "And he said, 'I was told I could not buy a gun until this date. I am now allowed to own a gun.'" Chavez refused.

"I don't care if he's cleared," he said. "We all don't want crazy people to have guns."

A few minutes later, we were interrupted by a customer who wanted to order pink parts for an assault rifle he was building for his daughter.

"She turns 21 at the end of next month," he said, "and that is her present."

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## DETAILS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Now pain has put his city on the map

Dexter, Thomas . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.6.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Five days ago, a friend who is a political reporter here at the Los Angeles Times happened to be near Colorado Springs, Colo., a town he knew well, when a Planned Parenthood clinic was attacked.

## FULL TEXT

My city has become a hashtag.

After I left my hometown for school on the East Coast, I got used to explaining where I was from by telling people that San Bernardino is near Los Angeles.

The next time I tell someone where I'm from, they won't say: "Where is that?"

They might say: "I'm sorry."

Five days ago, a friend who is a political reporter here at the Los Angeles Times happened to be near Colorado Springs, Colo., a town he knew well, when a Planned Parenthood clinic was attacked. I followed his tweets from the scene. I read his clear-eyed, factual reports. And I wondered how he felt, watching a familiar neighborhood become part of the national spotlight.

Little did I know that I'd find out for myself.

As images of my city poured into my social media accounts, I walked over to his desk.

"Do you have any advice?"

"Not really," he said. "It sucks."

He shook his head. I did the same. He asked if I was OK. I said yes and went back to my desk.

I felt sick.

As I sat down, my phone vibrated. It was a text from a college friend from Colorado. On Saturday, after the Planned Parenthood shooting, I had texted her to see if she was OK. Now it was her turn.

"Just checking in," her text said.

"Thanks," I replied.

She sent me back a frowny face emoji, because there was nothing else to say.

Soon my phone was ringing constantly. I talked to a friend who had been frantically searching for his mother, who often visits the area near where the shooting took place. She eventually came home safe.

"People crack jokes about how dangerous San Bernardino is," he said, "but this isn't normal. San Bernardino violence doesn't look like this."

He paused. "But I guess if it happens here, it could happen anywhere."

San Bernardino was named an "All-America City" in 1977. It was the birthplace of McDonald's. San Bernardino is a concentrated slice of America – you can see the history, the diversity and the boom times and depressions our nation has experienced.

San Bernardino is the poorest city of its size in California, and among a lot of residents, there's a sense that nobody cares about them.

Even after this shooting, I'm not sure that feeling will change. "San Bernardino" will cease to be a place and will become an event, another sad signpost in the story of America's mass shootings.

Undoubtedly some elected officials will call for people not to "politicize" the San Bernardino shooting. They will say that this isn't the time to talk about gun control or whether we are too quick to demonize a whole faith because of the acts of a few. Many people, including politicians, will offer us their thoughts and prayers.

But for the sake of the nation, I hope we do politicize this tragedy.

San Bernardino may be a poor city, but it's also a tough city. We've suffered through poverty, drought, civic mismanagement and crime – but we're still here.

–

Twitter: @dexdigi

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Firearm laws & regulations; Mass murders

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Our numbed acceptance is simply unacceptable

## ABSTRACT

Presidential candidates dutifully took to Twitter and Facebook to make the same statements they uttered during the last mass shooting – the Democrats called for stricter gun control, the Republicans offered prayers and praised law enforcement officials.

## FULL TEXT

"Just another day in the United States of America, another day of gunfire, panic and fear."

That's how the BBC chose to open its coverage of Wednesday's mass shooting in San Bernardino. And while the tone was certainly questionable, the accuracy was not.

The real shock and horror was the near universal lack of shock and horror.

In its place was something far more dangerous than terrorists or highly armed psychopaths, more fundamentally terrifying than butchery or bombs: numbed acceptance, bordering on disassociation.

Democracy can survive violence, invasion and even fear, but it cannot survive malaise.

From the moment the killings were first reported, it became instantly clear that a year filled with senseless slaughter – there have been 355 mass shootings in 2015, according to the Washington Post, including two on Wednesday – had left its mark on those who report the news and those who consume it.

The shooting at the Inland Regional Center was called the deadliest since the 2012 killings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., but even as the number of reported dead climbed into the teens and the wounded flooded hospitals, the reporting, though thorough, was strangely subdued.

News outlets, including this one, flooded the area with a frightening efficiency born of repetition.

Gone was the stutter-step of disbelief, the voice-choked sorrow, the barely concealed rage that marked coverage of Columbine, Virginia Tech, Newtown and Aurora.

Gone was the first stage of denial or cautious diminishment, the hope that the harm done would not, could not, be as great as feared.

In its place was the grim reality of a nation that knows better, a near mechanical acceptance of a now-familiar scenario. Everyone hit their marks, were, in fact, horribly aware of hitting their marks, but no one knew what else to do.

Phrases like, "In what has become an increasingly commonplace scene" and "In yet another mass tragedy" opened

news reports on virtually every medium. The tones of news anchors varied from personality to personality, but the terrifyingly rote nature of the script everyone followed did not.

Presidential candidates dutifully took to Twitter and Facebook to make the same statements they uttered during the last mass shooting – the Democrats called for stricter gun control, the Republicans offered prayers and praised law enforcement officials.

On social media, the split was similar. The BBC opener was passed around, along with stories and charts about this year's extraordinary number of mass shootings ("mass" meaning four or more people were shot), answered by the equally predictable responses: "Gun control won't cure insanity" or "If the victims had guns, they wouldn't have been victims."

Prayers were offered by many and rejected by others as, at worse, hypocrisy, at best an excuse to preserve the status quo.

Infusing it all was a sense of reluctant acceptance, even helplessness. Every time a gunman mows down a group of random people, we begin a conversation about guns that invariably devolves into a red state/blue state feud – about the 2nd Amendment, the nature of the NRA, the tradition of gun ownership – in which too many people seem more interested in defending their position than solving the problem.

Already the reality of 14 dead and 21 wounded is being lost in arguments over the interpretation of statistics and the notion that the massacre could have been prevented if some of the victims had been armed.

Here's the thing about the National Rifle Assn.: Far fewer Americans belong to it than do not. So if everyone who opposes the ironclad grip it purportedly has on Congress would stop tweeting and start organizing, voting, boycotting and protesting – exercising all the amazing freedoms this still astonishing democracy allows – that great and powerful NRA might just shrivel to a couple of men pulling levers behind a curtain.

As many have noted, the 2nd Amendment was passed long before the invention of semiautomatic weapons, which is the target of most gun control legislation.

Very few Americans support the criminalization of handguns or rifles, just the weapons built for the sole purpose of killing a lot of people in a small amount of time with minimal effort.

The 2nd Amendment is also part of the Constitution, which was written to protect this young democracy and (eventually, with a few additional amendments) all its citizens.

Not its guns, its citizens.

In the days following the agonizing killings at Sandy Hook, it seemed impossible that this country would not take big steps to curtail gun violence. Instead we argued politics and let things get worse.

Whether the perpetrators of the San Bernardino shootings are foreign or domestic terrorists, disgruntled employees or a simply a band of killers shouldn't distract us from the inescapable, unacceptable trend of gun violence. We do not live in an occupied nation; we should not have to instruct our children how to dodge gunfire; we should not fear sudden senseless death in the workplace.

We must not allow ourselves to be held hostage by the mental illness or murderous intent of our fellow citizens.

The only way 355 mass shootings in 336 days becomes an acceptable reality is if we accept it.

And if we do, we can no longer blame Islamic State or Al Qaeda or the axis of evil for threatening the American way of life.

We will have destroyed it ourselves.

--

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Credit: TELEVISION CRITIC

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## LINKS

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# BACK STORY; A deadly familiar tragedy; How common are mass shootings? They've become part of the culture.

Pearce, Matt . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: A.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

According to a Congressional Research Service analysis released in July, the U.S. from 1999 to 2013 averaged 21 mass shootings per year in which four or more people were shot and killed.

## FULL TEXT

Mass shootings are a part of American culture now, and they have been for years -- changing the way we think, changing the way we act.

Consider the novelist Don DeLillo, who once explained why the paranoia in his fiction could not have existed before lone gunmen shocked the nation and redefined the 1960s.

First, there was Lee Harvey Oswald assassinating President Kennedy. Then there was the disturbed University of Texas student who shot and killed 14 people from a campus clock tower.

"There's the shattering randomness of the event, the missing motive, the violence that people not only commit but

seem to watch simultaneously from a disinterested distance," DeLillo told the Paris Review. "Then the uncertainty we feel about the basic facts that surround the case – number of gunmen, number of shots, and so on. Our grip on reality has felt a little threatened.... Mainly we have the individual in the small room, the nobody who walks out of the shadows and changes everything."

DeLillo's remarks were made in 1993 – long before the 1999 massacre at Columbine High School changed the way we look at school security and provided a mold for copycats.

But how common are mass shootings? Academics, journalists, congressional researchers and Internet commentators now regularly check data to determine exactly how often mass shootings occur in a country that averages more than 10,000 gun homicides every year.

It's a tough and surprisingly subjective job. Counts differ depending on who is collecting the data, and how they define mass shooting.

According to a Congressional Research Service analysis released in July, the U.S. from 1999 to 2013 averaged 21 mass shootings per year in which four or more people were shot and killed.

More than 1,500 people were killed in those shootings, with the totals fluctuating from year to year with no clear trend up or down, according to the analysis.

In the least deadly year, 2001, 53 people were killed in such shootings, and in the most deadly year, 2009, 145 people were killed.

In response, a familiar subculture has gradually developed to attacks that are often both stunningly senseless and paradoxically routine.

There's President Obama, who will use such attacks to make repeated and largely fruitless calls for gun control, while conservative lawmakers across the nation might argue for more civilians to be armed in bars and schools.

Then there's victims' advocates, who, frustrated by the media's relentless coverage of such shootings, have launched no-notoriety campaigns to deny gunmen the spotlight and to prevent copycats from getting inspired.

In Roseburg, Ore., residents and officials were so disgusted by a mass shooting striking their community on Oct. 1 that they refused to publicly identify the student who killed nine people in his English class at Umpqua Community College.

"You will never hear me say his name," Douglas County Sheriff John Hanlin told reporters.

The media, in turn, have gotten so practiced at covering such attacks that newsrooms often repeat their coverage strategies from one shooting to the next.

Americans, meanwhile, have learned to protect against mass shootings with active-shooter drills and precautionary lockdowns.

They do it because new "shooters" – to use a now-popularized term among the public – seem to emerge weekly.

On Wednesday, a quiet young couple who amassed an arsenal of pipe bombs and ammunition used rifles to slaughter 14 people and wound 21 more at a holiday party in San Bernardino. Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik died in a shootout with police.

As often happens with such shootings, their attack puzzled those who knew them, and readers who often read profiles of suspects probably will not be surprised to learn that those who knew Farook said he was a quiet guy.

"If you had told me that he had killed a bird, I would say, 'No way,' " said Mustafa Kuko, the director of the Islamic Center of Riverside, where Farook once worshiped.

Two days earlier, Robert Lewis Dear, a 59-year-old loner, was charged with killing three people and wounding nine others on Nov. 27 at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The even more disturbing part is that the Planned Parenthood shooting rampage wasn't even the first one in Colorado Springs that month.

On Nov. 1, a man shot and killed three people in the downtown area before he was shot and killed by police.

The cycles of tragedy are so bitter that they've made the Onion parody news outlet an essential post-shooting destination for Americans seeking biting, if bleak, satire.

"Location of Newest Mass Shooting Revealed," an Onion story blared in 2013 after a gunman killed 12 people at the Washington Navy Yard in the nation's capital.

A joke 2013 headline would now qualify as an old joke if the topic weren't so unending. The Onion's headline this week? "Authorities Say Country Still an Active Shooter Situation."

When police stormed the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino on Wednesday, some staffers thought it was one of the facility's routine mass shooting drills.

Melinda Rivas, 51, a social worker who evacuated from the center, used a phrase often uttered around the nation when a mass shooting claims another community.

"I never thought I was going to be a part of it," Rivas said. "Today, it was us."

--

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### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: CONNECTICUT POLICE evacuate children from Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown in 2012. A gunman killed 20 children and six teachers.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Shannon Hicks Newtown Bee; GRAPHIC: Tallying the dead; CREDIT:Kyle Kim Los Angeles Times

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## LINKS

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## LETTERS

## FULL TEXT

After the massacre

Re "Horror in San Bernardino," Editorial, Dec. 3

Fourteen of my fellow Southern California citizens are dead after a mass shooting in San Bernardino, and I don't know whether to hate the gun lobbies, hate terrorists or hate myself for hating anyone.

Hatred is poison to the heart, but how does one rise above the outrages visited on the innocent and unknowing to examine where our animalism clashes with the "better angels of our nature"? Where, if only God can forgive mortal sin, how do we?

It seems we are hard-wired for beauty and brutality together, and why this is so after 10,000 years of civilization is beyond me. Why have we not been able to break the bonds of brutality? We are still in the cave.

RIP, my Southern California neighbors. You didn't deserve this.

Keith Pittell

Los Angeles

::

You blame guns for the vile events in San Bernardino on Wednesday. Really?

Anyone in his right mind has already reached the correct conclusion about why this happened, and it isn't about guns. It is about people already bent on destruction becoming so enraged that they acted out their eventual plan of terror and destruction because of some minor irritant. If it wasn't at that building (and later in the streets with officers), it would have been somewhere else.

The shooters were already equipped for and destined to commit horrendous crimes -- and no law would have prevented that.

Anything short of total gun confiscation will do little to curb violence. And total confiscation is never going to happen in our free society.

David H. Dolson

Valencia

::

We promote universal gun ownership based on our constitutional right to maintain a "well-regulated militia" to ensure the "security of a free state." We non-militia members then exercise our right by easily obtaining guns without strict proof of responsibility, thanks to the National Rifle Assn.

Finally, we do not limit gun ownership to handguns and rifles, but also purchase semiautomatic weapons capable of killing many human beings in a matter of seconds. This results in ongoing slaughters of our fellow citizens such as the recent one in San Bernardino.

We are a free, secure country with a stable democracy, many resources and a comfortable standard of living compared to many countries, yet we choose to live and die by the gun.

Joan Horn

Carlsbad, Calif.

::

As we grapple once more with a horrific mass murder, I hear people saying "We have to do something." Obviously there is no easy solution, but there is one thing that all citizens can do to help.

Do not vote for any candidates who do not support sane gun-control laws. It is totally possible to remove from office those politicians who are owned by the National Rifle Assn. or practice fear-mongering with misinformation about the 2nd Amendment.

Doing this would not solve the problem, but it would be a start and a way to honor the victims of these senseless killings.

Peggy Jo Abraham

Santa Monica

::

California has some of the toughest gun laws in the country. President Obama effectively wants to mirror this state's gun laws in the rest of the country.

This shooting in San Bernardino proves that tough gun laws will not prevent this kind of crime. So The Times should quit whining about gun control and let us find out why the shooters did what they did.

Robert Price

Walnut

--

Disclosing charter donors

Re "PAC shielded L.A. charter backers," Dec. 2

The inundation of a local school race with money from billionaires is just another example of how the 1% seek to control government. We see this in efforts to privatize Social Security, Medicare, the U.S. Post Service, schools and prisons.

The wealthy donors to Sacramento political action committee California Charter Schools Assn. Advocates may be motivated by good intentions, but they have biases ingrained by their milieu of wealth, self-importance and association with those who believe that capitalism can do no wrong.

The Walton heirs have succeeded by paying Wal-Mart workers wages so miserly that they qualify for welfare. These 1% believe that, since they have succeeded in business, they can provide better answers to educational problems than people who work in the field.

Campaign financing must be reformed. A first step would be the enactment of the Voters' Right to Know Act.

Lloyd A. Dent

Northridge

::

This article takes common and fully legal electoral practice and turns it into "gotcha" politics.

California Charter Schools Assn. Advocates is very proud of its compliance and transparency record. The Fair Political Practices Commission and our independent auditors have consistently found our reporting to be fully compliant.

Our donors are longtime education reformers who want nothing more than to see children receive better educational opportunities. They, and we, are certainly accustomed to having that support be a matter of public record. We have never tried to shield anyone from anything. We have worked tirelessly to build political will for positive changes in public education and we will continue to do so.

Furthermore, we believe readers are more interested in examining the creative ideas and educational models, such as charter schools, that are delivering much-needed results and have the power to transform the L.A. public education system.

Gary Borden

Los Angeles

The writer is executive director of California Charter Schools Assn. Advocates.

--

## Finding jobs for PhDs

Re "Preparing PhDs for the real world," Opinion, Nov. 30

Leonard Cassuto overlooks the obvious solution to the oversupply of PhDs: Reduce the supply.

Offering a few training classes to enable academics to adapt to nonacademic jobs may be helpful in the short run. But PhD programs have expanded far beyond the capacity of normal outlets for their specialized education.

These programs, for the most part, are at their core intended to produce academics who conduct original research. Jobs outside universities or the few corporations and think tanks that hire them for research activity simply do not require the type of education provided by current PhD programs.

Universities may be able to offer more and better professional training programs instead of PhDs. This is happening to some extent in certain disciplines, like my own, where geography departments have created programs in geographic information systems and other geospatial technology, and where graduates readily find appropriate employment in well-paying jobs.

Of course, research universities do not want to reduce admissions to PhD programs because it means fewer PhD students to supervise, and therefore fewer research-oriented professor positions.

Bryan Baker

Apple Valley

--

A micro-fraction of Kobe's pay

Re "Was Kobe overpaid? He earned every cent," Opinion, Dec. 2

Using Conor Friedersdorf's logic, underpaid blue-collar and service industry workers earn every cent of their meager pay because of market conditions.

As a former basketball player and coach and recovering sports addict, I agree Kobe Bryant has had a remarkable career. But our society has been on a 45-year cycle of spiraling economic inequality. For Friedersdorf to suggest that criticism of an example of an "astronomic salary" constitutes "snark" is jaw-dropping in its lack of context and perspective.

As to Bryant's future of daily pain, at least he'll have some of his hundreds of millions to pay for the very best care. The industrial worker, restaurant employee or farm laborer who may experience the same pain but has made a micro-fraction of what No. 24 has made won't have the same luxury.

Paul Spitzzeri

Chino Hills

--

The bar exam is difficult? Good

Re "47% in state pass bar exam," Nov. 30

I'm delighted to learn that the state bar exam is doing exactly what it is designed to do: Weed out students who don't measure up.

I hope the bar exam is not dumbed down to accommodate groups that might not do so well on the test. We do not need more lawyers in California; we do need smarter ones.

Dave Pierce

Los Angeles

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES draw guns Wednesday during a search for shooters in San Bernardino.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Quotidian tragedy of massacres; Another city, another body count, another blow to our sanity and sense of safety

Lopez, Steve . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Dec 2015: B.7.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Every incident is different -- the narratives cover everything from personal grudges to the many cracks in the mental health care system. Law enforcement does what it can to ensure public safety, he said, but "it's going to be important for all of us, including our legislatures, to see what we can do to make sure that when individuals decide they want to do somebody harm, we make it a little harder on them, because right now it's a little too easy."

## FULL TEXT

Correction: Wednesday, December 09, 2015: San Bernardino attack: In the Dec. 4 California section, a column about the San Bernardino shootings said that the attack was the 355th multiple-death shooting in the country this year. It was the 353rd mass shooting in the U.S. this year, not all of which involved deaths.

A day without a deadly rampage is now a day to celebrate.

Wednesday was not such a day.

The drama unfolds and your heart goes out to the victims, slaughtered this time at a holiday celebration, again by coldblooded assassins.

You think about the impossible struggle ahead for the loved ones they left behind -- their spouses, children, parents, brothers and sisters.

You sift through your own feelings of anger, helplessness and fear, knowing that mass shootings have happened before, certain that the world is full of fanatics who live to kill and reminded once more that, while we are all pretty safe statistically, there are no longer any safe places.

An elementary school in Newtown, Conn., was not safe.

A church in Charleston, S.C., was not safe.

A Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, Colo., was not safe.

A disability services center in San Bernardino, was not safe.

There, 14 people lost their lives and at least 21 were injured.

It was the 355th multiple-death shooting in the country this year.

Every incident is different -- the narratives cover everything from personal grudges to the many cracks in the mental health care system.

And every incident is the same -- innocent people die for no reason other than being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

The aftermath is often the same too. We're reminded that no country in the world has the level of gun violence we do, which comes as no surprise when you consider we have roughly 5% of the world's population and at least one-third of the civilian-owned firearms.

In the name of self-defense, American citizens can legally purchase enough firepower to bring down herds of elephants.

We get the same old calls for gun control, specifically assault weapons such as those used in San Bernardino to mow down the maximum possible number of human beings.

But those calls always fade quietly due in large part to the gun lobby's control of Congress.

We get the same tired claims about the meaning of the right to bear arms under the 2nd Amendment, along with crackpot arguments that more guns will make us safer.

And then we get another massacre.

"We see the prevalence of these kinds of mass shootings in this country, and I think so many Americans sometimes feel as if there's nothing we can do about it," President Obama said Thursday morning.

Law enforcement does what it can to ensure public safety, he said, but "it's going to be important for all of us, including our legislatures, to see what we can do to make sure that when individuals decide they want to do somebody harm, we make it a little harder on them, because right now it's a little too easy."

Way too easy. But even with all the practice we've had, the mind has trouble accepting the horror of random violence.

So before we knew the number of dead in San Bernardino and the identity of the killers, I wanted to think this was about a personal grievance, that it was specific to one place and one time, without political context.

But as the story takes shape, the implications are broader and scarier, and terrorism has not been ruled out. The murderers, both killed in a dramatic shootout with police, were Muslim. They had traveled to the Middle East in recent years and had a weapon stockpile that suggested they were on a mission, as law enforcement officials described it.

The existence of radicalized religious fanatics in the U.S., some of them on the radar and others not, along with the easy availability of weapons, make for an unsettling combination. One in which it can't be a total surprise when a little bit of Paris comes to San Bernardino.

So what do we do in response?

Anything but accept daily massacres as inevitable.

We refrain in the future from invading Middle Eastern countries on bogus grounds and triggering an international rise of jihadis.

We keep trying to find the right balance between tracking potential killers and protecting civil liberties.

We celebrate rather than fear American diversity and encourage more of the kind of official Muslim response we saw from Hussam Ayloush of the Los Angeles Council on American-Islamic Relations.

"We condemn this horrific and revolting attack and offer our heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of all those killed or injured," Ayloush said in a statement about San Bernardino.

"The Muslim community stands shoulder to shoulder with our fellow Americans in repudiating any twisted mindset that would claim to justify such sickening acts of violence."

And we make it a lot harder, rather than a little harder, for people to get their hands on weapons.

"I would have thought after Sandy Hook, after seeing all those children massacred, that the Congress would need nothing more to do its job, but even after that horrific tragedy, we sat idle," Congressman Adam B. Schiff (D-Burbank) said Thursday on CNN.

Schiff called for universal background checks and a ban on assault weapons, saying not a week goes by without a moment of silence on Capitol Hill to honor shooting victims.

"I'm tired of the moments of silence," said Schiff.

This time, it's a moment of silence for San Bernardino. For the injured, for the departed and for those they left behind.

--

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Obama renews his push on gun limits; The president also meets with former Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, wounded in an Arizona shooting.

Memoli, Michael A . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The meeting with Giffords and her husband, NASA astronaut Mark Kelly, who has advocate for tougher gun safety laws, was part of the Obama administration's ongoing dialogue "with those who share the president's passion for taking some common-sense steps to make it harder for those with bad intentions to get their hands on guns," White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest told reporters.

## FULL TEXT

As the White House seeks ways that President Obama could legally tighten restrictions on gun ownership, including closure of the so-called gun show loophole, he met Friday with Gabrielle Giffords, the former Arizona congresswoman who was severely wounded in a mass shooting in Tucson in 2011 in which six people were killed.

The meeting with Giffords and her husband, NASA astronaut Mark Kelly, who has advocate for tougher gun safety laws, was part of the Obama administration's ongoing dialogue "with those who share the president's passion for taking some common-sense steps to make it harder for those with bad intentions to get their hands on guns," White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest told reporters.

"The administration has worked closely with some of these outside groups to amplify the call of people across the country so that members of Congress can be responsive to those public priorities," Earnest added.

Obama renewed his push for tighter gun control after the mass shooting at a community college in Oregon in October that killed nine, as well as the gunman.

Earnest said Friday that administration officials "have cast a wide net" in exploring possible actions the president could take in using executive authority to limit access to guns, but he declined to specify what was being considered and how soon Obama might announce any plan.

The leading proposal under consideration, according to White House officials, is a reinterpretation of existing law to require all or most people trying to buy guns to submit to background checks. Licensed firearms dealers must conduct background checks, but those who make "occasional sales" are exempt from the requirement, including for sales at gun shows.

Such background checks might not have altered the path taken by the shooters behind Wednesday's massacre in San Bernardino. Federal officials have concluded that Syed Rizwan Farook, one of the two assailants, legally bought two of the weapons, and two others were likewise legally purchased and given to him by a friend.

The idea for tighter background checks was one of several suggested by gun safety advocates in the immediate aftermath of the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in Newtown, Conn., three years ago this month, though it wasn't part of final recommendations by Vice President Joe Biden, who led the White House effort to restrict access to guns.

"I don't know if they felt they didn't want to do it or couldn't do it for legal reasons," said Jim Kessler of the centrist Democratic think tank Third Way, who was in regular consultations with the administration during the deliberations. "It just didn't happen."

A bill to strengthen the background check system died in the Senate a few months after the Newtown rampage.

On Friday, Earnest blasted Senate Republicans who voted a day earlier to block several gun-related measures that Democrats had offered as amendments to a healthcare bill, including the bipartisan background check proposal that also failed to pass in 2013.

With their votes, Republicans "stood up once again with the [National Rifle Assn.] and in the face of common sense," Earnest said.

Obama's meeting with Americans for Responsible Solutions, which was not on his publicly released schedule, came on a day when he otherwise stayed out of the public eye.

The FBI announced Friday that it was investigating the shooting rampage in San Bernardino as an act of terrorism.

In remarks to reporters before the FBI announcement, Earnest declined to comment on reports that Tashfeen Malik, who died in a police shootout after she and Farook, her husband, killed 14 at a holiday party for the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, had pledged allegiance to Islamic State on Facebook.

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Background checks; Firearm laws & regulations; Presidents; Criminal investigations; Mass murders
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	OBAMA, BARACK GIFFORDS, GABRIELLE GUN CONTROL MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Lawmakers renew look at gun control

McGreevy, Patrick . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.6.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

In his veto message on SB 374, Brown wrote that he didn't "believe that this bill's blanket ban on semi-automatic rifles would reduce criminal activity or enhance public safety enough to warrant this infringement on gun owners' rights."

## FULL TEXT

The mass shooting in San Bernardino has state lawmakers looking again at new gun control legislation for California, while leading advocates for restrictions called Friday for the state to close a loophole that allows detachable ammunition magazines on weapons like one used in the killings.

Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De Leon (D-Los Angeles) said he would revisit some proposals that previously stalled, while an assemblyman proposed banning the sale of guns to those on a federal "no-fly" list.

"Now more than ever we have to be working aggressively with law enforcement and crime prevention experts to better protect our communities," De Leon said in a statement Friday. "I'll be coordinating with the Assembly to deliver a package of proposals to the governor's desk as soon as possible."

Authorities investigating the shooting deaths of 14 people in San Bernardino on Wednesday by Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik found 4,500 rounds of ammunition in their Redlands home and 1,400 assault rifle rounds and 200 handgun rounds in their car.

California law prohibits assault rifles with magazines detachable by hand, because they allow quick reloading, but allows the use of an external tool to remove a magazine.

A bill that failed to win approval by the Legislature in 2013 would have closed the loophole that permits semiautomatic guns to be fitted with a recessed "bullet button" that allows a bullet or tool to eject the magazine.

Meredith Davis, a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives spokeswoman, said that of the five firearms recovered, one of the two semiautomatic rifles had a bullet button.

Nick Wilcox, legislative advocate for the California Chapter of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, called Friday for the state to ban bullet buttons.

"With the bullet-button exception we have now, California does not have any assault weapons ban," he said.

A much broader bill vetoed by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2013 would have banned semiautomatic rifles with magazines detachable by any means and required owners to register some low-capacity rifles as assault weapons.

In his veto message on SB 374, Brown wrote that he didn't "believe that this bill's blanket ban on semi-automatic rifles would reduce criminal activity or enhance public safety enough to warrant this infringement on gun owners' rights."

Former Senate leader Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) said Friday that SB 374, which he authored, "should be reconsidered."

Brown noted in 2013 that he had signed AB 48, which closed a loophole on a law that limits magazines to 10 bullets, as well as two bills that restrict the ability of mentally unstable people to purchase or possess guns.

"The governor will closely consider any bill that reaches his desk," said Gareth Lacy, a Brown spokesman.

Meanwhile, Assemblyman Mike Gatto (D-Glendale) said Friday that he will introduce legislation that would ban the sale of guns and some chemicals to people on a federal government's anti-terrorist no-fly list of people restricted from commercial flights.

"I don't think someone on a terrorist watchlist should be allowed to purchase any firearms," Gatto said. Neither shooter in the San Bernardino massacre was on the list, but Gatto said it would help weed out potential misuse of guns.

--

Times staff writer Richard Winton in San Bernardino contributed to this report.

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Firearms; State laws; Massacres; Mass murders
<b>Location:</b>	California
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS GUN CONTROL AMMUNITION
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# U.S. to probe Muslim boy's arrest

Phelps, Timothy M . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: A.7.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## ABSTRACT

Atty. Gen. Loretta Lynch, speaking to the American Muslim community for the first time after the attack in San

Bernardino, announced that the Justice Department will investigate the arrest of a 14-year-old Muslim boy for bringing a homemade clock to school in a Dallas suburb.

## FULL TEXT

Atty. Gen. Loretta Lynch, speaking to the American Muslim community for the first time after the attack in San Bernardino, announced that the Justice Department will investigate the arrest of a 14-year-old Muslim boy for bringing a homemade clock to school in a Dallas suburb.

The Irving Police Department arrested Ahmed Mohamed in September after school authorities grew suspicious of a clock that Ahmed said he had made and brought to school to show his teacher. Authorities suspected it was a bomb.

Ahmed was never charged, but members of Congress asked Lynch for the civil rights investigation, which she promised Thursday.

Last week, the boy's family threatened a lawsuit and demanded an apology and \$15 million – \$10 million from the city of Irving and \$5 million from the Irving Independent School District.

Lynch was speaking during an "armchair conversation" in a Virginia suburb of Washington at a dinner being held by the Muslim Advocates, a national legal advocacy group for the rights of Muslims.

Scheduled long before Wednesday's shootings, in which 14 people died, it was Lynch's first appearance as attorney general before the Muslim community.

Although she did not speak directly about the San Bernardino attack, Lynch said there had been a "very disturbing rise in anti-Muslim rhetoric" since the terrorist attack in Paris three weeks ago that claimed 130 lives.

"When we are ruled by fear, we are not making ourselves safe," Lynch said.

She specifically criticized proposals in Congress to block Syrian refugees from the U.S.

"This is not the way," she said, and people were "simply rushing to judgment."

"My message to the Muslim community is we stand with you in this," Lynch said to Farhana Khera, the executive director of Muslim Advocates.

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: AHMED MOHAMED, 14, was arrested after school officials mistook his homemade clock for a bomb.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Jim Watson AFP/Getty Images

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Muslims
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	IRVING (TX) HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MUSLIMS CLOCKS BOMB THREATS ARRESTS INVESTIGATIONS
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; A couple's inexplicable path; What led Syed Farook and Tashfeen Malik to carry out their deadly rampage?

Banks, Sandy . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The mystery, the contradictions and the breach of convention make the holiday party siege particularly unsettling: A quiet, accommodating government worker and his reclusive wife don black masks and battle gear and spray a crowd of his co-workers with semiautomatic rifle fire, killing 14 and wounding 21.

## FULL TEXT

Was it radical religious terrorism or murderous workplace revenge?

Are guns the problem or would more guns have been the solution?

Do we close our borders to people whose religion we don't trust, or treat them with compassion and tolerance?

Those questions are bound to keep swirling around an investigation that's managed to explain precisely what happened this week in San Bernardino but cannot tell us why the shooting happened or what it means.

The mystery, the contradictions and the breach of convention make the holiday party siege particularly unsettling:

A quiet, accommodating government worker and his reclusive wife don black masks and battle gear and spray a crowd of his co-workers with semiautomatic rifle fire, killing 14 and wounding 21.

They leave behind few clues and no manifesto -- just an arsenal of ammunition and home-made bombs, and a 6-month-old daughter who will never know her parents as anything other than misguided monsters.

The FBI is leaning toward terrorism as an explanation. The husband, Syed Rizwan Farook, had once been in touch with individuals from two Muslim terror groups. The wife, Tashfeen Malik, had pledged allegiance to an Islamic State leader in a Facebook post.

The couple may have been "radicalized" by extremist propaganda, officials said Friday. But there's no evidence that they are part of an official terror network.

It's a sign of the times that I was relieved when I heard that.

That means I can lump them in with the right-wing nut accused of shooting up a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado last month. Or the Confederate-flag-loving loser charged with killing nine people in a South Carolina church last spring.

That we can stop scanning the crowd for that wild-eyed white guy in the movie theater -- and give ourselves permission to worry again about the brown-skinned man sporting a beard or the woman wearing a veil.

::

I remember making the rounds of local mosques 14 years ago, while we were reeling from the horror of Sept. 11. I moved among silent, hollow-eyed penitents, shocked that their brethren could do such an evil thing in the name of their religion.

As I put my notebook away and headed for my car, an anguished mother stopped me and took my hands in hers.

"Will they blame our children for this?" she asked, her voice trembling and her eyes red.

I didn't know what to say then.

Today I'm afraid I'd have to answer yes.

It uncomplicates things for us to consider Farook and Malik a solitary pair of hate-filled zealots, jealous of our freedom-loving ways.

But there's no making sense of the bloodbath they caused, and no salve for the pain of victims, survivors, friends and families whose lives will never be the same.

The early accounts were hard to stomach and impossible to synthesize.

It appears to be the body of a woman, a TV news reporter announced incredulously, after a shootout with police left Malik dead in the street.

She's wearing a red bra.

I hadn't known anything about the assailants until then; I was prepared for just about anything but that.

Later I'd find it sad -- then subversively ironic -- that a woman so modest she only ventured out totally covered, with only her eyes showing, would be immortalized in lingerie, her combat garb askew.

::

On Friday, the family's attorney called Malik a devoted housewife and mother and said Farook had been teased at

work because he wore a beard, which is considered a sign of religious fealty among devout Muslims.

Did an argument with a co-worker spark the massacre? Was Farook, born in Chicago and raised in Riverside, brainwashed by his Pakistani bride?

Or was his rage -- and reliance on guns -- brewing for years and distinctly American?

Court records suggest Farook grew up in a home ruled by violence and racked by mental illness. His father was abusive and threatened "to kill himself on a daily basis," Farook's mother told the court.

By the time Farook was in his 20s, "doing target practice" had become one of his favorite pastimes, according to the profile he posted on an online dating site -- where he was seeking "someone who takes her religion very seriously."

He believed he'd found that in Malik. But he was wrong. What they did was evil, not Islam.

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: HUNDREDS attended a vigil at San Manuel Stadium in San Bernardino for victims of Wednesday's shooting.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Barbara Davidson Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: ANGEL MELER-BAUMGARTNER, 11, who was a member of the Inland Regional Center where Wednesday's mass shooting occurred, attends a vigil at San Manuel Stadium, in San Bernardino on Thursday.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Barbara Davidson Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	Column SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS MUSLIMS TERRORISM
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; FBI sorting through trove of evidence; Items include ammo and a blowtorch. But most crucial may be the shooters' digital footprint, officials say.

Dolan, Jack; Serrano, Richard A; Sahagun, Louis . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## ABSTRACT

Agents also asked the family whether there was a list of who attended the couple's recent wedding in Saudi Arabia and a separate reception held in the U.S. Family members didn't have lists for either, Chesley said. Besides the interviews, the FBI has collected physical and electronic evidence, including a dozen pipe bombs and more than 4,500 rounds of ammunition in the couple's Redlands home and an additional 1,600 rounds in their rental car.

## FULL TEXT

Hours after the attack that left 14 people dead and 21 wounded, employees at the Riverside Magnum Range received a surprise visit.

Federal agents, who had reason to believe that one of the shooters in the rampage may have been a customer, took store security videos and financial records. The seizure of potential evidence was part of a global hunt for information in what the FBI declared Friday was a terrorism investigation.

As part of their inquiry, federal authorities want to figure out why Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik carried out their deadly mission Wednesday and whether they acted alone.

Investigators have been examining the couple's travels abroad. They've conducted interviews with friends and family, and an imam at Farook's mosque said authorities confronted him at gunpoint before questioning him Wednesday night. Farook's mother was questioned for seven hours by the FBI, and his three siblings were interviewed Thursday for four hours, attorneys for the family said.

Agents asked about Farook's social media activity, whether anyone in the family was affiliated with religious extremist sects and if his family had noticed any changes in behavior or attitude or clothing prior to the incident, said David Chesley, one of the attorneys.

"There was no change in attitude, no change in dress, no change in behavior," Chesley said. "I think it frustrated the FBI."

Agents also asked the family whether there was a list of who attended the couple's recent wedding in Saudi Arabia and a separate reception held in the U.S. Family members didn't have lists for either, Chesley said.

Besides the interviews, the FBI has collected physical and electronic evidence, including a dozen pipe bombs and more than 4,500 rounds of ammunition in the couple's Redlands home and an additional 1,600 rounds in their rental car.

From the couple's townhouse, the FBI seized notebooks, a day planner, data storage devices, a blowtorch, audiocassettes and a pen with an SD memory card inside. Among the evidence were two receipts: one from a Chase bank for an undisclosed amount, and a receipt for a \$600 withdrawal from Union Bank in Redlands.

What might prove to be the most telling is the couple's digital footprint, said David Bowdich, assistant director in charge of the FBI in Los Angeles. On Friday, the FBI said it found two crushed cellphones in a trash can near the couple's home, which they plan to examine. "That evidence is incredibly important," he said.

In addition, authorities will sift through a "large volume" of electronic evidence, which FBI Director James B. Comey said "these killers tried to destroy and tried to conceal from us."

"There is much about this that doesn't make sense, even for us who do this for a living. That is why we have hundreds of people running down leads all over the world on this and ... trying to understand the electronic records around these two killers," Comey said.

Among many questions, the FBI is trying to figure out why the couple decided to attack the office party at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino rather than a more high-profile target. One key question, said a law enforcement source, who was not authorized to speak publicly, "is if they had any weapons or terror training in Pakistan."

Malik posted a note on Facebook pledging allegiance to Islamic State before the attack, authorities said, but the couple could have been inspired or driven by other groups, such as Al Qaeda. Officials cautioned that the new evidence could point to self-radicalization.

"Were they directed or self-radicalized?" the source said.

Noting the large arsenal found at the couple's rented home, the source said, "were they planning some big, even bigger, thing when that happened?"

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Times staff writers Brian Bennett and Nicole Santa Cruz contributed to this report.

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Social networks; Criminal investigations
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; A 'bizarre' look inside home; Attackers' landlord allows the media to go through the couple's townhouse after FBI finishes work there.

Mather, Kate; Rubin, Joel . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Photographers and camera operators jostled for position as several reporters rummaged through photographs, personal documents, identification cards and Islamic books strewn on a bed.

## FULL TEXT

In the smaller of the two bedrooms, a white crib was piled with baby blankets and toys. Stuffed animals filled a

laundry basket. A white bear peeked from the bottom.

On a desk nearby, loose change was scattered next to a student ID card from a local university. And in the closet, dozens of plastic hangers hung with brightly colored tags marking the baby clothes sizes: 3 months, 6 months, 9 months.

In the bathroom, a pink baby bath rested in the tub. A small heart-shaped plaque on the wall read, "May the joy you bring to so many others with your gentle and caring ways, be returned to you with blessings every day."

In the middle of the living room were two small black tables. On one was a four-page list that included these items: 13 boxes of 50 rounds (22 caliber). 1 bag of 1000 rounds (.223 caliber). budsgunshop.com invoice. Christmas lights.

The FBI made an accounting of all that it had seized from the townhouse of Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, 29, who carried out Wednesday's mass shooting in San Bernardino.

The couple killed 14 people and wounded 21 others when they opened fire with semiautomatic rifles on a group of Farook's work colleagues from the San Bernardino County Health Department. The pair escaped before police arrived, but were killed hours later in a gun battle with officers.

In a surreal scene Friday morning, Doyle Miller, the 81-year-old owner of the modest rental property in Redlands, opened the killers' private lives to the eager eyes of dozens of journalists camped outside.

Miller arrived at the Center Street address planning to photograph any damage that had been done during the search. After he pried off a heavy plywood board that had been used to seal the front door, Miller appeared to tell one journalist that he could enter.

With that, the whole crowd rushed in and up the stairs.

Photographers and camera operators jostled for position as several reporters rummaged through photographs, personal documents, identification cards and Islamic books strewn on a bed.

CNN and MSNBC broadcast the scene live.

"I was the first person to walk into this room and saw how it was before everyone started touching it," a CNN reporter told viewers as the camera swept across the cluttered bed. She then walked across the bedroom to point out a large hole that investigators had broken in the ceiling to inspect the crawl space.

Watching from CNN's studio, host Anderson Cooper said to the reporter: "This is kind of bizarre. This whole thing. I just want to be clear: The police have cleared this.... Is that correct?"

A MSNBC reporter, meanwhile, showed on live television a driver's license belonging to Farook's mother, who authorities do not believe was involved in the killings.

Soon, the dozens of reporters were joined by curious neighbors. One woman brought her dog.

A Los Angeles Times reporter who was among those who entered the home confirmed with Miller that he had

allowed the journalists to enter.

"Yeah, I gave permission to open it up," he said.

FBI officials later said they had completed their work at the townhouse and relinquished control of it.

Media critics were sharply critical of the decision to report on the apartment, questioning the journalistic value in doing so. Broadcasting live was particularly egregious, they said, because it gave reporters no time to assess what they were showing viewers.

"Your job, your ethical duty, is to get information to your audience. The key has to be whether it is meaningful and relevant," said Kelly McBride, an ethics specialist at the Poynter Institute.

When reporters first entered, they saw that the cupboard doors in a downstairs bathroom and the kitchen had been thrown open. In the main living room, the sliding glass door was also boarded up; shattered glass and broken blinds lay on the green carpet.

On one of the black tables, a list was written in block letters on lined paper. Union Bank receipt. Audiocassettes. iPhone in green case. 1 bag 97 loose rounds (9mm).

Authorities said that along with the guns and ammunition, they found bomb-making materials and 12 pipe-bomb devices in the garage.

Miller said he would not open the garage. There were too many reporters around.

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### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: JOURNALISTS zero in on the personal documents at the Redlands home of killers Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik on Friday.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: "YEAH, I GAVE permission to open it up," landlord Doyle Miller said when he was asked whether he had allowed the media inside the home. CNN's Anderson Cooper said "the whole thing" was "kind of bizarre."; PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## **DETAILS**

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Three victims had come to U.S. seeking refuge

## ABSTRACT

Amanios' wife is a registered nurse at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, which tended to some of the wounded. Authorities have named Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, as the attackers, and on Friday federal officials said that Farook had ties to two terrorist groups overseas and that his wife had pledged allegiance to Islamic State on Facebook.

## FULL TEXT

An Eritrean emigre, who came to California in 2000 to escape violence. A mother of three from Iran, who fled Islamic extremism at 18. A county worker, whose mother brought her from Vietnam at 8, in search of stability.

For three victims of the San Bernardino shootings, America seemed like a promise of safety.

But on Wednesday, that hope disappeared when attackers carrying long guns rushed into a holiday party at the Inland Regional Center, killing 14.

By Friday, some of the shock had started to wear off, but the grief only deepened as new details of the victims emerged.

"It is the ultimate irony that her life would be stolen from her by what appears to be the same type of extremism that she fled so many years ago," the family of Bennetta Betbadal, 46, the Iranian immigrant, said in a statement.

The family of Isaac Amanios, the 60-year-old Eritrean emigre, could relate.

"Nowhere is safe," his brother, Abraham, said.

Zeke Gebrekidane said his uncle was a family man who took pride in his college-aged children.

Amanios' wife is a registered nurse at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, which tended to some of the wounded.

Another victim was Shannon Johnson, 45, who loved to collect images.

He had them tattooed on much of his body: One of his first wife, another of each of his grandfathers. One of his dad, who died in a grain silo accident in Georgia when Johnson was a boy. He was planning to get another soon of his girlfriend, Mandy Pifer.

The couple had been together for three years, she said, and had recently decided to get married.

Johnson – a Christian who, Pifer said, dabbled in Hinduism – loved the department for its diversity, and often

recounted friendly conversations about religion with Syed Rizwan Farook, a fellow restaurant inspector.

Authorities have named Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, as the attackers, and on Friday federal officials said that Farook had ties to two terrorist groups overseas and that his wife had pledged allegiance to Islamic State on Facebook.

Stephanie Rose Baldwin posted on Facebook saying that Johnson had helped save the life of her sister, Denise Peraza.

"This angel of a man was sitting next to my sister when the shooting happened," she wrote. "He helped protect her from the bullets and we are so grateful for his heroic love."

For surviving victims, grief compounded even as they healed.

"She's recovering very well, but still going through emotional trauma," said Salihin Kondoker, whose wife, Anies, was shot.

After her release from the hospital, her mind raced with thoughts of returning to work. Now, it would be without her best friend, Tin Nguyen, who was killed.

She "keeps on thinking, how is she going to see the office, the empty office, empty cubicles?" Kondoker said.

On Friday, family and friends filled the Santa Ana home that Nguyen, 31, shared with her mother and brother. Her uncle said his children will always treasure the last text they got from her, in which she was helping to plan a holiday trip to Las Vegas. A way to bring everybody together.

"Love continues," he said softly.

John Chapman, who lived next door to Juan Espinoza for nearly two decades, said he was heartbroken by his neighbor's death.

"I probably spent more time talking to him than anybody except my wife," he said. "He was a good man."

On a porch in Upland, where victim Harry Bowman, 46, lived, there was an unopened package. His mother, Marion, had sent it from Pennsylvania.

It was full of Christmas presents.

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Times staff writers Ben Poston, Matt Hamilton, Sarah Parvini, Soumya Karlamangla and Laura J. Nelson

contributed to this report.

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# MAILBAG; A laudable response

**Publication info:** Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: A.13.

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## ABSTRACT

[...]some readers have found something to like: the police response. Since Wednesday, nearly all the letter submissions on the shooting have debated gun control or terrorism or have lamented what the writers believe is a society sickened by gun violence.

## FULL TEXT

It's impossible to find a silver lining in a tragedy such as the one in San Bernardino on Wednesday, in which two gunmen killed 14 people at an office holiday party before the suspects were pursued and eventually killed by police. But some readers have found something to like: the police response.

Since Wednesday, nearly all the letter submissions on the shooting have debated gun control or terrorism or have lamented what the writers believe is a society sickened by gun violence. Instead of expressing outrage or sadness, a small handful of readers chose to thank law enforcement for acting decisively to prevent further deaths.

Here are some of their letters.

– Paul Thornton, letters editor

Culver City resident Lincoln Gable Riley lauds the police for their bravery and tactics:

I am so proud of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, the San Bernardino Police Department and the Redlands Police Department. Their conduct, professionalism and discipline shined so brilliantly when faced with heavily armed shooters in what became a running battle in city streets, and though reeling from eight years of financial crisis and the near inability to keep current with equipment, they demonstrated without a shadow of a doubt their superior teamwork, selflessness and ability to rapidly overwhelm the enemy and render the public safe.

I am particularly impressed and thrilled with their total lack of indecisive moments, their high efficiency without any wasted movement and the speed with which they reconfigured themselves to confront the threat and maintain the upper hand through superior force and tactics. They are truly brothers and sisters who watch each other's back and stand shoulder to shoulder against crime.

These officers should stand tall, for they've earned much respect from this action. I imagine many in police work were shocked and surprised, first at the amount of devastation the shooters created, and even more with the incredibly exquisite response in kind.

My only regret is that the suspects lost their lives, which renders them unable to provide insight to further improve

the response and prevents us from easily gaining information about how the structure of their action works. Their deaths also make it more difficult to see if they are part of a larger group.

Glen Hovey of Redlands compares his local police with the attention those in other jurisdictions have received:

With all the bad publicity police nationwide have been getting, I just want to thank all law enforcement involved in the San Bernardino shooting for keeping us safe.

Newport Beach resident Mark Larson praises San Bernardino's top cop:

The police chief of San Bernardino, Jarrod Burguan, is to be congratulated. Since the shooting he has been professional, articulate and classy.

What a great example of what all in law enforcement in the United States should strive to be.

The citizens of San Bernardino should be proud of Chief Burguan.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: SAN BERNARDINO County sheriff's deputies keep watch during a search for the two shooters.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; FBI EYES ATTACK AS 'ACT OF TERRORISM'; GUNWOMAN PLEDGED ALLEGIANCE TO ISIS; Investigators question Farook's mother, siblings for hours; Mystery behind rampage takes ominous tone

Karlamangla, Soumya; Bennett, Brian; Serna, Joseph . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.1.

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## ABSTRACT

Everything in the Redlands townhouse suggested the ordinary life of a young family: dirty dishes in the sink, family photo albums, Christmas lights, an iPhone, boxes of Pampers, a half-empty bottle of Pepto-Bismol. The mystery over why the couple, dressed in black tactical gear, opened fire took an ominous turn Friday when officials said Malik had pledged allegiance on Facebook to a leader of Islamic State just as Wednesday's attack was getting under way.

## FULL TEXT

Everything in the Redlands townhouse suggested the ordinary life of a young family: dirty dishes in the sink, family

photo albums, Christmas lights, an iPhone, boxes of Pampers, a half-empty bottle of Pepto-Bismol.

There were the quiet symbols of devotion: prayer beads, a tapestry with the 99 names for Allah, a donation jar filled with dollars for Muslims for Humanity, a children's book on Islamic manners and the Quran, translated by a noted Indian peace activist.

Neighbors and family say it was here where a quiet couple, Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, began a life together with their new baby.

But authorities also say it is where they amassed a cache of weapons and ammunition, built explosive devices and launched a massacre that killed 14 people at a holiday gathering of Farook's co-workers.

The mystery over why the couple, dressed in black tactical gear, opened fire took an ominous turn Friday when officials said Malik had pledged allegiance on Facebook to a leader of Islamic State just as Wednesday's attack was getting under way.

The revelations shifted the focus of the investigation squarely onto Malik, the 29-year-old woman described as quiet, shy and doting.

The couple's infant daughter was born in May, according to records.

An acquaintance who prayed with Farook at a San Bernardino mosque said Farook liked his wife because she wore a niqab, a veil that covered almost all of her face.

Nizaam Ali, 23, said Friday he thought Malik's niqab showed she was religious and wasn't embodying "the modern role of women today, working and all that."

Ali, a student at Cal State San Bernardino, said he occasionally talked to Farook at Dar al Uloom al Islamiyah of America mosque.

Ali remembered Farook saying something like, "That's what really made me interested in her, that's what made her stick out from the other women."

Farook met his wife online, a practice that Ali said is common among his friends. "In our community, it's different," he said, noting that it's difficult for Muslim men to find women to marry. "Internet has become something that eases it."

Ali said he had met Malik on a few occasions but the niqab obscured her face. "If you asked me how she looked, I couldn't tell you," he said.

The couple were married in Islam's holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia last year, according to Farook's co-workers at the Health Department and others who knew them. The Saudi Embassy in Washington confirmed that Farook spent nine days in the kingdom in the summer of 2014.

Authorities said that when he returned to the U.S. in July 2014, he brought Malik with him on a fiancee visa. After a background check by the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, she was granted a conditional green card last summer.

Mohammad Abuershaid, an attorney representing Farook's and Malik's family, said Malik never spoke about Islamic State or terrorism.

"As far as I know, there was no discussion of any of that [among family members]," Abuershaid said.

The family was very conservative and it would have been unlikely that Malik discussed her thoughts on world events, including the trouble in the Middle East, with her in-laws, Abuershaid said.

Farook's mother lived with the couple, staying mainly upstairs. Farook liked to tinker in his garage.

"Tashfeen was an individual who kept to herself most of the time," Abuershaid said, adding she was a "typical housewife."

During family gatherings, "the women would sit with the women, men with the men. Men did not interact with her," Abuershaid said. "Brothers have never seen her face. She was totally covered. They just knew her as 'Syed's wife.'"

The family has met with the FBI and plans to meet with agency officials again Monday, the attorney said.

Another lawyer for the family said authorities questioned Farook's mother and siblings for hours.

"It went into deep, scary witch-hunt mode," said David Chesley. "None of the family members had any idea that this was going to take place."

He said agents requested Farook and Malik's wedding guest list.

Pakistani intelligence agents say they have questioned members of Malik's extended family in the province of Punjab, an area that is considered a stronghold of Islamist militant organizations.

Malik belonged to an educated, politically influential family from Karor Lal Esan in Layyah district. Malik Ahmad Ali Aulakh, one of her father's cousins, was once a provincial minister. Residents said the Aulakh family is known to have connections to militant Islam.

"The family has some extremist credentials," said Zahid Gishkori, 32, a resident of the Layyah district in the area who knows the family well.

Farook and Malik had amassed an arsenal of 2,000 9 mm handgun rounds, 2,500 .223-caliber rifle rounds and "hundreds of tools" that could have been used to make explosive devices, authorities said.

The couple fired at least 65 shots when they stormed a party at the Inland Regional Center, where about 80 people had gathered. Twelve of the 14 dead and 18 of the 21 injured were county employees, police said.

Hours later, the couple exchanged gunfire with police on San Bernardino streets, launching bullets into homes and terrifying residents. They both died in the shootout.

When asked about the influence Malik may have exerted over her husband, the lead official on the case, David Bowdich, touched upon a familiar domestic theme.

"Being a husband myself," he said, "we're all influenced to an extent."

Bowdich said that the couple attempted to destroy their "digital fingerprints." He added that two crushed cellphones were found in a trash can.

Farook had grown up in the Inland Empire, where he attended La Sierra High School in Riverside.

As a student, he helped classmates with their homework, and in 2009 graduated from Cal State San Bernardino with a degree in environmental health.

Farook worked for the county as a health inspector, where colleagues say he spoke easily with colleagues at work even when the conversation shifted to religion, politics and Islam.

Kuuleme Stephens, a friend of one of the victims, overheard one of these conversations. Nicholas Thalasinis, a Messianic Jew, and Farook had differing beliefs. Thalasinis wore a tie clip with the Star of David, and Farook believed that Israel did not belong in the Middle East.

But when Stephens overheard their , their tone didn't "set off any bells or whistles."

On Wednesday morning, Farook and Malik left the child in the care of her grandmother before setting out to the holiday party in the black Expedition loaded with guns.

The couple's daughter is in the care of Child Protective Services pending a hearing next week, said Abuersheid, the Farook's family attorney.

He added that the girl would likely end up with Farook's sister.

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Contributing to this report were Times staff writers Thomas Curwen, Corina Knoll, Marisa Gerber, Richard Winton, Paloma Esquivel, Laura J. Nelson, Jack Dolan, Richard A. Serrano, Ruben Vives, Matt Stevens, Hailey Branson-Potts, Sarah Parvini, Matt Hamilton, Rong-Gong Lin II, Veronica Rocha, Dexter Thomas, Joel Rubin, Kate Mather, Taylor Goldenstein, Anh Do, Lauren Raab, Christine Mai-Duc, Stephen Ceasar, Cindy Chang, Harriet Ryan, Garrett Therolf, Paresh Dave, Phil Willon and special correspondent Aoun Sahi.

### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: MANDY PIFER – whose boyfriend, environmental health specialist Shannon Johnson, was one of the 14 people killed in the San Bernardino shootings Wednesday – talks about the family photographs that hang in his Koreatown apartment.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Al Seib Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: DR. MOHAMMAD HOSSAIN, center, offers a prayer at the end of an interfaith memorial service Friday at the Islamic Center of Redlands to

remember the victims of Wednesday's mass shooting in San Bernardino.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Irfan Khan Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: SYED RIZWAN FAROOK wed last year.; PHOTOGRAPHER:DMV; PHOTO: TASHFEEN MALIK was a housewife.; PHOTOGRAPHER:FBI; PHOTO: THE REDLANDS townhouse where Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik lived revealed a crib, prayer beads and other signs of quiet, domestic life. Investigators say Malik had pledged allegiance on Facebook to an Islamic State leader just as Wednesday's rampage at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino took place.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: THE REDLANDS townhouse where Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik lived revealed a crib, prayer beads and other signs of quiet, domestic life. Investigators say Malik had pledged allegiance on Facebook to an Islamic State leader just as Wednesday's rampage at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino took place.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: THE REDLANDS townhouse where Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik lived revealed a crib, prayer beads and other signs of quiet, domestic life. Investigators say Malik had pledged allegiance on Facebook to an Islamic State leader just as Wednesday's rampage at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino took place.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: THE REDLANDS townhouse where Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik lived revealed a crib, prayer beads and other signs of quiet, domestic life. Investigators say Malik had pledged allegiance on Facebook to an Islamic State leader just as Wednesday's rampage at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino took place.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

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# LETTERS; Trigger-unhappy

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## FULL TEXT

Re "For Muslims, new heartache," Dec. 4

I work close to where Wednesday's shooting took place in San Bernardino, and I am heartbroken over this tragedy. I wish I could have done something. I wish the suspects could have been stopped from buying guns. I wish all the victims had a gun to protect themselves. I wish I could have been there to help save the lives of the innocent.

But it's too late for wishes. So I cope with this tragedy by pledging I will do everything in my power to make sure these terrorists do not win.

I am a Muslim American from Riverside. What terrorists want more than anything is to divide us. They want us to fear them. They want to erode the tolerance and empathy that make up our social fabric, but we must not let that happen. Their defeat will come from our resilience and cohesion. Greater than their guns and bombs are our tolerance and desire to live our lives together in peace.

The terrorists will be forgotten, but the victims and brave first responders will always be with us. I wish to be like them. And I know it isn't too late for this wish to come true.

Hamza Hashmi, Riverside

::

No more prayers and teddy bears. The San Bernardino massacre should be the last straw in the national hand-wringing response to murderers and their guns. Resignation to these incidents results in inaction.

It's time for our national leaders to call a halt to this madness and institute an emergency moratorium for six months on all gun sales, then conduct an emergency summit conference to debate and take action against the proliferation of guns, particularly assault rifles, and unlicensed gun sales.

Americans account for 5% of the world's population and nearly half of its privately owned guns, and studies are showing how mass murders by guns continue to rise.

Let's not allow the San Bernardino victims to have died in vain as so many others have already.

Bob Ladendorf

Los Angeles

::

No amount of gun control in the world would've stopped the attack in San Bernardino on Wednesday. I can't remember the last time any card-carrying member of the National Rifle Assn. was involved in a shooting where many people were killed, but somehow that organization is blamed every time something like this happens.

It is not the NRA that is killing these people or in any way encouraging fanatics to commit these acts of domestic terrorism.

Charles Reilly

Manhattan Beach

::

With the shootings in San Bernardino and elsewhere recently, it must be clear to all that we have lost control of guns in America. So we are in a "post gun control" period in this country.

Guns don't kill people; bullets kill people. Our only hope is to go after the killers. After all, a gun is just a bunch of metal and wooden parts without a bullet.

As a start, how about a \$1 levy on each bullet to be put into a fund for victims of gun violence to pay for this grotesque aspect of American culture?

James Manifold

Claremont

::

I wonder what kind of reception will be given by foreign governments to refugees from the United States fleeing the violence in their country.

Dave Bedell

Claremont

--

Living in a violent society

Re "Who's to blame in Colorado?," Opinion, Dec. 1

Just after Jonah Goldberg's column on the Planned Parenthood shooting last Friday appeared, we are suddenly faced with a new and even worse mass shooting.

Goldberg is right that in a certain sense it does not matter why these shootings go on; the fact is they do. And that is the problem: We are beginning to reach a critical mass in terror. Our nation may wag its collective finger at civil wars in foreign lands, but over a period of five days, at least 17 Americans died for the crime of going about their daily routines.

At some point, it is perhaps reasonable to ask what kind of civilization are we that we as a people can find no common ground to ensure the safety of our fellow citizens.

Oliver Cutshaw

Los Angeles

::

By stating that the GOP candidates and the Center for Medical Progress should not be held responsible, even remotely, for the shooting at the Colorado Springs Planned Parenthood, Goldberg smacks himself in the face with his own goofy logic.

In a Nov. 21 column for the National Review, Goldberg wrote the following: "The Islamic State is called 'the Islamic State.' I used to eat at a restaurant called Burrito Brothers. Saying that Islamic State has nothing to do with Islam is like telling someone eating a burrito they bought at Burrito Brothers that Burrito Brothers has 'nothing whatsoever' to do with burritos."

The Republican candidates have stood onstage and called out, "Ready. Aim." Just because they haven't yelled out "Fire!" doesn't absolve them.

Paula Del

Los Angeles

::

If "The Catcher in the Rye," "The Dark Knight Rises" or "Zeitgeist" -- all mentioned by Goldberg -- had motivated many people to act out violently, he might have a case. But we do have countless numbers of healthcare providers and others seeking help as innocent victims of the anti-abortion movement.

Richard Kopelle

Los Angeles

--

Let's act on climate change

Re "Empty promises in Paris?," Opinion, Dec. 1

John Bolton's and John Yoo's piece on the ongoing United Nations climate-change conference in Paris is a depressing example of the toxic level of partisanship in politics today.

Bolton and Yoo simply recite the truth when they write, "Administration officials surely realize that any climate-change treaty would be dead on arrival in the Senate."

It does not matter what substantive progress might be achieved; if it is in treaty form, it is "dead on arrival." The childish commitment to preventing any kind of accomplishment by President Obama is despicable.

The complexity of this issue and the dire consequences of a changing climate should engage the best and highest spirit of intellectual cooperation from all of us. To stand on the sidelines and catcall is not useful.

We need to set aside differences, which in this context are really petty, and try to find a common way forward for the sake of our children's children.

Jim Lashly

Ojai

::

Bolton and Yoo fail to mention that sometimes treaties just take a while to pass in Congress. That does not mean they are not worthwhile.

After all, we are only a series of environmental catastrophes away from a more universal appreciation of our dire straits. Let's talk about a treaty on limiting climate change after the effects of El Nino are felt, shall we?

Globally, major meteorological events (which include major storms) have doubled since 1980. Major hydrological events have tripled since then. These include floods, landslides and avalanches. Major climatological events have

quadrupled since 1980. These include extreme temperatures, droughts and forest fires.

Welcome to the future. The path is nonlinear.

Siegfried Othmer

Woodland Hills

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: AT THE WHITE HOUSE, the U.S. flag flies at half-staff the day after the San Bernardino shootings.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Chip Somodevilla Getty Images

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## LINKS

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# Numbers and letters

Publication info: Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: A.13.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

A quick breakdown of the mail we received from readers this week:

787 -- Usable letters to the editor were received between last Friday and this Friday.

216 -- Letters were written about the shooting in San Bernardino, the week's most-discussed topic.

80 -- Readers discussed the United Nations climate change conference in Paris.

79 -- Letters mentioned the shooting at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs.

## DETAILS

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Language of publication:	English
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ProQuest document ID:	1739282651
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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; FBI EYES ATTACK AS 'ACT OF TERRORISM'; GUNWOMAN PLEDGED ALLEGIANCE TO ISIS; Investigators question Farook's mother, siblings for hours; Independent attackers are harder to stop

Cloud, David S; Bennett, Brian . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, the network's affiliate in Yemen, hatched two other failed plots -- the 2009 attempt to down a Northwest Airlines flight over Detroit by a Nigerian man with a bomb in his underwear, and a 2010 attempt to explode bombs hidden in printer cartridges aboard two U.S.-bound cargo jets.\n

## FULL TEXT

The young couple who slaughtered 14 people in San Bernardino fit a profile now distressingly familiar from other recent acts of terrorism in the United States.

Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, 29, were devout Muslims but not outwardly radical. They were members of a close-knit family with ties to the community. They built and stored crude pipe bombs in their home. And their attack apparently was inspired by but not directed by extremists abroad.

The couple thus had more in common with the Army psychiatrist who shot up a military facility at Ft. Hood, Texas, in 2009, and the North Caucasus brothers who set off homemade bombs at the Boston Marathon in 2013, than with the Belgian and French gunmen who killed 130 people last month in Paris.

In contrast with the Paris attacks, no evidence yet indicates that Farook and Malik were part of a larger conspiracy organized by Islamic State or another militant group, or were part of a bigger terrorist cell in California.

That helped them avoid detection before Wednesday's massacre. Indeed, the absence of warning signs has become a hallmark of recent domestic plots, analysts said.

"So far we have no indication these killers were part of an organized larger group or formed part of a cell," FBI Director James B. Comey said Friday. "There is no indication they were part of a network."

Investigators have learned that Farook had made contact -- in some cases by phone and in others via social media -- with people who came up tangentially in previous federal terrorism investigations. But he had not drawn any scrutiny.

And officials said that his Pakistani-born wife had posted a comment swearing fealty to Islamic State on a Facebook page -- but only just before the couple stormed into a holiday party at the Inland Regional Center, guns blazing.

There was "nothing of such a significance" that it drew FBI attention before the attack, Comey said.

No evidence suggests the couple joined jihadist chat rooms or posted on websites popular with Islamic militants, according to Seth Jones, a terrorism analyst at Rand Corp., a Santa Monica-based think tank.

"The challenge the U.S. faces is that there are radical individuals who are being a lot more careful, and it makes them virtually impossible to detect," Jones said.

With Al Qaeda now overshadowed by Islamic State, the threat to Americans increasingly comes from self-radicalized individuals with no clear ties to outside groups. Their plots are less organized and possibly less deadly, but paradoxically also harder to stop, analysts say.

"There are no direct communications or orders that you can intercept to realize that there's a plot going on," said Bruce Hoffman, a terrorism expert at Georgetown University. "There's an absence of red flags."

Investigators may find that Farook and Malik left digital or other tracks that have not yet emerged.

After Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan killed 13 people and injured more than 30 at a military processing center at Ft. Hood

on Nov. 5, 2009, for example, investigators found that a Joint Terrorism Task Force knew he had been in direct contact with Anwar Awlaki, an Al Qaeda leader in Yemen who was later killed in a U.S. drone strike.

And after Dzhokhar and Tamerlan Tsarnaev killed three people and wounded more than 260 at the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013, the Russian government said it had warned the FBI two years earlier that Tamerlan and his mother were "adherents of radical Islam" and that he was preparing to join unspecified "bandit underground groups" in Dagestan and Chechnya.

The FBI failed to follow up on the warnings, a subsequent investigation showed.

Still, the pattern of Islamic extremists operating in the U.S. without outside direction is a clear change from the period after Sept. 11, 2001, when Al Qaeda and its supporters repeatedly sought to bomb airliners or other U.S. targets with operatives who were trained and directed by militants abroad.

Those included the incident in late 2001 when a British citizen tried to detonate explosives in his shoe on a flight to Miami; a foiled 2009 plot to bomb New York City subways by an Afghan American who had trained at Al Qaeda camps; and the 2010 attempted car bombing in New York's Times Square by a Connecticut resident who had traveled to Pakistan for training.

Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, the network's affiliate in Yemen, hatched two other failed plots -- the 2009 attempt to down a Northwest Airlines flight over Detroit by a Nigerian man with a bomb in his underwear, and a 2010 attempt to explode bombs hidden in printer cartridges aboard two U.S.-bound cargo jets.

Even before Wednesday's attack, the FBI had about 900 active investigations of suspected Islamic State sympathizers or supporters and other homegrown extremists. Authorities have arrested 71 people on charges related to the group since March 2014, including 56 this year.

The group's social media, propaganda videos and direct appeals have exhorted followers to launch attacks in their own countries. In recent weeks, militants have bombed a Russian aircraft over Egypt, conducted bombings in Lebanon and Libya, and shot up restaurants and other sites in Paris.

Last fall, Islamic State released a video by a spokesman, Abu Muhammad Adnani, that called for revenge against countries that sent forces to Iraq and Syria to fight them, including Australia, France, Canada and the United States.

Michael C. Leiter, a former senior counter-terrorism official in the George W. Bush and Obama administrations, said that signaled a greater danger in some ways because Islamic State wasn't trying to send operatives into the United States.

"People ask, 'Is it directed or is it inspired?' I think that's entirely the wrong rubric because their direction is to inspire," Leiter said. "They are not looking to direct attacks at all."

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## DETAILS

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<b>Location:</b>	United States--US
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120; Name: Al Qaeda; NAICS: 813940
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	News analysis SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS MUSLIMS TERRORISM ISLAMIC STATE (ORGANIZATION)
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; FBI EYES ATTACK AS 'ACT OF TERRORISM'; GUNWOMAN PLEDGED ALLEGIANCE TO ISIS; Investigators question Farook's mother, siblings for hours; A Christmas party, a game -- then gunfire

Mozingo, Joe; Parvini, Sarah . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Farook lived in a rented townhouse on Center Street in Redlands, with all the trappings of a young family: baby bouncer on the living room floor, boxes of Pampers in the entryway, a big carton of Quaker Oats on the refrigerator. Wearing tactical clothing and black masks, Farook and his wife had burst into the back of the conference room and opened fire with .223 semi-automatic rifles.\n

## FULL TEXT

Away from their downtown cubicles for the day, they gathered in a conference room on the south end of town for their annual training and Christmas potluck party. Chris Nwadike brought doughnuts. His colleagues sat around him at a folding table with a festive tablecloth and a decorative fir branch.

Ever the diligent worker, Syed Rizwan Farook had arrived first and took the seat at the head of the table. The tech-savvy restaurant inspector, 28, had taught his co-workers how to use some new computer programs and had won TGI Friday gift cards for his good performance.

Now they would play a game to win more gift cards. The 75 or so workers in the room were handed wireless clickers so they could answer yes or no questions on a big screen. Fun, true-or-false questions about one another at first, then training ones.

The woman delivering the clickers came to their table.

"Where's Syed?" someone asked.

His jacket still hung from the back of his chair.

They told her to just to leave the clicker there – he would be back.

::

Born to Pakistani parents in Chicago and raised in Riverside, Farook graduated from Cal State San Bernardino with a degree in environmental studies and was part of the relatively prosperous Muslim community spread throughout the Inland Empire.

He had worked for the San Bernardino County Department of Health for a few years, making \$52,000 a year and sharing a cubicle with a friend, Isaac Amianos, a 60-year-old father of three from Eritrea.

Nwadike said the two of them spoke what he assumed was Arabic – with Amianos clearly the native speaker, often poking fun at Farook's poor delivery.

The health inspectors came from all over the world, with all types of beliefs. Nwadike was from Nigeria. Others hailed from Vietnam, Iran, Mexico and Colombia.

They considered Farook a friend. He was quiet but approachable.

"He smiled, but he didn't laugh," Nwadike said.

In 2014, Farook traveled to Saudi Arabia to marry a Pakistani woman he had met online, Tashfeen Malik, 29. When he returned, his co-workers teased him about the beard he'd started to grow. Before their baby girl was born this year, they threw him a baby shower at the office.

But they never met Malik. She mostly stayed to herself, and at family gatherings the men and the women didn't commingle. Nizaam Ali, an acquaintance who worshiped with Farook at a San Bernardino mosque, said that in public Malik wore a head scarf that obscured her face.

One of Farook's co-workers, Nicholas Thalasinis, 57, a Messianic Jew, wore a tie clip with the Star of David. He was outspoken against Islamic extremism, in person and on social media.

Two weeks earlier, he and Farook argued over whether Islam was a violent religion. Recounting the conversation to a friend, Thalasinis said that Farook insisted his God was peaceful but argued that Israel had no place in the Middle East.

Thalasinis liked discussing such topics. There was no indication that their interaction was anything out of the ordinary.

Farook lived in a rented townhouse on Center Street in Redlands, with all the trappings of a young family: baby bouncer on the living room floor, boxes of Pampers in the entryway, a big carton of Quaker Oats on the refrigerator.

On Wednesday morning, he asked his mother if she could watch the baby for a few hours. Malik said she had a doctor's appointment.

Farook headed to the conference, about a 10-minute drive away.

::

The Inland Regional Center serves the developmentally disabled but also rents out its No. 3 building conference room for other events. The complex along Waterman Avenue sits in a part of the city where new offices and warehouses are spreading north from the city's hotel zone into a poor, dusty area of weedy lots and dilapidated homes. It was a clear winter day, with the San Bernardino Mountains in sharp relief.

During a break after the personal trivia game, Nwadike and Patrick Baccari got up from their table to use the restroom.

It was just before 11 a.m.

Baccari was pulling a paper towel from a dispenser when he heard a blast. A puff of plaster dust rose from the wall and shards of the dispenser flew into his face.

He turned to the other men in the bathroom, who looked at him as if he had caused the commotion.

Blood ran into his eyes. Then he saw a hole in the wall. "Get down! Get down! Get down!" he yelled.

Everyone hit the floor as a barrage of gunfire sounded outside.

Wearing tactical clothing and black masks, Farook and his wife had burst into the back of the conference room and opened fire with .223 semi-automatic rifles.

Screaming, his co-workers and supervisors ran for exits and ducked under tables.

Bullets struck Amianos, Thalasinis and others at Farook's table. A Muslim woman he prayed with was killed.

Amanda Gaspard dropped to the floor and slid under her table. She closed her eyes and lay motionless.

One of the assailants stood over her and shot her in the arm and leg.

911 calls started pouring into police dispatch lines. A suspect in black clothing. "He's still firing rounds," a dispatcher told police.

Julie Swann-Paez lay on the floor, bleeding and in pain, shot in the thigh and abdomen, her pelvis shattered. She was supposed to receive an Employee of the Year award.

She sent a text to her family. "Love you guys. Was shot."

After firing at least 65 rounds, the assailants stopped. They set a black duffel bag on a conference table. It contained three pipe bombs tied together and wired to a remote control. Dispatchers told officers that crowds were racing from the south building and that a person with a machine gun was in the parking lot. A black SUV with Utah plates.

Officers arrived within four minutes of the first calls. They didn't know how many shooters there were or if they were gone.

San Bernardino police Lt. Mike Madden was a mile away, on his way to lunch, when he heard the frantic dispatches.

He pulled up just south of building No. 3 and waited for two minutes until three other officers arrived. They entered the building together.

The carnage they found was "surreal," he said. Dead and grievously injured bodies. Sheer panic in survivors' faces. White smoke and cordite filled the air. Water sprayed from pierced sprinkler pipes as fire alarms blared.

Madden motioned for a group of people in the hallway to run to them. But they didn't want to come. He feared the shooter might be among them around a corner, holding them hostage.

"Come to us, come to us!"

Finally one made the break, and the rest – dozens of them – followed.

More officers and sheriff's deputies stormed into the building. Emergency workers set up a triage area. Officers removed the pipe bombs.

"Ida-9, hold for possible suspect info," one officer radioed in.

"Ida-9, go ahead."

"A male subject who was in the meeting left out of the blue. Um, and 20 minutes later the shooting occurred. The subject's name is Farook – Farook – Frank Adam Roger Ocean Ocean King. First [name] of Syed – Sam Yellow Edward David."

It took hours for Nick Paez, 26, to track down his mother, who had sent the text that she was shot, at a local hospital.

He had thought she was among the 14 people the shooters had slaughtered.

By the time they finally got to see her, just before 10 p.m, Farook and his wife were dead, killed hours earlier in a fusillade of 380 gunshots as they roared down a residential street in the rented SUV.

Paez tried to fill his mom in on what had happened.

"They think it's your co-worker," he said.

"That doesn't make sense," she replied. "They were congratulating him for having a baby."

--

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Times staff writers Joseph Serna, Kate Mather, Richard Winton, Stephen Ceasar and Hailey Branson-Potts contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: MOURNERS gather to pay their respects at the memorial site for the 14 people gunned down by a masked couple at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: IVAN IBARRA, left, Freddy Ibarra, Bryan Alcaraz, Emmanuel Acosta and Julian Herrera kneel in prayer for the victims of the shooting rampage.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Workers; Gift cards &certificates
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; HEARTFELT MEMORIES

**Publication info:** Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Dec 2015: B.4.

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## ABSTRACT

Robert Adams Hometown: Yucaipa Occupation: Environmental health specialist "He would talk about finishing school, his wife and his child. Michael Wetzel Hometown: Lake Arrowhead Occupation: Environmental health specialist "We would stay up late nights studying for midterms where most of the night just involved joking and laughing.\n

## FULL TEXT

Their identities were released by the coroner as a stark list of names, ages and hometowns. Friends, colleagues and loved ones remembered them for their compassion, integrity and devotion. We asked readers to help us tell the stories of the 14 killed in the San Bernardino shooting rampage and also interviewed friends and family members. Here is what they had to say:

Sierra Clayborn

Hometown: Moreno Valley

Occupation: Environmental health specialist

"She had a very calm attitude towards problems. But what made her unique was that she emanated this aura of positivity regardless of how dire the situations may be."

-- Marcus, who worked as a resident assistant with Clayborn when both were in school at UC Riverside

"She would often stop in for a drink with one of her co-workers while en route. She always had a smile on her face and enjoyed having conversations with us baristas. Her laughter and joy was infectious. She will be missed."

-- Melissa Lock, Starbucks barista in Big Bear Lake

--

Shannon Johnson

Hometown: Los Angeles

Occupation: Environmental health specialist

"I have rarely in my life come across an individual who has stood out to me as such a kind and decent man. He'd talk about taking the train into town from L.A. every morning, I'd talk about my kids, we'd talk about all of his hidden tattoos, and sometimes I would talk about nothing just to hear him speak in his calm, quiet Southern drawl."

-- Benjamin Vagnozzi, who ran a small catering business Johnson inspected

"When you see a health inspector, nine times out of 10 you say, 'Oh, my God.' I never felt like that when he came. He was great at his job."

-- Susan Wangeman, manager of a restaurant Johnson inspected

--

Yvette Velasco

Hometown: Los Angeles

Occupation: Environmental health specialist

"She was extremely sweet and one of the most pleasant inspectors. I only met her a few times, but every time I go out to eat in town I see her signature on the letter grades."

-- Ashley Gereau, who said Velasco inspected her employer, Loma Linda University Medical Center

--

Larry Daniel Kaufman

Hometown: Rialto

Occupation: Ran the coffee shop at Building 3

"Daniel and I met at a pivotal moment in my adolescence. He could make you feel like the aspects that made you feel weak were your superpowers, he turned victims into survivors in one conversation.... If he stopped smiling it was a momentary eye roll at a pun he had to admit was better than one of his own, other than that his face was plastered in a constant grin. He had the most beautiful, giggily voice that so many of us are going to miss."

– Tatiana Green, who met Kaufman through Renaissance Faire

"I would see Daniel every morning on my way into the office. He always had a kind word, a smile or joke for everyone. You could have a conversation with him that could last forever."

– Kirstyn Bruno, former co-worker

"Daniel never met a stranger. His smile was continuous and his laughter contagious. He was beautiful."

– Sara (Bentley) Randolph, who said that when they were young she and Daniel met at coffee shops to discuss metaphysics and stayed up late to play Dungeons and Dragons

–

Robert Adams

Hometown: Yucaipa

Occupation: Environmental health specialist

"He would talk about finishing school, his wife and his child. Very kindhearted and funny guy, always had a smile and crazy stories to share. I am honored to have met him."

– Angel, who works at the county's motor pool, got to know Adams, a father of one, when Adams picked up cars.

"When you saw the three of them together you just wanted to jump in the middle and think, 'I want to have fun too.'"

– Jenni Kosse, family friend on watching Adams with his wife and young daughter

–

Tin Nguyen

Hometown: Santa Ana

Occupation: Environmental health specialist

"She promised no matter what, we would have her wedding there and now we are having her funeral."

– Vanessa Nguyen, Tin's mother, on St. Barbara's Catholic Church in Santa Ana where the family worshiped

"I work day in, day out, saving money. I intended to buy her a new house. We would move her mom in to live with us. We talked about everything – our marriage, how many kids we wanted to have. If I could tell people anything from this experience, I'd say: 'Whatever you're planning, don't push it off. Get it done.' "

– San Trinh, Nguyen's longtime boyfriend

–

Michael Wetzel

Hometown: Lake Arrowhead

Occupation: Environmental health specialist

"We would stay up late nights studying for midterms where most of the night just involved joking and laughing. We were part of the same fraternity so we both helped each other grow as leaders.... Just a year ago I reconnected with Mike because the chemical manufacturing facility I worked for was looking for an environmental health and safety manager. I tried to convince Mike to come work with us. He chose not to, unfortunately."

– Chris Roberts, college roommate

–

Isaac Amanios

Hometown: Fontana

Occupation: Health department employee

"He was looking forward to his kids graduating from college. He came here so his kids could have a better life. It's not just his family affected, but the entire community is affected by this tragedy."

– Zeke Gebrekidane, nephew, on his uncle, who came to the U.S. from Eritrea

–

Bennetta Betbadal

Hometown: Rialto

Occupation: Environmental health specialist

"It is the ultimate irony that her life would be stolen from her by what appears to be the same type of extremism that she fled so many years ago."

– Family statement. Betbadal, a Christian, fled persecution in Iran following its 1979 revolution

--

Aurora Godoy

Hometown: San Jacinto

Occupation: Office assistant

"It was all about [our son]. Disbelief is the word. Disbelief."

-- James Godoy, husband, who met his wife in high school, on her devotion to their almost 2-year-old son

--

Damian Meins

Hometown: Riverside

Occupation: Health department employee

"I just want everyone to know that he was a good man. He was an amazing man."

-- Daughter, who answered the phone at his home and declined to give her name

--

Nicholas Thalasinis

Hometown: Colton

Occupation: Environmental health specialist

"He had an incredibly good work ethic. The job of a sanitary inspector is certainly not the most glamorous of professions. He was passionate about it. He wanted to make sure people were safe.

-- Ed Beck, whose wife worked with Thalasinis at a health department in New Jersey

### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: SHANNON JOHNSON, 45; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: JUAN ESPINOZA, 50; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: AURORA GODOY, 26; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: ISAAC AMANIOS, 60; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: MICHAEL WETZEL, 37; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: LARRY DANIEL KAUFMAN, 42; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: SIERRA CLAYBORN, 27; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: ROBERT ADAMS, 40; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: BENNETTA BETBADAL, 46; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: NICHOLAS THALASINOS, 52; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: HARRY BOWMAN, 46; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: DAMIAN MEINS, 58; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: YVETTE VELASCO, 27; PHOTOGRAPHER;; PHOTO: TIN NGUYEN, 31; PHOTOGRAPHER:

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## LINKS

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# LETTERS; Trump and his ego

## FULL TEXT

Re "Trump's royal inheritance," Opinion, Dec. 3

Regarding Michael D'Antonio's op-ed piece describing Donald Trump's views of his heritage and kingly qualities, one can do worse than have recourse to that shrewd observer of character and the American scene, Mark Twain.

In "Huckleberry Finn," after encountering a "king" and a "duke" who skillfully mislead and fleece the townspeople along the Mississippi River, Twain has Huck observe, "Well, that's what I'm a-saying: All kings is mostly rascalions, as fur as I can make out."

They also say this: "All I can say is, kings is kings, and you got to make allowances. Take them all around, they're a mighty ornery lot. It's the way they're raised."

Trump seems to be ably carrying on the tradition of American "kings" so ably described by Twain.

David Jones

Los Angeles

::

D'Antonio's excellent article is kind to Trump.

Let us call a spade a spade: Trump is a megalomaniac. By definition, a megalomaniac is a "pathological egotist, that is, someone with a psychological disorder with symptoms like delusions of grandeur and an obsession with power," according to vocabulary.com.

What is even more pathetic is that Trump is leading in the polls, which indicates that the other Republican candidates are, in Trump's words, "losers" and do not stand even a remote chance to beat Hillary Clinton in the presidential election.

Foster Eubank

Laguna Woods

::

I have no trouble believing that Trump thinks he is genetically superior and entitled to be president. The bigger question is why so many people agree with him.

Christina Gilmore

San Diego

--

A proper reason to pray

Re "What is prayer's place?," Opinion, Dec. 4

I would think that anyone who has a God-given brain would use the serenity prayer to understand what can and cannot be accomplished by the politicians we vote into office when it comes to incidents like the mass shooting in San Bernardino on Wednesday:

"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

So, do politicians have that wisdom and courage?

This reminds me of an old African proverb: "When you pray, move your feet."

Allen F. Dziuk

Carlsbad

::

I offer this trenchant comment by one who knew something about prayer, the redoubtable English sage C.S. Lewis:

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time -- waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God -- it changes me."

Emery J. Cummins

San Diego

::

Thank God the shootings were apparently about God. Shall we pray? To whom?

Barry Carlton

El Cajon

::

Many of us object to public pleas for prayer not because they are "empty gestures" in times of tragedy. We object

to the very idea of prayer.

Praying to imaginary gods may provide some temporary emotional comfort, much like sugar pill placebos often do, but there is no reliable evidence that prayer has ever done anything more than that.

John Kwiatkowski

Los Angeles

::

Re "After the massacre," Letters, Dec. 4

I have read and reread Keith Pittell's poignant and eloquent letter about the San Bernardino massacre, where he avoids any of the blaming or "thoughts and prayers" rhetoric. Instead, he goes to the very heart of what these horrible events say about the increasingly violent world we live in.

Thank you, Mr. Pittell, for uniting us in sorrow and putting into words what is in so many of our hearts. Without offering a solution, you have given us an apt place to start.

Eileen Flaxman

Claremont

--

The 'wicked' carbon issue

Re "What is carbon pricing?," Back Story, Dec. 2

This article quotes Frank Incropera, author of "Climate Change: A Wicked Problem."

In the book, Incropera distinguishes between a "tame problem" -- which has a defined cause, objectives and output -- and a "wicked problem," which is multifaceted, contradictory and constantly changing.

Wicked problems involve chains of issues that generate different, changing solutions. They touch on social, economic, moral, energy and justice issues at the same time. Climate change is such a problem.

I was glad to see that a man of his expertise said, "I strongly favor the carbon tax because of its simplicity and particularly if it is revenue neutral, it's not going to impair the economy." I was encouraged. A revenue-neutral price on carbon seems to be a fast-acting way to start to untangle this wicked problem.

Penelope Mann

Claremont

::

Re "State's show of force at Paris summit," Dec. 3

While California officials are in Paris bragging about how green the Golden State is, the Public Utilities Commission is quietly preparing to deliver a catastrophic blow to the booming solar industry.

The PUC will soon finalize its approval of utility Pacific Gas and Electric's request to double the exit fee it imposes on ratepayers who depart PG&E for a Community Choice energy program. PG&E has already milked more than \$50 million out of its ex-customers, and now it wants more.

Second, the PUC is considering watering down the Net Energy Metering program that incentivizes homes and businesses to go solar. If the monopoly utilities have their way, solar owners will be hit with new monthly fees and paid less for the surplus electricity they generate, making it uneconomical for most people to install solar.

Bonjour, Paris. Au revoir, solar.

Erica Etelson

Berkeley

The writer is a founding member of Californians for Energy Choice.

--

The pain of health coverage

Re "A persistent case of bad insurance," Opinion, Dec. 3

Max Read's article on dealing with a full-body rash while trying to obtain COBRA health insurance through United Healthcare really hit home. I want to convey my deepest sympathies in his dealings with the insurance industry.

I'd also like to say that unless you are a care provider as I am, you probably have no idea of the gyrations we can go through to get paid for an honest day's work. A few private companies are great, but there are many exceptions.

The United Healthcare system, for example, seems to be hitting a new low in assisting providers. It has come across lately as doing anything it can to prevent payments such as asking for codes that don't exist, or falsely claiming it had issued me a check and refusing to believe that I didn't receive it.

I could go on and on, but the picture is that many providers refuse to take insurance from some companies.

If enough of us leave the system, maybe the chief executive who made \$66 million in 2014 might have to take a pay cut. Can't a society such as ours do something about the sorry state of healthcare?

Pat Powell

Laguna Woods

The writer is a marriage and family therapist.

—

Whites need to listen to blacks

Re "Barriers to racial discussions," Letters, Dec. 3

It always amazes me when victims of racial discrimination are expected to emerge from oppression as saints: open, forgiving, tolerant and willing to engage in rational discourse on demand.

If blacks are less than anxious to sit down and talk with members of the privileged class, as one letter writer complains, the response is a big harrumph.

When blacks say how it feels to be excluded because of their skin color, they're called thin-skinned. Complaints are dismissed as sensitivity to "microaggression."

Oppression breeds anger, hostility, resentment and violence. White Americans would do well to learn something of their country's history of racism then keep quiet and learn how to listen to black voices.

Bonnie Sloane

Los Angeles

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: GOP PRESIDENTIAL candidate Donald Trump speaks at a conference last month in Orlando, Fla.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Joe Raedle Getty Images

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# A COMMUNITY OF CULTURES; Shootings raise fears, but Lebanese Muslims feel at home in Bell

Vives, Ruben . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Billionaire mogul and leading Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has talked about seeing "thousands" of Muslims celebrating after the 9/11 attacks in New Jersey -- allegations debunked by authorities and others. [...]there are places like Bell, a small working-class community in Southeast Los Angeles County where a Lebanese Muslim community established itself at roughly the same time as another group that's frequently in the cross-hairs of politicians on the stump: immigrants from Mexico and other parts of Latin America.

## FULL TEXT

Customers poured into Fatima's Halal Meat Market in the city of Bell. Behind the cash register, Latife Saleh, 40, rang up one man's purchase while a second yelled out an order in Spanish.

"Otra de asada," he said.

"Otra de asada, torta?" Saleh replied, prompting the man to nod.

Several feet away, a Lebanese woman placed an order with Leonardo Castaneda, a 45-year-old butcher who has worked six years at the market: a half a pound of kibbeh and housee.

Castaneda said it took him a while to learn a few words in Arabic before it became like a second language.

"You always learn the bad words first," Castaneda, a Mexican immigrant, said with a chuckle.

Recently there has been talk of databases to track Muslims, surveilling some mosques, and turning away Syrian refugees. Billionaire mogul and leading Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has talked about seeing "thousands" of Muslims celebrating after the 9/11 attacks in New Jersey -- allegations debunked by authorities and others.

The mass shooting in San Bernardino on Wednesday that killed 14 people, carried out by a married Muslim couple, Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, has reignited debates about terrorism and Islam. In San Bernardino, services at some mosques were more sparsely attended than usual and some Muslim residents said they worried about being blamed, even as they grieved over the deaths.

Then there are places like Bell, a small working-class community in Southeast Los Angeles County where a Lebanese Muslim community established itself at roughly the same time as another group that's frequently in the cross-hairs of politicians on the stump: immigrants from Mexico and other parts of Latin America.

Layla Matar, 21, a car salesperson at KIA in downtown Los Angeles, said growing up in Bell never made her feel out of place. Half of her friends are Latino, the other half Arab.

"I never knew wearing a head scarf was something different," Matar said. "Bell is like my house. As soon as I step out I have to be ready for everybody else."

Bell Mayor Ali Saleh, 40, said that as the news broke about the massacre, he couldn't help thinking: "I hope it's not a Muslim or an Arab. It's what's on every Muslim's mind."

But like Matar, he said he did not fear a backlash, at least in Bell, where close interactions over decades between Latino and Arab residents have eased suspicions.

"They're our neighbors, and some of my son's best friends are Arab," said Antonia Mejia, owner of El Colimense, a Mexican restaurant next door to Saleh's business. "I think we have been living side by side with them for so many years that this is a normal thing."

That does not mean that there have not been ugly episodes in the past. Unsurprisingly, most involved political campaigning.

In 2009, two Lebanese American candidates for the Bell City Council were targets of a smear campaign during a heated election. Ali Saleh was among them. Saleh – no relation to Latife Saleh – and another council candidate were labeled as terrorists.

In fliers, Saleh's face was superimposed on a picture of a man holding a sign that read "Islam will dominate the world." The flier also showed pictures of radical Iraqi cleric Muqtada Sadr, the burning towers of the World Trade Center and terrorists wearing black executioner's hoods and standing over a kneeling hostage. "Don't vote for a Muslim," the flier warned voters.

"People that knew Saleh really didn't pay much attention to it," said Gaston Gutierrez, 31. Saleh was not victorious in his bid to join the Bell council in 2009, but he was elected in 2011 after a corruption scandal that united Latino, white, Lebanese and other residents. He is now the mayor.

There have been minor conflicts.

Abraham Hernandez, 17, said he once got in a fight with a Lebanese American student who called him an ethnic slur. But he said the confrontation was a one-time event.

He likes Middle Eastern culture and food, the teenager explained. He said he works for a Syrian family at a bakery in Anaheim and listens from time to time when politics is discussed. Recently, he said the owners have been talking about the Syrian refugees and how saddened they are by the crisis.

He said he feels no animosity toward Muslims.

"Why hate someone who hasn't really done anything to you?" he asked.

In 2010 an estimated 2,000 people of Lebanese descent lived in Bell, a town of roughly 35,000 people, making them about 6% of the city's population. More live in neighboring cities, including Maywood, Cudahy and South Gate. Some of the Lebanese immigrants who came to Bell fled a brutal civil war in Lebanon. A very small population of Palestinians are in the city.

At Bell High School, with about 150 students of Lebanese descent, the school created Arabic language classes nine years ago. Nada Shaath was the first to teach the courses and most of the students were Latinos.

From three classes, the program expanded to eight.

Shaath said every year the foreign language teachers ask students attending the Arabic classes what comes to mind when they think about the words "Muslim" or "Arab."

"Every year it's the same answer: terrorist," she said.

But she said that perception should change as students discover similarities between their cultures.

"It has bridged a gap," Shaath said. "It definitely has created more understanding and tolerance."

Teacher Rasha Elomeri said that Latino students are often her most committed students, sometimes seeking help

from their Lebanese friends. Recently one student submitted a "most wanted" ad for Mexican cartel kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman in Arabic.

"I can tell she had her Lebanese friend write this," she said with a laugh.

Two weeks ago, Nicole Courrejolles, 24, was standing behind the cash register at World Famous Grill, a hookah lounge and restaurant where patrons eat burgers that are made in accordance with Islamic dietary laws. A man ordered his meal and looked at a woman wearing a hijab. After paying, he asked where the restaurant owners were from.

"I told him, 'Oh they're Lebanese,'" Courrejolles said, recalling the exchange. "That's when he said 'Oh, so you work for terrorists?'"

"That's when he went on his rant," she added, saying the man brought up ISIS (also known as Islamic State or ISIL) and Syria.

"He was being ignorant," Courrejolles said. "You can't think all Muslims are that radical."

When Jamal Saleh, 65, arrived in Bell in 1973, the mayor's uncle said there were only four Muslim families in the city. He sold clothes at the nearby Paramount Swap Meet until he could open his own clothing store business.

Among those who had been living in the city were the parents of Downey Mayor Pro Tem Alex Saab, who moved to Bell in the late 1960s. His father, who recently died, was Lebanese and his mother Cuban.

By the late 1970s, the white families that made up the majority of the population in Bell and surrounding cities were beginning to leave as manufacturing and factory jobs disappeared. By the 1980s, the region had shifted to predominantly Latino.

Saab, who was raised in Bell for a short time before moving to Downey, said the Latino immigrants were more accepting of the Lebanese community. At soccer games, parents cheer for both Latinos and Lebanese children.

"I think it's because they related to one another; they were immigrants and they worked hard," Saab said.

He said because some Arabic words sound like Spanish words, it was easy for the Lebanese immigrants to learn Spanish. Some even took to watching telenovelas to learn the language of their neighbors.

On a recent Tuesday afternoon, Saleh, 40, the mayor of Bell, stopped by the home of Sonia Manzanilla, 70. Saleh said he learned Spanish from his parents, working at his father's clothing store and listening to Mexican regional music such as banda.

They chatted about Cuban coffee and a tree across from her home that needs trimming – mostly in Spanish.

Manzanilla said there is a small population of Muslims in Cuba.

"I grew up with them," she said. "When I came here, it was no different."

Latife Saleh of Fatima's Halal Meat Market said the San Bernardino shootings caused her to cry. When she learned

the shooters were a married Muslim couple, she felt angry. Saleh said her 12-year-old son suggested that they drop off flowers at a memorial site for the victims, but she worried about how being Muslim could cause some people to react.

"Thank God for my community here," Saleh said of Bell. "People here understand I'm not the same Muslim as those that are on TV."

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: KATHY FARHAT, right, and Leonardo Castaneda joke at Fatima's Halal Meat Market in Bell, which has a 6% Lebanese population.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: LATIFE SALEH, chatting with a customer at the market, says the San Bernardino shootings caused her to cry.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: LATIFE SALEH, center, speaks to a customer in fluent Spanish at Fatima's Halal Meat Market. In Bell, close interactions over decades between Latinos and Arab residents have eased suspicions.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: LEONARDO CASTANEDA said it took time to learn a few words in Arabic but he got the hang of it.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Muslims; Candidates; Elections; Councils; Mass murders
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	BELL (CA) MUSLIMS LIFESTYLES SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS TERRORISM HISPANICS IMMIGRANTS RACIAL RELATIONS
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; For two tense hours, husband was panicking; Man didn't know if his wife was a victim, but he finally got the call: She had survived.

Karlamangla, Soumya . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.16.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Kondoker used a GPS locator to track her phone and saw that it was at a county building where she often has meetings as an environmental health specialist for San Bernardino County.

## FULL TEXT

Salihin Kondoker likes to talk to his wife, Anies, on the phone every morning. He works four days a week in San Francisco and likes to check in with her in San Bernardino.

On Wednesday, Kondoker called her just after 11 a.m., but she didn't pick up. She usually returns his call if she misses it. This time, she didn't. Kondoker used a GPS locator to track her phone and saw that it was at a county

building where she often has meetings as an environmental health specialist for San Bernardino County.

Kondoker didn't think much of the unreturned call until he saw a news alert on his phone: a mass shooting in San Bernardino.

"When I read that, I completely panicked," he said. The couple, married for 17 years, have three children, 3, 13 and 16.

Kondoker spent the next hour frantically looking for more news, anything that would help him find his wife. "Keep on updating, keep on reading, keep on reading," he said. He read that shooters had targeted county health workers, and his fears grew worse.

At 1 p.m., he received a call from a doctor who told him that Anies, 42, had been shot three times but would survive. Relief washed over him.

He booked a flight from Oakland to Ontario at 5 p.m. While waiting for his friend to pick him up at the airport, he began talking with two police officers.

When he told them about his situation, "a police officer offered to take me to the hospital."

The couple were reunited at the hospital. She had been shot in the right arm, the left arm and the stomach. She had been walking from the bathroom into the meeting room when "bullets started flying," her husband said.

"Two bullets flew over her head, missed her head," he said.

He said that she was shocked to learn the identity of one of the shooters: Anies' shy, quiet colleague Syed Rizwan Farook. He attended the mosque where the Kondokers also prayed.

Anies Kondoker was released from the hospital Thursday and has been struggling with the deaths of the other victims, all of whom were her co-workers, her close friends, her husband said.

"She's recovering very well but still going through emotional trauma," he said.

Her mind races with thoughts of returning to work. Most painful is the thought of being there without best friend Tin Nguyen, one of the 14 killed.

She "keeps on thinking, how is she going to see the office, the empty office, empty cubicles?" Salihin Kondoker said. She plans to take time off work, he said.

On Friday, Kondoker said he was feeling better, coping with how close he was to losing Anies. "I think we are recovering," he said.

--

soumya.karlamangla.com

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Mass murders
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS TERRORISM CRIME VICTIMS FAMILIES
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<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# CALIFORNIA POLITICS; Newsom stays ahead of the pack; He gets an endorsement for governor -- a race that won't be decided for three years.

Decker, Cathleen . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: B.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

[...]the nurses group has repeatedly demonstrated its statewide power, playing a huge role in quashing Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed budget measures and later tormenting the 2010 Republican candidate for governor, Meg Whitman. The field is far from set; Newsom is the only announced candidate. Besides Villaraigosa, state treasurer John Chiang, billionaire Democratic donor Tom Steyer and former gubernatorial candidate Steve Westly are looking at running.

## FULL TEXT

Two things were evident amid the fusillades of confetti and extended glad-handing at last week's endorsement of gubernatorial candidate Gavin Newsom by the politically powerful California Nurses Assn.

One was the importance of timing. The other was the impact of vengeance.

It looked, as the lieutenant governor said, like an election night celebration -- a hotel ballroom littered with bits of paper lofting skyward, shrieks of approval at everything Newsom said, 35 minutes of adulation and picture-taking from the mostly female audience he waded into after his speech.

And all for a race that will not be decided until November 2018.

Right after those theatrics, however, the matter of timing arose in the most horrific way, as news spread of the mass shooting at a holiday party in San Bernardino. As Newsom spoke to reporters, authorities in the Inland Empire desperately searched for the attackers.

"What more evidence do you need that we need to step it up as it relates to gun safety in the state?" Newsom asked. "It's just unacceptable what's going on in this country, and California needs to lead the way. ... Today's tragedy just reinforces the imperative to not wait around for Congress to do their job -- but for this state to do its job."

By that he meant approving a measure he's pushing for the 2016 ballot that would, among other things, outlaw possession of large ammunition magazines and require background checks on any ammunition. He announced the measure one month ago.

Newsom's political image has been built on taking early and controversial positions, as he did with his support for same-sex marriage at a time most Democratic elected officials ran from it, and then seeing events confirm his

view. When it came to marriage equality, confirmation came in the Supreme Court's validation of the right 11 years after Newsom pushed it as mayor of San Francisco.

When it comes to guns, Wednesday's bloodshed potentially positioned Newsom ahead of the pack again. And again it was on an issue that will put Newsom in the ring with moneyed opponents -- in this case the National Rifle Assn. On Friday, in an early demonstration, he sent out a fundraising pitch blistering Congress for spurning new gun measures in deference to the NRA.

Aggressively confronting an enemy like that is, in political terms, not a bad place to be in a Democratic state as the 2018 election nears. (The alternative came via Atty. Gen. Kamala Harris, a candidate for U.S. Senate in 2016, who demonstrated far more caution. She waited a day to issue a statement that simply highlighted her office's plan to work with authorities and offered prayers for the victims, saying nothing about guns or terrorism.)

If the gun control measure makes the November ballot and wins, Newsom would be in the spotlight -- and on the side of a majority of voters -- just as attention turns to the 2018 races. That sort of timing is advantageous, and only partly in a candidate's control.

So is vengeance on the part of allies. That, too, surfaced at the nurses-Newsom love fest.

In an interview after the event, RoseAnn DeMoro, executive director of the association, was blunt. Yes, the group loves Newsom, in large part because as mayor he pushed and signed into existence universal healthcare for city residents. His support for raising the minimum wage statewide and his gay-rights stance also appeals to the group.

But in making their exceedingly early endorsement, the nurses were sending a message to a potential Newsom opponent, former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. Like other labor groups, the nurses have not forgiven him for his battles with teachers unions.

"Extremely disappointed in him. He violated our trust," DeMoro said of Villaraigosa. "For us it goes to character. You have to be consistent. He has violated our trust."

Substantial numbers of voters -- and wealthy donors -- side with Villaraigosa on education and pension reform, the issues that angered organized labor. But the nurses group has repeatedly demonstrated its statewide power, playing a huge role in quashing Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed budget measures and later tormenting the 2010 Republican candidate for governor, Meg Whitman.

The field is far from set; Newsom is the only announced candidate. Besides Villaraigosa, state treasurer John Chiang, billionaire Democratic donor Tom Steyer and former gubernatorial candidate Steve Westly are looking at running. The nurses had a message for them, too.

"I think it would be foolish of anyone on the progressive side to get in" and challenge Newsom, DeMoro said, calling the lieutenant governor "a natural progression from Jerry Brown."

"Jerry stabilized the state," she said, "and Gavin will build on that, in a very dramatic way."

He may not, of course. Newsom may be "bold, bold, bold," as DeMoro put it, but Californians sometimes shy from that. They tend to lean instead to the candidate they see as best apt to keep the state on the right track.

In Brown, the state now has a governor who has seemed to crack the code. His effort to force the state budget process into something resembling normalcy – without the theatrics of his predecessor, Schwarzenegger – has made him popular despite his affection for askance pursuits like the bullet train.

With a presence that hews toward drama and a policy bent, Newsom seems intent on essentially synthesizing the two approaches. Mark Baldassare, the executive director of the Public Policy Institute of California, noted that a poll it released last week showed competing voter desires for experience and freshness.

"What might be appealing about him, at this part of the political cycle, is that he's kind of a combination of both of those things," Baldassare said.

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For more on politics, go to [www.latimes.com/decker](http://www.latimes.com/decker) or [www.latimes.com/politics](http://www.latimes.com/politics).

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: LT. GOV. GAVIN NEWSOM, rear center, smiles Wednesday at a meeting with registered nurses from California and across the nation. The California Nurses Assn. announced it was endorsing him for governor.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Nick Ut Associated Press

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Jitters and a lot of caution; In San Bernardino and beyond, residents are on heightened alert in their daily routines.

Mozingo, Joe; Sahagun, Louis; Vives, Ruben; Parvini, Sarah . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

International terrorists were supposed to go for big targets, like Paris and Madrid, the Boston Marathon, the London Tube, the World Trade Center. The shooting happened not far from his kitchen cabinet shop, where his daughter was working at the time.

## FULL TEXT

Lisa Carreno positioned herself on a street corner Saturday so she had wide-angle views of the San Bernardino

Family YMCA Children's Christmas Parade.

The 41-year-old mother stood still, scanning the hundreds of people in attendance.

"I am on high alert: My daughter is a cadet who will be leading this parade," Carreno said. "I'm keeping track of people wearing backpacks or behaving suspiciously in any way whatsoever."

Her husband, Anthony, kept an eye on people's hands. On the street, the couple's 14-year-old daughter marched with more than a dozen classmates from Indian Springs High School, which had been locked down after the shooting Wednesday morning at the Inland Regional Center.

The events in San Bernardino have given rise to a new mix of jitters, not just here but across the nation. The FBI is investigating the killings as an act of terror and looking for connections to terrorist groups in the Middle East.

Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, 29, had blended into the small-town atmosphere of Redlands without drawing the attention of law enforcement. That has residents wondering who else might be plotting an attack.

Up to now, alienated young men and disgruntled workers have been the people who shot up offices and school campuses. Their carnage was no less terrible, but the threat ended when the assailants were killed or captured.

International terrorists were supposed to go for big targets, like Paris and Madrid, the Boston Marathon, the London Tube, the World Trade Center. Not holiday potlucks in San Bernardino.

In the crowd Saturday, a new refrain joined the normal hometown greetings and partings of the holiday season: "You be safe today."

Dyeshia McCrumb felt a rush of relief when police arrived to lead the parade on foot and motorcycles.

"I'm listening and watching for signs of trouble -- sirens, even helicopters," McCrumb said. "That's because I believe police still have not gotten to the bottom of this terrorist attack."

Farook, a county restaurant inspector attending the conference, and his Pakistani wife opened fire on his co-workers with .223 semi-automatic rifles, killing 14 and wounding 21. They left a duffel bag with three pipe bombs tied together and wired to a remote control, but it didn't explode.

FBI Director James B. Comey has said Malik pledged allegiance to the Islamic State on Facebook before the attack. He also said agents have found no indication that the couple were part of that or any other terrorist group, but the statement has done little to ease fears.

School officials in San Bernardino County learned that Farook had inspected kitchens and pools at nine campuses in the last couple of months. Law enforcement with bomb-sniffing dogs searched at least one of the schools for explosives he might have left.

On Friday night, San Bernardino police evacuated a UPS sorting facility on Victoria Avenue after a driver noticed a package addressed to Farook's townhouse.

Another UPS driver, Lamont Hollis, returned to the facility from his deliveries around 7:30 p.m. as the evacuation started.

His initial thought: shooter.

Police were all over. Hollis' supervisor told him to park his truck and walk down the street. Just get away.

The package turned out to be a delivery from Sears.

Hollis said everyone has been "a little on edge" since Wednesday.

"People don't know why this sort of thing happens," he said. "We feel as though there's really not a whole lot you can do."

In the early dark at the Donut Hut on Saturday, Fernandino Rodriguez, 39, twirled a straw in his coffee before taking his son fishing in Riverside for the day.

Rodriguez said fishing is the familiar routine he needed on a day the city he knew didn't feel familiar.

"I'm nervous," he said. "You hear ambulance and a firetruck's sirens and you wonder: 'What happened now?' You're constantly in fear."

Efrain Moreno, 52, walked in and ordered coffee.

Moreno said the massacre has made life even more difficult in San Bernardino, a city already suffering from deep poverty, crime and a municipal bankruptcy that has shrunk city services.

The shooting happened not far from his kitchen cabinet shop, where his daughter was working at the time.

"It doesn't feel safe here anymore," he said. "You have to be more vigilant now. And you feel lost. What's going to happen to the city? What's the future like here?"

The sense of helplessness that family and friends of the victims felt on Wednesday is what many fear the most.

In a letter to parents on Thursday, San Bernardino schools Supt. Dale Marsden asked them to take precautions to keep unwanted visitors out.

"Fences, gates and classroom exits that lead to the outdoors are locked throughout the day and should not be propped open by staff or parents for any reason," he wrote. "These are just a few of the procedures we must enforce to help ensure that we know who is on campus at all times."

The jitters extended beyond San Bernardino.

An ominous warning, purportedly from a law enforcement source, circulated late in the week on the social media accounts of Inland Empire residents: "friends & family, especially those in the I.E. ...IT IS NOT OVER\*\*\*\* Friends, Please Take heed There is a terrorist cell in the IE."

Movie theaters and malls were threatened, it said. Residents should stay away.

The AMC movie theater in the Ontario Mills shopping center was nearly empty at noon on Saturday.

One of the few filmgoers, Kimberly Newsom, a 46-year-old psychologist, said she wasn't going to let terrorists disrupt her life.

"But of course I'm going to be cautious, diligent and more aware of my surroundings."

In Redlands, Andres and Thanhya Pedroza are still dealing with the knowledge that they live a few doors down from where Farook and his wife made their pipe bombs.

"You can actually feel the anxiety in the air -- everyone is scared and shaken up and wondering when, or if, things will ever return to normal," said Andres Pedroza, 43.

Thanhya Pedroza couldn't get over that it's happening in Redlands, a place known for its parks, churches, old trees, restored Victorian homes and 108-year-old college.

"Now, we're having neighbors come up and say incredible things like, 'We've got to stick together!'"

The San Bernardino neighborhood where Farook and his wife were killed in a hail of 380 bullets was shaken more than anywhere, closed off as a crime scene for days, the shot-up Ford Expedition a constant reminder of the violence.

Yvette Ruvacalba, 47, learned the street closure had ended when she heard a car drive past her home after midnight Saturday.

"Oh, it's open," she thought.

She felt relief. The eerie silence was over. She could sleep.

Ruvacalba said the shooting brought neighbors closer. They have been checking up on one another to make sure everyone has enough food.

Down the street, past two cars and a truck with bullet holes and shattered windows, next door to the house where the black SUV had sat for days, Ruben Hernandez, 55, scooped up a dead cat with a shovel. Not clear if a bullet got it. But his mailbox was hit, as was the trailer in his driveway.

"This is a different war now, the terrorists are blending in with us," he said. "It's in our backyard."

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Times staff writer Paloma Esquivel contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: MEMBERS of the San Bernardino SWAT team pose for photos after a parade along Highland Avenue. The events in the Inland Empire city have given rise to a new mix of jitters, not just here but across the United States.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Wally Skali Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Kitchen cabinets; Law enforcement; Criminal investigations; Shootings; Massacres
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS TERRORISM INVESTIGATIONS PUBLIC OPINION MOOD
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; United in life and death; Did San Bernardino shooters' dynamic as a couple give rise to an act of mass terror neither would have contemplated alone?

Goffard, Christopher . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The stash of weapons discovered at the Redlands townhome — including thousands of rounds of ammunition, a dozen pipe bombs and a workshop to make more — suggests to the FBI that the couple had been planning a terror mission for some time. A federal law enforcement official has said Farook had contact with overseas terror organizations, including the Al Qaeda-aligned Al Nusra Front in Syria and Shabab in Somalia.

## FULL TEXT

Syed Rizwan Farook was looking for a woman. A few years ago, not long out of college, he went online to find a match. He was slim, dark-eyed, 6 feet tall and living with a parent in Riverside, his dating profiles explained.

He was Chicago-born, with Pakistani roots. He didn't drink or smoke. He avoided TV and movies, preferring instead to tinker with old cars, work out and memorize the Koran. He had a \$49,000-a-year government job as a health inspector and wanted a young wife who shared his Sunni Muslim faith.

"Someone who takes her religion very seriously and is always trying to improve her religion and encouraging others to do the same using hikmah (wisdom) and not harshness," he wrote on BestMuslim.com, one of several dating and matrimonial sites he used.

In Southern California's relatively liberal Muslim community, his preference for extreme traditionalism narrowed his

choices. The woman he found online and married, Tashfeen Malik, had spent her life in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia and concealed her face with a veil.

A Pakistani national, she might have seemed an answer to his longings, matching, if not exceeding, him in religious devotion. Among the many mysteries: Did she corrupt her husband, or vice versa? Did their dynamic as a couple give rise to an act of mass terror neither would have contemplated alone?

Last year, Farook brought her to the United States on a K-1 visa, also known as a "fiancee visa." Farook would say it was his wife's conservatism that attracted him. She stayed home rather than worked. She opted not to drive. He didn't want her talking to men, and she dutifully avoided their company. Even to other men in his family, her face was hidden.

The couple lived quietly in a brown, rented two-story townhouse in Redlands, an intensely private pair in their late 20s who drew little notice from neighbors. To their landlord, they seemed model tenants.

On Wednesday morning, they left their 6-month-old daughter with Farook's mother, who lived upstairs. They retrieved combat rifles and handguns from a large arsenal they had been secretly amassing and put on black tactical gear. Wearing masks and carrying those weapons, they stormed into a holiday potluck for more than 75 of Farook's co-workers, killing 14 people and wounding 21 others. Sometime before the shooting began, Malik went on Facebook to express fealty to Islamic State.

That much authorities believe they know about the massacre, which the FBI is investigating as an act of terror – the deadliest on American soil since 9/11, as well as the deadliest mass shooting since the schoolhouse murders in Newtown, Conn., three years ago.

But much remains puzzling about the case, including the specifics of the couple's radicalization. It may be weeks, or months, before investigators – who seized computers and cellphones that belonged to the couple and are working to reconstruct their communications – are able to trace a detailed path between their online meeting and their deaths, soon after the murders, in a shootout with police.

The stash of weapons discovered at the Redlands townhome -- including thousands of rounds of ammunition, a dozen pipe bombs and a workshop to make more – suggests to the FBI that the couple had been planning a terror mission for some time.

And two crushed cellphones, found in a trash can near the townhome, suggested the couple hoped to hide whoever they had been in touch with. Of particular interest to investigators is whether the couple received weapons training overseas, possibly in Pakistan, where both had spent time.

But the FBI said it had not been watching them prior to the massacre and had received no advance warning they were dangerous.

Farook, 28, grew up in Southern California, and he was in his late teens when his mother filed for divorce from his father, claiming in court papers that he drank and was abusive.

Farook earned a bachelor's degree in environmental health from Cal State San Bernardino in 2010. His older brother, Syed Raheel Farook, served in the Navy from 2003 to 2007, winning medals for service in the "Global War on Terrorism."

Among his co-workers at the San Bernardino County Public Health Department, where he worked as a restaurant inspector, Farook seemed to make little impression beyond his quiet good manners. He was "a very isolated, introverted individual with really no friends that we could identify," said David Chesley, an attorney for Farook's family.

A federal law enforcement official has said Farook had contact with overseas terror organizations, including the Al Qaeda-aligned Al Nusra Front in Syria and Shabab in Somalia. By the evidence of family, co-workers and acquaintances who have spoken publicly so far, however, Farook did not suggest a man plotting jihadist violence.

In a recent discussion with a co-worker, an outspoken Messianic Jew named Nicholas Thalasinis, Farook condemned Israel but apparently did not raise alarms by his manner, said a friend to whom Thalasinis relayed the conversation. Thalasinis, 52, was among those slain.

Malik, 29, was born in Pakistan to an affluent, land-owning, politically influential family in Karor Lal Esan, in the southern part of the country's Punjab province, a generally poor agricultural area where religious schools are known as incubators of Islamist extremism.

Though Malik's family moved to Saudi Arabia when she was a child, she returned to southern Punjab a few years ago to study pharmacology at Bahauddin Zakariya University in Multan.

One of her professors, Dr. Nisar Hussain, recalled her as "a very hardworking and submissive student," and "an obedient girl." He said she came to school veiled.

"She was religious, but a very normal person as well," Hussain said in an interview. "I cannot even imagine she could murder people."

She was a good student, he added, and at one point was first in her class. "I don't think she had any kind of mental illness. She was among the best students, always hardworking, never created problems. Yes, she was religious, but not an extremist. She never tried to influence the class in the name of religion -- never."

A family member in Pakistan who asked not to be identified said that she had been a "modern girl" who changed during college.

"After a couple of years in college, she started becoming religious. She started taking part in religious activities, and also started asking women in the family and the locality to become good Muslims," the family member said. "She used to talk to somebody in Arabic at night on the Internet. None of our family members in Pakistan know Arabic, so we do not know what she used to discuss."

After university, Malik returned to Saudi Arabia, where Farook met her during a religious pilgrimage, according to his family's attorneys.

The family member said that Malik, after moving later to the U.S., began posting messages of religious extremism on her Facebook account, a source of concern for her family in Pakistan.

Malik's paternal aunt, Hafza Batool, told the BBC that the family was in a state of shock. "She was so modern. I do not know what had happened to her. She brought a bad name to our family," she said.

To obtain the K-1 visa and the conditional green card that permitted her to live in the United States, Malik had to undergo background checks by the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, but authorities apparently turned up nothing that gave them pause.

Farook told acquaintances that he and Malik were married in Saudi Arabia, in the holy city of Mecca. The couple held a post-wedding celebration at the Islamic Center of Riverside. There was a feast of rice and chicken curry.

It was there that Nizaam Ali, 23, who attends the mosque and recalled Farook as "a very nice person," said he saw Malik for the first time. She was covered, head to toe. He saw her a few other times but could not remember even seeing her hands. "If you asked me how she looked, I couldn't tell you," Ali said.

Farook's family attorneys say she spoke Urdu and broken English. They say his family was shocked to hear of the couple's involvement in the shootings, and had no advanced inkling of it.

FBI Director James B. Comey said that there was no evidence that the couple was directed by a larger terror network, although there were signs of "potential inspiration by foreign terrorist organizations."

"The Internet allows the opportunity for people to consume poison and radicalize," Comey added.

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Times staff writer Soumya Karlamangla in Los Angeles and special correspondent Aoun Sahi in Islamabad contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: DIRTY DISHES and other signs of domestic life at the home of Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: "SHE WAS so modern. I do not know what had happened to her," Tashfeen Malik's paternal aunt, Hafza Batool, told the BBC. "She brought a bad name to our family."; PHOTOGRAPHER: Asim Tanveer Associated Press; PHOTO: THE COUPLE had been secretly amassing combat rifles and handguns in their Redlands townhome.; PHOTOGRAPHER: San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department/Associated Press; PHOTO: SYED RIZWAN FAROOK turned to a dating site to find a wife and married Tashfeen Malik, with whom he could share his Sunni Muslim faith. They wed in the holy city of Mecca, and Farook brought her to the U.S.; PHOTOGRAPHER: FBI; PHOTO: SYED RIZWAN FAROOK turned to a dating site to find a wife and married Tashfeen Malik, with whom he could share his Sunni Muslim faith. They wed in the holy city of Mecca, and Farook brought her to the U.S.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Getty Images

## DETAILS

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**Location:** Pakistan Southern California Saudi Arabia

<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; 'OVERWHELMING SADNESS'; [ PHOTO: NASREEN

# REHMAN cries during a service at the Islamic... ]

Publication info: Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.16.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## FULL TEXT

Caption text only.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: NASREEN REHMAN cries during a service at the Islamic Center of Inland Empire in Rancho Cucamonga on Saturday. "I feel such overwhelming sadness for the victims and their families," she says.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; 353 mass shootings this year, or 4?; Count varies wildly based on criteria on location and number killed or wounded.

Pearce, Matt . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.22.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

[...]missing from its database this year was the August massacre in which a Houston man was accused of breaking into his ex-girlfriend's home and fatally shooting eight people, six of whom were children.

## FULL TEXT

Frequent mass shootings are a uniquely American problem.

But be careful when you hear reports of how often such shootings happen. They are not well tracked by federal agencies, and the definition of a "mass shooting" varies so widely among public researchers that the numbers can be confusing.

One commonly cited database, run by Mother Jones magazine, says there have been four mass shootings in America this year.

Those four attacks occurred at a church in Charleston, S.C. (nine victims killed); a military recruitment center in Chattanooga, Tenn. (five victims killed); a community college in Roseburg, Ore. (nine victims killed); and now at a holiday party in San Bernardino on Wednesday (14 victims killed).

But another commonly cited database, the crowd-sourced Mass Shooting Tracker, said that as of Friday there had

been 353 mass shootings in the U.S. this year.

That would mean we're averaging more than one mass shooting a day.

Here's the difference: Mother Jones counts a mass shooting as any incident in which a lone gunman kills at least four people in a public place, excluding gang violence.

But the Mass Shooting Tracker – which is built by members of the social-sharing site Reddit and which uses news reports as sources – defines a mass shooting as any incident, anywhere, in which at least four people are shot, whether or not they are killed.

Under this definition, Connecticut's 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre, in which 26 students and staff members were killed, would fall under the same category as a shooting in which four people are wounded in a personal dispute at a house party, even if those injured were not the intended targets.

Mass Shooting Tracker – explaining the thinking behind its criteria – cites a 2012 nightclub shooting in Jackson, Tenn., in which one person was killed and 18 were wounded when a gunman shot at someone and other patrons returned fire. (The gunman was among the wounded.)

"Under the incorrect definition of mass shooting, that event would not be considered a mass shooting!" the Mass Shooting Tracker site, [www.shootingtracker.com](http://www.shootingtracker.com), says in an explanation of its data. "Arguing that 18 people shot during one event is not a mass shooting is absurd."

But criminologist James Alan Fox of Northeastern University in Boston, who studies mass killings, says the Mass Shooting Tracker totals are flawed.

"Four people with minor injuries, they count it, but three people killed, they don't count it," Fox said of the site's criteria. "Everyone would agree three people killed is worse than four people with minor injuries.... It's really blending together apples with watermelons."

A Los Angeles Times examination of Mass Shooting Tracker's data showed that in 42% of the 353 shootings the site counted in 2015, no one was killed. (Other news outlets previously reported this week that the tracker had logged 355 mass shootings, not 353; it's not clear where the outlets got that number or whether the site downgraded its total as of Friday.)

The tracker has also only been gathering data since 2013, making it difficult to identify trends in mass shootings.

Mother Jones' data, which go back to the 1980s, are much more selective and exclude attacks inside private homes.

As a result, missing from its database this year was the August massacre in which a Houston man was accused of breaking into his ex-girlfriend's home and fatally shooting eight people, six of whom were children.

Mother Jones has explained that its "focus is on public mass shootings in which the motive appeared to be indiscriminate killing," calling it a specific phenomenon that is getting more common.

"While all the victims are important, conflating those many other crimes with indiscriminate slaughter in public

venues obscures our understanding of this complicated and growing problem," Mark Follman, Mother Jones' national affairs editor, wrote in the New York Times on Thursday.

"Everyone is desperate to know why these attacks happen and how we might stop them -- and we can't know, unless we collect and focus on useful data that filter out the noise."

But Fox, the Northeastern criminologist, has also criticized Mother Jones for excluding domestic-violence incidents from mass-shooting totals. "If you're one of the victims of a mass killing, it doesn't matter if a person who kills you is a brother or a stranger; you're just as dead," Fox said.

Fox also criticized Mother Jones for having inconsistent criteria, sometimes breaking its own one-gunman rule to include the two-shooter massacres at Columbine High School and in San Bernardino.

The most complete (and least confusing) data set, Fox says, is kept by the Congressional Research Service, which released a report on mass shootings in July.

The research service's report said that from 1999 through 2013, the U.S. averaged about 21 mass shootings per year in which four or more people were killed, either in public or private.

That 15-year span saw 317 such mass shootings in which a total of 1,554 people were killed; the number of shootings fluctuated sporadically from year to year.

(The research service report did not use Congress' definition, passed after the 2012 Newtown, Conn., massacre, which defines a mass killing as three or more slain victims.)

When the Congressional Research Service used data from criminologist Grant Duwe to count mass shootings that happened in public and left four dead -- similar to the criteria examined by Mother Jones -- the service found that the U.S. averaged 4.5 mass public shootings per year from 2010 to 2013.

That was a slight increase from an average of 4.0 mass public shootings per year in the 1990s and a drastic increase over the 1.1 public shootings measured per year in the 1970s, according to the research service.

The agency concluded that Congress should consider directing federal law enforcement agencies to improve their tracking of multiple-victim homicides.

"With improved data, policymakers would arguably have additional vantage points from which to assess the legislative proposals that are inevitably made in the wake of these tragedies," the research service said.

Fox says he doesn't make distinctions between public and private mass shootings; his own data indicate that "for decades," the country has averaged about 20 mass shootings a year with four or more people killed.

"The only thing that has really increased is fear."

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Shootings; Violent crime; Data bases; Massacres; Mass murders
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<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Mother Jones; NAICS: 511120
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## LINKS

# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Does TV news shape public opinion?

Battaglio, Stephen; Villarreal, Yvonne . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.20.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

When British journalist Piers Morgan had a nightly CNN program, he called for an assault weapons ban after the 2012 slaughter of 20 elementary school children in Newtown, Conn.

## FULL TEXT

Continuous television coverage of violent mass shootings is pulling at hearts, but not changing minds.

In June, nine people were killed at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C. In October, nine were killed and nine injured in a shooting at Umpqua Community College in Oregon. This week, 14 people were shot to death and 21 injured at a holiday party in San Bernardino.

Every tragedy is accompanied by hours of graphic video images of the wounded and grieving survivors. The law enforcement news conferences have become a familiar and dispiriting tableau.

Has the proliferation of incidents and the relentless televised coverage had any effect on public opinion?

Analysts say the parade of violence has served only to harden feelings on both sides of the gun control battle. Advocates say the shootings underline the need to get guns off the streets; gun rights activists say they show Americans need to be armed to protect themselves.

"It certainly riles people up," said John Donohue, a professor at Stanford Law School. "The question is, does it push views in either direction, or does it entrench people more in their current views?"

Public opinion polls have reflected the deep divide on the issue. After the Umpqua shooting, a Gallup poll showed that 55% felt that laws covering the sale of firearms should be stricter, while 11% thought they should be less strict and 33% believed they should be kept as they are. In contrast, shortly after the Columbine High School massacre in Colorado in 1999, 66% were in favor of stricter laws.

"The call for tougher gun control is actually short-lived," said James Alan Fox, Lipman professor of criminology, law and public policy at Northeastern University. "You can see on Gallup polls asking [about] tougher gun control that it

spikes after certain cases, but it goes back down. And there are some people think we have the right gun laws, but we just need to enforce them."

Franklin E. Zimring, a law professor at UC Berkeley, noted that mass shootings haven't changed the intensity of support versus opposition at the national level in a way that translates to legislation. President Obama has called for tighter gun control measures, but Congress remains deeply divided over the issue.

"The reason that gun control laws do or don't pass is not so much the number of people for or against it, but how deeply they feel," Zimring said. "And for pro-gun, anti-more-control folks, it's much more important to them – they care more deeply about their cause – than the average citizen."

In an earlier era of television, the constant barrage of news footage from the Vietnam War helped turn public opinion against U.S. military involvement. But the division over gun laws is so intense that any television commentators looking to make the issue a crusade do so at their own risk.

When British journalist Piers Morgan had a nightly CNN program, he called for an assault weapons ban after the 2012 slaughter of 20 elementary school children in Newtown, Conn. He covered the story for seven consecutive nights, often stiff-arming the gun control opponents who appeared as guests. It prompted a petition to the White House with 80,000 signatures gathered by pro-gun activists that called for Morgan's deportation.

"If the killings of elementary schoolchildren at Newtown did not galvanize the public around the issue, it's not quite clear what it's going to take," said Andrew Heyward, former president of CBS News and currently a research affiliate for the Laboratory for Social Machines at MIT. "Even if the issue takes great prominence, which I think it will, there are diametrically different points of view on how to deal with gun violence, including arming citizens so they can shoot the shooters before cops get there."

A fragmented media environment makes it less likely for any single individual media outlet or commentator to influence the debate on gun control measures.

"No one owns the airwaves like Walter Cronkite did when he spoke to 30 million people," said Joe Peyronnin, a journalism professor at Hofstra University in New York who worked with the legendary anchor at CBS. "There is no single voice that can stand up and make a call to action as a journalist. There is a lot of division around this and it's not an issue of government distrust."

Donna Dees-Thomases, a former television publicity executive and longtime gun control activist, said the reflex of TV news is to present the causes of gun violence as a polarizing issue that requires discussion rather than a problem that needs resolution.

"I think by always framing it as a debate might be good for ratings or make you feel like you're doing fair and balanced coverage," she said. "But I don't think it's creating a public service. This is a story that needs to be told constantly, over and over again, without a mass shooting and having a bogus debate."

The New York Daily News took such an approach with its blaring front page last week that called out political leaders – all of them Republican – for offering prayers for the San Bernardino victims but no call for action on gun control. "God Isn't Fixing This" read the headline that became a talking point throughout cable news coverage of the massacre's aftermath.

Daily News editor-in-chief Jim Rich did not see his tabloid's front page as advocacy.

"When one side of an issue is so consistently lacking or predictable or in many cases duplicitous, it's difficult to adhere to a traditional line in the sand as far as what's being objective and what's being subjective," he said. "Right now we're calling it exactly the way it is."

The New York Times may have taken its cue from the Daily News on Saturday with a call for stricter gun laws in its first front-page editorial since 1920.

Heyward believes any shift in opinion will probably be driven by social media platforms rather than traditional TV news. By Friday afternoon, coverage of San Bernardino turned to the terrorist links of the husband-and-wife shooting team, Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, as viewers were transfixed by a media tour of the couple's apartment.

"As TV networks move on to the next story, which will they inevitably do, it will be interesting to see if social media interest in guns moves up," Heyward said. "That would be a better measure."

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Firearms; Massacres; Mass murders; Public opinion
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<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; The first line against 'lone wolf' plots; Local authorities are often the ones who initially pick up clues something is wrong.

Chang, Cindy; Winton, Richard . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.12.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Large agencies like the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department have sizable counter-terrorism units that comb the Internet for suspicious postings, follow up on tips and cultivate contacts in the community.

## FULL TEXT

In 2005, Torrance police officers searched the apartment of two men suspected of robbing a gas station.

There, the officers found a lengthy manifesto and a list of potential targets, including synagogues and military

sites. They had stumbled on an Islamist terrorist cell in the advanced stages of an attack plan.

The San Bernardino massacre, which killed 14 people, has focused new attention on "lone wolf" terrorists who plan attacks away from traditional high-profile targets without directly coordinating with others.

While the FBI typically takes the lead in major terrorism investigations, local police officers and sheriff's deputies are the initial line of defense – especially in the case of home-grown plotters.

With their local intelligence and connections to the communities they serve, police are often the first to pick up on clues that something is wrong – or to fortuitously come across a dangerous situation. Large agencies like the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department have sizable counter-terrorism units that comb the Internet for suspicious postings, follow up on tips and cultivate contacts in the community.

Neighbors or friends might notice strange behavior, an uptick in bulky package deliveries or changes to a person's routine. Human intelligence is the key, and local authorities are more likely than their federal counterparts to be plugged into those sources, said Deputy Chief Michael Downing, who oversees the LAPD's counter-terrorism bureau.

But the challenges are daunting. Sometimes, as with the San Bernardino assailants Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, even family members said they did not notice any warning signs. Federal authorities say Malik wrote a Facebook post pledging her allegiance to an Islamic State group, but there is no evidence so far that they were connected to a larger terror cell.

"Self-radicalization poses a tremendous problem, as it is hardest to detect," Downing said. "For us, it has always been easier to detect a network group adversary, because someone is going to slip up or hit a trip wire, versus a lone wolf."

At the LAPD, the Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau's 900 officers include some Muslims and several who speak Arabic or Urdu. The bureau maintains relationships with local mosques and works closely with other law enforcement agencies, including the FBI.

The LAPD's version of the "If you see something, say something" program, which encourages residents to report suspected terrorist activity, has won praise but also raised concerns in recent years.

In 2007, the LAPD scrapped a plan to map the city's Muslim population amid an outcry from Muslim groups and civil libertarians.

But law enforcement officials say it is precisely those kinds of grass-roots leads that could stop the next terror plot.

Officers are constantly checking out reports of suspicious activity, searching for the smallest of clues, Downing said.

Chief Scott Edson, who oversees counter-terrorism at the L.A. County Sheriff's Department, said residents should not hesitate to report anything out of the ordinary.

"No one's going to say you're profiling if you report suspicious activity," Edson said. "I think we just have to

understand that in today's climate, there's nothing you can't say. Give law enforcement an opportunity to listen to what you have to say, and let us legally determine whether there is something there or not."

In addition to checking out tips, Edson's investigators monitor the Internet, looking for key words indicating an interest in extremism or terrorism. A declaration of allegiance to ISIS, like the one that allegedly surfaced on Malik's Facebook, could come to their attention, but it would take more than a single post to raise serious suspicions, Edson said.

Separating those who intend to commit violence from those who are merely talking is part of the challenge.

"A lot of it is very innocent, but you share some information and other people have similar information, and that's when it starts turning into more of a clue," Edson said.

Computer databases are a key aspect of information sharing with other agencies. For example, Edson said, if the same person receives parking tickets while taking photos of several different oil refineries, the citations are automatically cross-referenced.

Brian Levin, director of the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at Cal State San Bernardino, said terror networks have become more sophisticated at delivering their messages through social networks, making it easier to lure followers.

The San Bernardino massacre illustrates the difficulties of stopping terrorists who may have been radicalized mainly behind closed doors while surfing the Internet, said Orange County Sheriff Sandra Hutchens, who previously oversaw the counter-terrorism unit in L.A. County.

"Sleepy little Orange County is pretty active" in producing terrorists, Hutchens said. She noted that several aspiring foreign fighters arrested and charged by federal authorities in recent years came from the county and were heading to Syria to join ISIS.

In the U.S., homegrown terrorists come from a range of socioeconomic and educational backgrounds, making it hard to generate a criminal profile, said Brian Michael Jenkins, a terrorism expert at the Rand Corp., a Santa Monica think tank.

It is someone like Farook, seemingly leading a normal life, who poses the biggest challenge for law enforcement and who stokes the biggest fear in the public.

"The fact that this was such an ordinary guy, who was likable, who got along with other people at work ... It was a Christmas party. It was the Inland Regional Center, which is not at the top of anybody's perceived target list," Jenkins said. "That underscores the point that this could happen anywhere. This person I've known for years is maybe, as we speak, planning to kill me."

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: A BULLET-RIDDEN truck at the site where the shootout between authorities and Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik took place in San Bernardino. Their relatives said they didn't notice any warning signs.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Terrorism; Sheriffs; Law enforcement; Counterterrorism
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120; Name: Police Department-Los Angeles CA; NAICS: 922120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS TERRORISM LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT LAW ENFORCEMENT
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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; OBAMA'S TERROR PLAN; Rare Oval Office address will outline next steps

Tanfani, Joseph; Esquivel, Paloma; Aoun Sahi . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Experts say such cases pose a particular problem for authorities because the attackers are already in this country and are more difficult to detect than terrorists coming here from abroad. Since taking office in 2009, Obama has only addressed the nation twice from the Oval Office, the symbol of White House power.

## FULL TEXT

With the San Bernardino massacre prompting new concerns about homeland security, President Obama will deliver a rare prime-time address from the Oval Office on Sunday to outline his administration's plans to combat terrorism and defeat Islamic State.

The speech also will provide an update on the federal investigation into Wednesday's attack that killed 14 people at a holiday party at a San Bernardino conference center and will "discuss the broader threat of terrorism – including the nature of the threat, how it has evolved, and how we will defeat it," according to the White House.

The FBI is investigating the shooting as an act of terrorism apparently inspired by the extremist group.

Obama's address comes amid growing criticism from Republicans and even some Democrats about his policies for combating terrorism and dealing with Syria's civil war, especially after last month's coordinated Islamic State attacks in Paris that killed 130 people.

San Bernardino is one of several attacks in recent years, including the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings, that appear to involve "lone wolf" assailants in the United States who are inspired by terrorist groups but act

independently. Experts say such cases pose a particular problem for authorities because the attackers are already in this country and are more difficult to detect than terrorists coming here from abroad.

Since taking office in 2009, Obama has only addressed the nation twice from the Oval Office, the symbol of White House power. The most recent was Aug. 31, 2010, when he announced the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq in keeping with his campaign promise to end the war there.

Five years later, that speech appears a bittersweet moment in history.

Over the last year and a half, Obama has sent about 3,500 troops back to Iraq to train and advise local security forces in the fight against Islamic State.

He is under intense pressure to further escalate the effort to break a yearlong military stalemate with the group, which continues to control vast amounts of territory, including key cities, in Iraq and Syria.

Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter has announced that about 200 more special operations troops would be sent to Iraq to conduct raids and help step up airstrikes.

Although the militants have lost ground in recent months due to counterattacks and intense bombing, they have expanded their global reach by conducting a deadly attack in Paris, downing a Russian passenger jet over Egypt and building up a new stronghold in Libya.

In the fiercely contested 2016 presidential race, Republican candidates have excoriated Obama's counter-terrorism efforts as weak and ineffective, and called for stopping or restricting immigration into the U.S. of Syrian refugees and others.

In a statement announcing the speech, set for 8 p.m. Eastern time, the White House said Obama will seek to reassure the public that the government is taking effective steps to ensure the nation's safety.

"The president will also discuss the broader threat of terrorism, including the nature of the threat, how it has evolved, and how we will defeat it," the White House said. "He will reiterate his firm conviction that [Islamic State] will be destroyed."

Authorities now believe Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, were inspired by militant appeals on the Internet to attack a holiday party.

Earlier Saturday, after Obama had been briefed by Atty. Gen. Loretta Lynch, FBI Director James B. Comey and other senior law enforcement and intelligence officials, the White House said authorities still had not turned up any evidence indicating the couple were part of a terrorist network.

FBI technicians are trying to reconstruct their digital footprints from partially destroyed computer hard drives, cellphones and their online accounts.

They also are searching for signs the couple may have communicated using encryption to hide their messages.

The couple had not drawn the attention of the FBI or other federal authorities that seek to identify and track potential terrorists even though Farook had used the Internet to make contact with people from the Shabab, an

Islamist militant group based in Somalia, and Al Nusra Front, an Al Qaeda-linked group in Syria, a federal law enforcement official said.

Malik was a onetime "modern girl" who became deeply religious during college and began posting extremist messages on Facebook after arriving in the U.S., a family member in Pakistan said in an interview with The Times. The relative in Malik's hometown of Karor Lal Esan, who asked to not be identified, said Malik's postings on Facebook were a source of concern for her family.

"She started taking part in religious activities and also started asking women in the family and the locality to become good Muslims," the family member said.

For the last several days, supporters of Islamic State have used Twitter to praise the lethal attack in San Bernardino, but no official statement from the group appeared until Saturday.

U.S. intelligence analysts have no reason to doubt the authenticity of an Islamic State online broadcast Saturday that claimed last week's rampage was carried out by supporters, an American official said.

The broadcast on the group's official radio station said of the couple, "We pray to God to accept them as martyrs," but did not claim Islamic State had played a role in planning the attack.

Meanwhile, the investigation into the San Bernardino attack continued. On Saturday, FBI agents raided the home of a friend of Farook as the agency tried to determine whether the man had purchased two of the semiautomatic rifles used in the massacre, according to a law enforcement source.

The source, who asked to remain anonymous because the case is ongoing, said the FBI was seeking to interview Enrique Marquez Jr., who lived at the home, though it was not clear he had anything to do with the violence or knew what Farook did with the guns.

Neighbors said Marquez and Farook appeared to be good friends. Farook, his parents and siblings lived next door for several years before moving out a few months ago.

Family members and friends said they were stunned by the rampage, saying the couple showed no outward signs of radicalism.

They met on a dating website. The couple were married in Islam's holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia last year. The Saudi Embassy in Washington confirmed that Farook spent nine days in the kingdom in the summer of 2014. The couple's daughter was born in May, according to records.

Farook and Malik had amassed an arsenal of 2,000 9-millimeter handgun rounds, 2,500 .223-caliber rifle rounds and "hundreds of tools" that could have been used to make explosive devices, authorities said.

The couple fired least 65 shots when they stormed a party at the Inland Regional Center, where about 80 of Malik's co-workers at the San Bernardino Department of Public Health had gathered. Twelve of the 14 dead and 18 of the 21 injured were county employees, police said.

Hours later, the couple exchanged gunfire with police on San Bernardino streets, in a battle that launched bullets into homes and terrified residents.

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Tanfani reported from Washington, Esquivel from Riverside and Sahi from Islamabad, Pakistan. Times staff writers Richard Winton, Tony Barboza, Marisa Gerber, Louis Sahagun, Rong-Gong Lin II, Sarah Parvini, Cindy Carcamo and Dexter Thomas in Los Angeles and Brian Bennett, Richard A. Serrano and David S. Cloud in Washington contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: RYAN REYES, the boyfriend of victim Larry Daniel Kaufman, hugs a member of the Dar al Uloom al Islamiyah of America mosque at a memorial in Irwindale.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Wally Skalij Los Angeles Times; GRAPHIC: MAP: House raided, Riverside; CREDIT: Paul Duginski Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Terrorism; Law enforcement; Speeches; Militancy
<b>Location:</b>	Iraq Syria United States--US
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	Lead story Infographic OBAMA, BARACK SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS MUSLIMS TERRORISM ISLAMIC STATE (ORGANIZATION) NATIONAL SECURITY
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	A.1
<b>Publication year:</b>	2015
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Leaders join community in grieving; 'I have to work to get past it,' says one official as she reaches out day and night.

Mai-Duc, Christine . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Dec 2015: A.16.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

In her case, that has meant late nights and early mornings, discussions with imams and pastors, with police chiefs and fire officials, spontaneous prayer circles and hugs when she sensed they were needed.

## FULL TEXT

Correction: Wednesday, December 09, 2015: Grieving politicians: In the Dec. 6 Section A, an article about elected

leaders grieving with constituents after the San Bernardino shootings identified Assemblywoman Cheryl R. Brown as a Democrat from Rialto. She lives in San Bernardino.

In the sanctuary of Azure Hills Church on Friday evening, Assemblywoman Cheryl R. Brown is at the third vigil in her district in as many days. Fourteen candles sit on a table near the altar, 14 roses to honor the victims.

Brown (D-Rialto) listens as Pastor Marlene Ferreras talks about how people grieve. Some are intuitive grievers, the pastor says, feeling their way through the pain. But others, she adds, are action oriented – "We do grief."

Brown nods her head – she knows this feeling well. It's nearly 8 p.m. and she's been awake since 3 a.m., crisscrossing her district to attend prayer breakfasts, news conferences and briefings with law enforcement officials.

Sitting next to her is Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-Redlands), who has been up since 1:45 a.m. Aguilar, a freshman in Congress who used to be mayor in nearby Redlands, has been by her side for several of those events. It's the kind of reunion neither of them wanted.

Their schedules since Wednesday's shootings offer a glimpse into the world of an elected official attempting to comfort a community still reeling from an act of terrorism.

"I have to work to get past it, which is probably why I'm working the way I do," Brown says. "It doesn't give you time to think about yourself or how you feel. Whenever I get to reflecting, then it gets heavy."

Earlier that morning, at a pre-dawn prayer breakfast where Aguilar sat front and center, Brown offered a prayer for politicians. In times of tragedy, she told the gathering of about 50 people, these are the moments that define an elected official's career.

"You have to decide how you're going to handle all that carnage and all that pain, and you have to do something positive with it," Brown said.

In her case, that has meant late nights and early mornings, discussions with imams and pastors, with police chiefs and fire officials, spontaneous prayer circles and hugs when she sensed they were needed.

Her colleagues – Aguilar, Rep. Norma Torres (D-Pomona), Assemblyman Marc Steinorth (R-Rancho Cucamonga) and state Sen. Mike Morrell (R-Rancho Cucamonga) have kept similar hours, she says.

Aguilar, who has two young sons, said he had comforted parents who lost children to gun violence or other crimes in the city, but nothing on this scale. "You know, there's nothing you can say to a mother who's lost her son.... You just try to add comfort and listen and tell them that they're in your thoughts and prayers."

There have been moments Brown was overcome with emotion, like when she heard first responder Lt. Mike Madden describe the grisly scene he encountered and tears streamed down her face.

But she wiped away the tears. "People don't want to see me boo-hoo," she said. "I'm not shot, I don't have a family member who's shot, I don't have anybody who's dead. But I cry for them."

Friday Aguilar and Brown appeared for an interfaith prayer at the Redlands Islamic Center, about a mile from where

the shooters had lived. She told the crowd it was important to stop divisive discourse. "I came because I want you to know that we are one family in our community," she said.

She said she had ideas for legislation to introduce when the Legislature reconvenes in January.

But for now, Brown said, "I still have funerals to go to."

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Staff writer Colleen Shalby contributed to this report.

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Prayer
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS TERRORISM GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS MOURNING SCHEDULES
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## LINKS

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# CALIFORNIA BRIEFING; SAN BERNARDINO; Vigil planned for shooting victims

Cesar, Stephen . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: B.6.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

A vigil to honor the 14 people killed and 21 wounded in last week's mass shooting in San Bernardino will be held at the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors headquarters Monday evening.

The candlelight event planned for 5 p.m. at the headquarters at 385 N. Arrowhead Blvd., San Bernardino.

The gathering will include county employees, local and national labor leaders, elected officials and clergy, among others, according to a news release by the Service Employees International Union, which is sponsoring the memorial for the victims.

The shooters, Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, were killed in a shootout with police hours after the rampage Wednesday.

– Stephen Cesar

## DETAILS

**Identifier / keyword:** Brief

**Publication title:** Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.

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<b>Section:</b>	California; Part B; Metro Desk
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<b>Document type:</b>	News
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## LINKS

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**SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Divided over the approach; Watching Obama's speech, residents of a traumatized region realize devising the right strategy is tricky.**

Sahagun, Louis; Kohli, Sonali; Parvini, Sarah; Curwen, Thomas . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.1.

## ABSTRACT

Federal authorities suspect that Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik's act of terrorism was inspired by the Islamic State. Sitting amid the photographs of children and grandchildren, amid red Christmas bells and a cross in the kitchen, Tovar listened as her mother and grandson responded to the president's words.

## FULL TEXT

Robert Garcia and Trish Hughes have been residents of San Bernardino for 16 years. In the frontyard of their home, an American flag flies at half-staff.

Wednesday's tragedy was fresh in their minds as President Obama spoke Sunday night. The married couple, both 44, watched and listened from their living room.

They could not be further apart when it comes to their views of Obama. Hughes, a Democrat, is a self-proclaimed fan of the president. Garcia, a Republican, not so much.

"I liked it a lot," Hughes said when Obama finished his speech. "The president didn't pat us on the head and say 'Things will be all right.' He's got a strategy."

But Garcia thought Obama's plan to combat terrorism didn't go far enough.

"Unfortunately, we may need some troops on the ground," he said. "And that's not an easy thing for me to say. I have a 25-year-old son in the Navy."

San Bernardino is now the site of the deadliest terrorist attack on U.S. soil since 9/11. Residents, such as Garcia and Hughes, say their city has been traumatized by the attack that left 14 dead and turned neighborhoods into a bullet-riddled war zone.

These somber facts are forcing residents of the ethnically diverse, working-class city of 209,000 people, located 60 miles east of Los Angeles, to grapple with the same questions that have bedeviled the president and lawmakers alike.

Should the United States take a more active role fighting the Islamic State? How should religious extremism -- abroad and at home -- be fought? And could more rigorous gun-control legislation have prevented Wednesday's tragedy?

Federal authorities suspect that Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik's act of terrorism was inspired by the Islamic State. Investigators are trying to determine whether the couple were self-radicalized or belonged to a network.

In another part of San Bernardino, Barbara Tovar, 67, was glad the president reiterated his commitment not to put

troops on the ground in Syria to fight ISIS.

Tovar's husband is in the Army, and a grandson is in the Marines. She doesn't want them to be put in harm's way.

Wednesday's tragedy struck close to home for Tovar's mother, Helen Medina, when her house was struck by bullets as police pursued Farook and Malik. The blinds in her one-story home shook. Petrified, Medina threw herself on the hallway floor.

"I didn't dare look outside," Medina, 87, said. "I thought I was going to die."

Sitting amid the photographs of children and grandchildren, amid red Christmas bells and a cross in the kitchen, Tovar listened as her mother and grandson responded to the president's words.

"Congress should act to make sure no one on a No Fly List is able to buy a gun," Obama said.

"That's what we were talking about," Jonathan Tovar, 20, said.

"Exactly," replied Tovar. "That's something that clearly needs to be done."

"We can't forget that this isn't us against Muslims," Jonathan Tovar added. "We don't want to abandon our fellow man. We can't forget that."

In nearby Chino, Mohammed Zafarullah, imam of the Bait ul Hameed Mosque, sat in his living room with his wife and daughters. He usually leads the 5 p.m. prayer, but not today. The president's speech was more important.

When the president concluded his address, Zafarullah expressed his appreciation for what Obama said. "Whatever the government thinks about the protection of the country, that is their right and they have to do it," he said.

Throughout the week, Zafarullah has been following the news about Farook and Malik and talking about it with members of the mosque. Even though the mosque hasn't received any threats in the aftermath of the attack, Zafarullah is accustomed to hearing anti-Islamic sentiment.

He knows how important it is for the security of his community that he maintain a positive relationship with law enforcement and that authorities know that their mosque is peaceful.

Nilofar Shabana, Zafarullah's wife, supports Obama's actions to get rid of ISIS, she said, and Zafarullah understands his role as well, as an imam, to report any signs of extremism. "We have to cooperate, we have to help [Obama].... It is our duty to put a finger on them," he said.

"Peace is very important," he said. "We don't like that terrorists enter into this country."

On that account, Robert Garcia agreed. "I think it should be harder for them [extremists] to get into this country," he said.

But whether the president was able to allay the fear that has beset this community since Wednesday, Garcia was doubtful.

"I don't think the president made that much of a difference when it comes to making people feel less anxious," he said.

But Hughes didn't believe it was fair to suggest that one person -- even the president -- would be able to "quell our anxiety."

For some residents, though, the president's address didn't come in time.

Alberto Jimenez, 78, who considers himself an Obama supporter, said addressing the nation four days after the assault was too late.

His wife, Louise, said she is angry with the president.

"He needs to get more serious," she said. "Every one of us here is a victim. Every one of us knew someone who knew someone who was killed. The people of San Bernardino are good people, and we are afraid."

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Times staff writer Alan Zarembo contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: PRESIDENT OBAMA addresses the nation from the Oval Office. He paid special tribute to the 14 people killed in San Bernardino, noting that the two killers were lured "down the dark path of radicalization."; PHOTOGRAPHER:Saul Loeb Pool photo; PHOTO: DOREEN MONTANO, left, who lives near where the two attackers were killed, watches the address. She believes there should be more of a focus on refugees.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Rick Loomis Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: ZAFAR FAMILY MEMBERS, originally from Pakistan, watch the speech in Chino. A local imam, Mohammed Zafarullah, said one of his roles is to report any signs of extremism to law enforcement.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Barbara Davidson Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Mosques &temples; Extremism; Presidents
<b>Location:</b>	United States--US
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	OBAMA, BARACK SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS TERRORISM NATIONAL SECURITY SPEECHES PUBLIC OPINION

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Shooting victim was one survivor's 'hero'

Parvini, Sarah; Carcamo, Cindy . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.14.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The two were seated next to each other Wednesday morning at a training and Christmas holiday luncheon for the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, joking about how they "thought the large clock on the wall might be broken because time seemed to be moving so slowly."

## FULL TEXT

As bullets rained down during the San Bernardino shooting rampage, Shannon Johnson, 45, wrapped his left arm around 27-year-old Denise Peraza and held her close.

"I got you," Johnson told her.

Peraza was shot once in the back and survived.

Johnson died.

Peraza, who is recovering from her wounds, shared her story of survival with reporters Saturday to honor Johnson.

The two were seated next to each other Wednesday morning at a training and Christmas holiday luncheon for the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, joking about how they "thought the large clock on the wall might be broken because time seemed to be moving so slowly."

Minutes later, the two huddled close under the same table, using a fallen chair as a shield from 65 to 75 rounds of bullets being fired from across the room, she wrote in an email that was sent to the Los Angeles Times.

In earlier interviews, friends and family members said Peraza had told them that the doors of the conference room opened and two people dressed all in black and wearing black face masks entered with "big ol' guns" and started shooting randomly.

Everyone dropped to the floor.

"While I cannot recall every single second that played out that morning, I will always remember his left arm wrapped around me, holding me as close as possible next to him behind that chair," Peraza said in a statement.

Earlier, she had described a terrifying scene to her relatives.

"The guys opened fire for 30 seconds, randomly, then paused to reload and began firing again," Peraza said.

She told family members that she was shot once in the lower back before the shooters were gone, and everything was silent for about five minutes. Then suddenly, the doors were pushed opened again, but this time it was law enforcement officers, lots of them, and they yelled out "Anyone who can move, leave immediately and find cover behind vehicles."

Peraza said they were then helped into the beds of pickups and taken to a safer location.

Johnson, an environmental health specialist, loved to collect images, friends and family said.

He had them tattooed on much of his body: one of his first wife, another of each of his grandfathers and one of his dad, who died in a grain silo accident in Georgia when Johnson was a boy. He was planning to get another soon of his girlfriend, Mandy Pifer.

The couple had been together for three years, she said, and had recently decided to get married.

Johnson's Koreatown apartment was a museum of his life.

Framed concert posters lined the living room walls, and a collage of business cards hung above the toilet. They were mostly from truck stops -- mementos from his days driving 18-wheelers, before he finished college and settled into a job with the Public Health Department in San Bernardino, Pifer said.

Johnson -- a Christian who, Pifer said, dabbled in Hinduism -- loved the department for its diversity, and often recounted friendly conversations about religion with Syed Rizwan Farook, a fellow restaurant inspector and one of the shooters.

In Saturday's statement, Peraza included an image of Johnson, smiling gently behind sunglasses and a beard.

"This is Shannon Johnson, who will be deeply missed by all. This is Shannon Johnson. My friend, my hero," she wrote.

Peraza's sister Stephanie Rose Baldwin posted on Facebook that Johnson helped save her sister's life.

"This angel of a man was sitting next to my sister when the shooting happened," she wrote. "He helped protect her from the bullets and we are so grateful for his heroic love."

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Times staff writers Louis Sahagun and Alan Zarembo contributed to this report.

### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: DENISE Peraza, 27, was shot once and survived.; PHOTOGRAPHER:; PHOTO: SHANNON Johnson, 45, was killed in the attack.; PHOTOGRAPHER:

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; At Loma Linda, tense time as victims arrived; Amid the rush to

# gather staff, treat patients and take calls, there was also a bomb threat to investigate.

Karlamangla, Soumya . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.14.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Inside the hospital's emergency room waiting area, patients watched the news, scoured social media sites and fielded phone calls and texts from relatives asking if they were alive and safe. Loma Linda and Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton, which is south of San Bernardino, run trauma centers, special emergency room units equipped to treat serious injuries, so patients with the most serious gunshot wounds were taken there.

## FULL TEXT

At hospitals across the Inland Empire, nurses constantly monitor computer screens on which ambulance calls typically stream in one by one. They can see what's happening throughout the region. On Wednesday morning, all was quiet.

Then just after 11 a.m., an emergency flash: "MASS SHOOTING. THIS IS NOT A DRILL."

Two assailants had opened fire with assault rifles at an office party at a county facility in San Bernardino, leaving 14 dead and 21 wounded. Surrounding hospitals were immediately flooded with police, reporters and grief-stricken families.

For emergency room nurses and doctors, coping with high-pressure situations and patients near death is familiar.

But usually the danger doesn't hit so close to home.

With the shooters at large Wednesday, those caring for victims couldn't help but worry, "What about our own families? Could they potentially be shot?" said Dr. Kathleen Clem, chair of the emergency medicine department at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

Most hospitals now hold active shooter drills regularly. But still, the terrorist attack in San Bernardino last week ushered in a new level of anxiety for hospitals.

"I live right here," Clem said. "This is my home."

Wednesday morning, she raced to find the hospital's on-call emergency room physicians. Ambulances would arrive soon with wounded patients. Loma Linda hospital is only three miles from the Inland Regional Center, the site of the attack.

Luckily, the on-call physicians were already in the hospital for a morning talk with doctors in training. "I pulled them

out of the lecture hall," Clem said.

She assembled 12 physicians – triple the number that usually staff the ER – and stationed trauma teams at the front entrance of the emergency room, ready to tend to patients as soon as ambulances pulled up.

As patients began arriving, chaos descended on the community.

A manhunt for the killers unfolded close by. Loma Linda hospital received a bomb threat.

Little was known about how many people had been killed and who or where the shooters were. Inside the hospital's emergency room waiting area, patients watched the news, scoured social media sites and fielded phone calls and texts from relatives asking if they were alive and safe. Reporters began showing up.

Nurses warned against photographing or filming. Staff shielded a patient with white sheets as they rushed him inside.

Then, about 2:30 p.m., police stormed the facility, responding to the bomb threat. They searched the corners of each room for explosive devices.

Clem recalled seeing bomb-sniffing dogs at her feet as she treated patients. Though police determined within an hour that there were no bombs, the scare was yet another reminder of what felt like imminent risk nearby – and to be "at the ready for whatever else might come, and not knowing what that would be," Clem said.

Loma Linda and Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton, which is south of San Bernardino, run trauma centers, special emergency room units equipped to treat serious injuries, so patients with the most serious gunshot wounds were taken there. At least five area hospitals received people hurt in the shootings.

Not knowing where their relatives had been taken, family members of victims contacted several hospitals, seeking word about loved ones, hoping for solace.

Many didn't find it.

San Trinh raced from hospital to hospital in the San Bernardino region on Wednesday, looking on patient rosters for the name of his girlfriend, Tin Nguyen, a county health inspector who had been in the room where the attacks happened.

Trinh, with Nguyen's brother, ticked off the names of medical facilities they visited, but their search yielded no clues. Trinh knew something was wrong.

"We were always in touch," he said of his girlfriend, whom he had been dating for more than five years. Still, family members said that instead of sitting and waiting with terrified relatives, he preferred checking local hospitals.

Trinh eventually learned that Nguyen died at the scene.

For hospital staff, reuniting patients with their families often felt like the most pressing task Wednesday.

San Antonio Regional Hospital in Upland received two shooting victims, both of whom were discharged the same

day. Because the hospital is 25 miles from the attack site, families hadn't yet reached the patients, who were "quite anxious to get back to their family," said Dr. Kevin Parkes, the emergency room department's medical director.

All day, Loma Linda staff waited to receive more patients. But by the evening, it had treated only five from the shooting.

Clem said she wished the hospital could have tried to save more lives.

"We deal very well with tragedy when we can help," she said. "It's when we can't that it's hard for us."

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Times staff writers Anh Do, Zahira Torres, Tony Barboza, Louis Sahagun, Kate Linthicum, Joseph Serna and Rong-Gong Lin II contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: THE EMERGENCY ROOM entrance at Loma Linda University Medical Center was an anxious scene of waiting for the wounded to arrive from the San Bernardino massacre. Five victims were treated there.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Barbara Davidson Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Physicians; Emergency medical care; Hospitals; Nurses; Patients; Mass murders
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Does San Bernardino give weight to NRA's argument?

Jamison, Peter . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Yet such anecdotes are far from conclusive, said Pete Blair, a criminal justice professor at Texas State University in San Marcos who co-wrote a 2014 study of "active shooter incidents" -- defined as shootings still in progress when officers respond -- for the FBI.

## FULL TEXT

It was three years ago this month that Wayne LaPierre, executive vice president of the National Rifle Assn., enraged gun-control advocates with his defiant assertion that more firepower was the solution to America's wave of mass shootings.

"The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun," LaPierre declared at a news conference one week after the shooting that left 26 people, including 20 children, dead at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. La Pierre suggested an armed security officer could have stopped the tragedy and called for garrisoning police in every school.

Today, those struggling to make sense of the nation's latest massacre face a vexing but unavoidable question: Was LaPierre right?

The murder of 14 people at a social services center in San Bernardino on Wednesday was a grimly familiar entry in America's growing ledger of shooting massacres. As the FBI investigates the assault as an act of terrorism, it has also become a flashpoint in the debate over what, if anything, can be done to stop such killings.

Among the most contentious aspects of that debate is the clamor by some for more police officers and armed security guards at potential target sites.

A spokeswoman for the Inland Regional Center – the sprawling facility for adults and children with developmental disabilities where the San Bernardino shooting occurred – disclosed on Friday that an unarmed security guard was on duty when the attack took place.

She said she did not know where the guard was when Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, pulled up at the center's conference building in a black SUV, armed with rifles, pipe bombs and tactical vests, and opened fire on Farook's co-workers at a holiday party. The guard typically "roves the parking lot," said Leeza Hoyt, a public relations specialist hired by center officials.

Every shooting unfolds according to its own grisly logic, making speculation about across-the-board preventive measures risky. Gun-control advocates, along with many on the political left, have often dismissed arguments for more firearms in public places. They say the correct route to preventing shootings is restricting access to guns for would-be killers.

Yet others say recent gun massacres, as well as thwarted attacks, are adding weight to arguments in favor of fortifying crowded buildings and public places with armed personnel.

Dave Grossman, a retired Army lieutenant colonel and police trainer and who spoke at this year's NRA convention, said an armed security officer stationed at the site of the San Bernardino shooting could have made it much harder for Farook and Malik to carry out their plan.

"Absolutely an armed guard on site would have greatly reduced the probability that they would have done it, and it would have greatly reduced the likelihood that they [would have] got the body count that they did," Grossman said.

He pointed to the May assault on a Texas conference center hosting a deliberately provocative contest for cartoons of the Muslim prophet Muhammad. Two men equipped with rifles, handguns and body armor were shot and killed by a local traffic officer after they opened fire at the entrance to the event. The only wound the gunmen inflicted was on an unarmed security guard, who was shot in the leg.

Some evidence also indicates that armed guards, while present, can prevent attacks from happening. A gunman who killed three at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado just days before the San Bernardino shooting didn't enter the facility until after a private security guard had gone off duty.

Yet such anecdotes are far from conclusive, said Pete Blair, a criminal justice professor at Texas State University in San Marcos who co-wrote a 2014 study of "active shooter incidents" – defined as shootings still in progress when officers respond – for the FBI.

Blair said "there's not any large-scale evidence" proving that armed guards deter or reduce casualties at shootings, despite the plain-spun logic of the "good guy with a gun" argument.

"We've seen most of these shootings occur at places that don't have armed security guards," Blair said. "But then most places in the country don't have armed security guards, so it's hard to prove that that's the decisive factor."

An armed school resource officer was actually present at one of America's worst mass shootings, the Columbine High School massacre of 1999. The officer, a Jefferson County sheriff's deputy, was outside the school when students Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold began their attack and was unable to prevent them from killing 12 students and one teacher, although he fired his gun from a distance at Harris.

Laura Cutilletta of the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, a San Francisco-based group that advocates for stricter gun laws, said she saw no problem per se with the presence of armed guards, so long as they have appropriate training.

"I think if it were extremely limited to law enforcement only, and security guards with a very high standard of training, that's one thing," she said.

The problem with the NRA's argument, she asserted, is that it is a thinly veiled call for ordinary citizens – rather than trained public-safety professionals – to buy and carry guns. (A spokeswoman for the NRA declined to comment on the group's position on armed guards in public places.)

If widespread gun possession led to fewer shootings, Cutilletta said, "you would think that America would be the safest country on Earth, given how many guns we have in the population. And the truth is the exact opposite."

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: A WOMAN and son hug at a makeshift memorial. Some argue an armed guard could have saved lives.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Brian van der Brug Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Shootings; Security management; Firearms; Criminal investigations; Massacres; Mass murders

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## LINKS

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**SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Seeking solace in sanctuaries; Worshipers in San Bernardino gather to pray, grieve and try to make sense of**

# the shooting.

Branson-Potts, Hailey; Kohli, Sonali . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.13.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

On Sunday, the faithful gathered at houses of worship across San Bernardino County to pray, to grieve and to try to make some sense of the tragedy, when Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, 29, opened fire on his co-workers in an attack the FBI is investigating as having been inspired by the Islamic State. In a disconcerting coincidence, staff members working in the church kitchen recognized the health inspector's name signed on the certificate from the San Bernardino County Public Health Department: Syed Farook.

## FULL TEXT

Deacon F. Michael Jelley ditched his sermon at the last minute.

Earlier last week, he'd planned to preach a message at San Bernardino's Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral about preparing the way for the Lord during this, the Advent season -- a time of joy and expectation.

But then 14 people were shot to death Wednesday at a holiday potluck at the Inland Regional Center a few miles from the church, and everything changed. Jelley just wanted his congregants to know it was OK to be angry, to be afraid, to be confused. He, for one, still is.

"You need to validate people's feelings," Jelley said. "It's all very difficult to comprehend. A lot of people want an explanation, and I don't think there's a lot of wisdom you can share."

On Sunday, the faithful gathered at houses of worship across San Bernardino County to pray, to grieve and to try to make some sense of the tragedy, when Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, 29, opened fire on his co-workers in an attack the FBI is investigating as having been inspired by the Islamic State.

At St. Catherine of Siena Church in Rialto, there was a face missing from the pews -- 27-year-old Yvette Velasco of Fontana had been a regular worshiper who attended the church with her family. She was killed in the attack.

The Rev. Rogelio Gonzalez said he spoke recently with Velasco's parents to offer spiritual support. But, he said, "sometimes you have to understand that there is nothing you can do" but be there with them.

In a disconcerting coincidence, staff members working in the church kitchen recognized the health inspector's name signed on the certificate from the San Bernardino County Public Health Department: Syed Farook.

The church took down the certificate and told the county it refused to display it, said the Rev. Stephen Porter. It was just too much.

For the faithful, it has been difficult to comprehend that the attack could have been carried out as an act of religious extremism.

"I wish we were here for a happier occasion, but unfortunately we're here to ask for God's mercy and grace in this tragic time," Masood Kahn, a member of the Islamic Center of Inland Empire, said during an interfaith event at the Rancho Cucamonga center Saturday night. "For all of our faith traditions, building bridges of peace is the highest calling."

On Sunday morning, Dawn Cummins, 67, stood at a table outside Calvary Chapel in San Bernardino, selling Christmas ornaments to raise money for a women's ministry and waving at the arriving parishioners.

"Coming to church is like an encouragement, because even if you don't know what's happening around you, you can still have that peace inside," she said.

In the sanctuary, the names of the dead were displayed on a screen during a moment of silence. Pastor Lee Coe, speaking to dozens of people seated in wooden pews with blue upholstery, acknowledged the pain.

"This morning, our hearts are heavy for all that our city has endured," he said. "A terror has come to San Bernardino."

Children's pastor John Deming asked the fourth- through sixth-graders in Sunday school whether they felt afraid. He said he "made sure they knew how absolutely loved they are [and] made sure they knew they didn't have to be afraid."

At Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, parishioners Dick Johnson, 71, and his wife, Sharon, 70, said the attacks had strengthened their faith. They're confident, he said, that "God can take any tragedy and turn it into good."

"I think so often we take life for granted, and I hope that in the healing process people are drawn together," he said. "There's no guarantee we'll come home in the evening."

The Johnsons said one of their daughters is employed by the San Bernardino Police Department and that she worked the crime scene at the Inland Regional Center. She broke down when she realized that one of the dead, 45-year-old Shannon Johnson of Los Angeles, had the same name as her sister.

In the sanctuary, the wooden pews were full. Albert Jimenez, 78, who has attended services every Sunday for years, said there were many more people than he had seen in a long time. They just needed some hope, he said.

As the names of the dead were read from the pulpit, some wept. One man nodded gently with each name, and a woman holding a young girl pulled her in closer, hugging her and looking down.

The deacon told the crowd that he was trying to find meaning in how two people could feel such hatred that they would kill. Jelley admitted that he was saddened and prayed that God would help people to love one another and confront their own fears and suspicions of people who look different, who believe differently.

The congregation sang, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy."

But their faces were full of sorrow.

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Times staff writer Ruben Vives contributed to this report.

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: PARISHIONER Cynthia Tibke, second from left, wipes away tears Sunday at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral in San Bernardino during a youth Mass homily remembering victims of last week's shooting rampage at the Inland Regional Center, a few miles from the church.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Brian van der Brug Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: SHENAZ MAKATI attends a service at the Islamic Community Center of Redlands in Loma Linda.; PHOTOGRAPHER: Barbara Davidson Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Houses; Fund raising; Criminal investigations
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Speech avoids war cry to focus on our fear; Obama speaks little of terrorists in televised address to nation, urging viewers to 'reject discrimination.'

McNAMARA, MARY . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.13.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

"Just as it is the responsibility of Muslims around the world to root out misguided ideas that lead to radicalization," he said, "it is the responsibility of all Americans – of every faith – to reject discrimination.... Because when we travel down that road, we lose.

## FULL TEXT

No one will ever accuse President Obama of unnecessary theatrics.

Though many considered Sunday night's speech a perfect, even necessary, moment for a full-blown war cry against Islamic State, the president instead spent more time addressing the American state of mind than any threat outside our borders.

Though he decried the massacre in San Bernardino as terrorism and vowed to use "all of America's power" to

destroy Islamic State, which he characterized as "thugs, killers, a cult of death," Obama seemed intent on avoiding a Bill-Pullman-in-"Independence Day" moment.

He was not trying to rally the troops so much as the forces of our better natures.

Far from announcing any big new plans, the president simply outlined what his administration is doing to combat terrorism and pledged to continue the fight.

Then he turned his attention inward, asking for stricter gun laws, calling on Muslim communities to root out radicalism and reminding Americans that diversity and tolerance were the very values Islamic State threatened and so should not be jettisoned, even in times of fear.

Needless to say, many people were very disappointed, after all the buildup, that the speech did not appear to follow "the narrative."

And there was a lot of talk about "the narrative" in the hours leading up to the speech. As the continuing investigation in San Bernardino revealed the killers' support of radical jihad, expectations grew accordingly. Much was made of Obama's very rare decision to use the Oval Office. Historically, he has preferred the less iconic East Wing.

Instead of presidential acknowledgment, reassurance and perhaps some words about the debate over gun violence that has filled the news, the speech grew to something bigger and more definitive.

Something a bit more than saber-rattling.

Citing polls that show a majority of Americans are not happy with the way Obama is handling the war on terrorism, pundits likened the level of fear to post-9/11 levels. Cable news networks churned with accusations that the president and/or those around him had rejected early warnings about the rise of Islamic State (also called ISIS or ISIL) because they did not fit "the administration's narrative" regarding foreign policy.

Virtually everyone agreed that Obama needed to use Sunday's speech to "change the narrative" on terrorism and, indeed, his presidency. Many suggestions were made: He should make Americans feel safe and prove there is firm resolve and a new strategy to take down terrorism. He should apologize for underestimating Islamic State and radical Islam, and then explain how we are going to keep them out and take them down.

Excepting the apology, he did most of these things, albeit in a highly measured way. He spoke slowly, and paused often, as if to allow his points to sink in. And though he denounced "the dark path of radicalization," he spoke little about the terrorists, as if to avoid giving them the attention they crave.

Instead, the speech focused on Americans and our need to remain vigilant, to protest laws that allow those on the "no-fly" list to buy guns and rhetoric that would send troops to the Middle East.

Most important, he warned against allowing fear to cloud our judgment.

"Just as it is the responsibility of Muslims around the world to root out misguided ideas that lead to radicalization," he said, "it is the responsibility of all Americans -- of every faith -- to reject discrimination.... Because when we travel down that road, we lose. That kind of divisiveness, that betrayal of our values plays into the hands of groups

like ISIL.”

Terrorists use random acts of violence to disorient a populace, to make people so afraid they can no longer think of anything larger than their personal safety. Including democracy, including civilization.

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Credit: TELEVISION CRITIC

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: DURING HIS SPEECH Sunday from the Oval Office, President Obama outlined what his administration is doing to combat terrorism. Most important, he warned against allowing fear to cloud our judgment.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Jim Lo Scalzo European Pressphoto Agency

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Presidents; Firearm laws & regulations; Terrorism; Speeches
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Probe into attack turns to roots of radicalism

Aoun Sahi; Tanfani, Joseph; Hamilton, Matt . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.14.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Federal agents seized items Sunday from the Riverside home of Farook's former neighbor, one day after the FBI raided the residence and took away several items to determine whether the neighbor was the source of some of the guns used in the attack, according to a law enforcement source.

## FULL TEXT

Federal authorities continued Sunday to scour the backgrounds of the assailants in the San Bernardino shootings to determine what sparked their radical turn and whether they received any outside financial support to carry out the deadliest terrorist attack on U.S. soil since 9/11.

U.S. Atty. Gen. Loretta Lynch said that investigators conducted more than 300 interviews and had gained the cooperation of foreign governments, including Pakistan, as part of the far-reaching probe of Syed Rizwan Farook and his Pakistani wife, Tashfeen Malik. The interior minister of Pakistan, where Malik attended college and Farook's parents were born, also announced the country had launched its own inquiry.

Federal agents seized items Sunday from the Riverside home of Farook's former neighbor, one day after the FBI raided the residence and took away several items to determine whether the neighbor was the source of some of the guns used in the attack, according to a law enforcement source.

As the investigation unfolded, friends and family of the shooters came forward to offer snapshots that may point to what motivated Wednesday's rampage that killed 14 and wounded 21, including Farook's apparent fixation on Israel and Malik's devotion to a fundamentalist strain of Islam.

Lynch, speaking on NBC's "Meet the Press," cautioned against drawing conclusions about the couple and said the probe was a "marathon" effort to chart all aspects of the couple's lives.

"We are trying to learn everything we can about both of these individuals," Lynch said. "We are trying to run everything to ground."

Federal officials have said the couple's plot appeared to be inspired, but not directed, by foreign terrorist organizations. President Obama said in a Sunday evening address that no evidence pointed to the two being part of a "broader conspiracy here at home."

Describing Malik as the "wild card" in the plot, the chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, Rep. Michael McCaul (R-Texas), said investigators were looking into her activities in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

Malik, 29, was born to a politically influential family in Pakistan's southern Punjab province, moved to Saudi Arabia as a child and returned to Pakistan to begin studying pharmacology in 2007.

Two classmates of Malik at Bahauddin Zakariya University said that while she was enrolled at the college, she also studied at Al Huda, a chain of religious institutes that promote a fundamentalist strain of Islam.

"She used to go to attend sessions in Al Huda almost every day," one of Malik's former classmates told the Times, speaking on condition that she not be identified.

A Pakistani security analyst, Dr. Ayesha Siddiq, said Al Huda teaches women "fundamentalist" ideas, though it does not necessarily promote a jihadist agenda. Most of the women who attend Al Huda institutes wear a veil and usually come from affluent families like Malik's, Siddiq and other experts said.

A family member in Pakistan told The Times in an interview that Malik became deeply religious during college and began posting extremist messages on Facebook after arriving in the U.S.

In 2014, she came to the U.S. on a K-1 visa, also called a fiancée visa, with Farook, who worked as an inspector with San Bernardino County.

The limited salary of a county employee has aroused suspicion that the cache of weapons found in the couple's Redlands apartment – including pipe bombs and ammunition – may have been purchased with funds from a foreign source, McCaul said.

"I believe on his salary, he was not able to buy this on his own," McCaul said on "Fox News Sunday."

Farook's father told the Italian newspaper La Stampa that his son agreed with the ideology of Islamic State leaders and was "obsessed" with Israel.

But a local activist, speaking alongside one of the family's attorneys, later backtracked and said the elder Farook did not recall the comments he made to the publication.

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Times staff writers Brian Bennett, Sarah Parvini in Riverside and Richard Winton in Los Angeles contributed to this report. Sahi reported from Islamabad, Pakistan.

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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# Sounds from robbery cause panic at mall; Shoppers in Riverside report a shooting after mistaking breaking glass for gunshots.

Sahagun, Louis; Winton, Richard . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: B.5.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

A robbery at a jewelry store at the Galleria at Tyler in Riverside caused a panic among shoppers Sunday evening when they apparently mistook the sound of breaking glass for gunshots, police and witnesses said.

## FULL TEXT

A robbery at a jewelry store at the Galleria at Tyler in Riverside caused a panic among shoppers Sunday evening when they apparently mistook the sound of breaking glass for gunshots, police and witnesses said.

Three robbers wearing ski masks entered the Ben Bridge Jeweler store at the mall, Riverside police Chief Sergio Diaz said. The robbers smacked the display cases with hammers, he said.

"The sound of them smashing the glass was mistaken for gunshots," Diaz said. "That's what led to the initial report" that a shooting occurred.

The robbers fled the jewelry store, and so far they have not been found, Diaz said. But what is believed to be the getaway vehicle has been located, Diaz said.

Eloy Medina, 42, and his wife, Lissette Medina, 30, both of San Bernardino, were in the mall.

"I understood that they tried to rob a ... jewelry store," Eloy Medina said. "There were definitely two loud bangs, which made all the shoppers on the first floor start running for their lives."

Lissette Medina said people were running for safety all around the mall.

"The women were kicking off their high heels so that they could run faster, and shoppers were dropping their bags and taking off. I called 911, and the line was busy. I tried again and I got through, and the person said there were shots fired, please get out of the mall. People were tripping over each other. Several people were trampled. No one tried to help anyone else get up," she said.

Amid the chaos, "The first thing that went through my mind was 'Oh, God, we're under a terrorist attack,' " said Erica Muschara, 28, who was in a M.A.C. Cosmetics store in the mall. "Everyone was screaming and running. I grabbed my niece, and we were directed by M.A.C. workers into a storage room with a lock and bulletproof doors. There were 24 people in there...."

Cassandra Lara, 23, said her partner unable to get out of the mall because it was on lockdown. They communicated by texting.

She said her partner said that "there are lots of police in the mall searching store by store."

"No doubt about it, everyone was on edge because of what happened in San Bernardino," she said in a text.

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## DETAILS

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# NEWS ANALYSIS; SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Attack defies parties' solutions

Lauter, David; Halper, Evan . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

The nature of the attack defies the solutions that either party has been offering. Because the shooting rampage does not appear to have been centrally directed or planned, a more intense assault on Islamic State's positions in Iraq and Syria, as Republicans have advocated in recent months, might have little impact on preventing recurrences.

## FULL TEXT

The massacre in San Bernardino, now being investigated as a terrorist attack, has reshaped the political debate in an election that strategists in both parties had thought would be fought primarily over domestic policy.

But as President Obama spoke from the Oval Office to the nation on Sunday, and as the candidates seeking to replace him sought to recalibrate their positions, all sides faced a central problem: The nature of the attack defies the solutions that either party has been offering.

Because the shooting rampage does not appear to have been centrally directed or planned, a more intense assault on Islamic State's positions in Iraq and Syria, as Republicans have advocated in recent months, might have little impact on preventing recurrences.

And because the attackers purchased their weapons legally after going through the required background checks, the preferred Democratic response of expanding the background-check system to cover additional sales has little relevance.

In the hours after Obama's speech, Republicans criticized it for lacking any dramatic innovation.

"No new plan, just a half-hearted attempt to defend and distract," tweeted House Speaker Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin.

"Is that all there is?" was Donald Trump's response.

In reality, that criticism could be leveled at both parties, both in regard to defeating Islamic State in its bases in Iraq and Syria and, even more so, in trying to prevent attacks inspired by the group's propaganda. If anyone has a big idea for making the country safer, it has yet to surface.

Both sides have offered some smaller proposals such as tightening the process for getting a visa to enter the U.S., an idea Obama supported in his Oval Office speech.

Democrats have pushed to ban gun purchases by people on terrorism watch lists. Republicans' refusal to vote for that idea, which is opposed by the National Rifle Assn., has given Democrats a new talking point, and Obama stressed it once more.

But mostly, Obama's goal was to lay out what his administration is already doing, reflecting the belief in the White House that many Americans are not aware of what his approach is. His language was designed to soothe and reassure.

He tried to convince voters both that he has an effective strategy – something that a majority currently does not believe – and that his approach will make the U.S. safer without requiring that the country be "drawn once more into a long and costly ground war," which he argued would be unsustainable and probably counterproductive.

He also emphasized the need for national unity, devoting a large part of his speech to the importance of cooperation between the government and Muslim communities, an implicit rebuke to Trump, who has since last month's Paris attacks repeatedly called for "tracking" Muslims.

For the candidates seeking to step into the Oval Office, the imperative has been somewhat different: to convince voters that they are prepared to lead the country in a time of peril.

So far, that dynamic mostly appears to have bolstered the front-runners in both parties: Trump and Hillary Clinton.

The specter of terrorism linked to an immigrant from the Middle East and her American-born husband plays directly into issues Trump has spent the last five months emphasizing: concerns about immigration and contempt for what he calls "political correctness" that he says has harmed the government's ability to keep the country safe.

On Sunday, Trump said he would consider the idea of tracking American Muslims to find those who may have been radicalized.

"You have people that have to be tracked. If they're Muslims, they're Muslims. But you have people that have to be tracked," he said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

"I'm not playing on fears. I'm playing on common sense," he said. "I would go after a lot of people."

Other GOP hopefuls have been forced to respond to him.

Some have sought to outbid Trump in tough rhetoric, as Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas did Saturday with what appeared to be a reference to using nuclear weapons against Islamic State territory in Iraq and Syria.

"I don't know if sand can glow in the dark, but we're going to find out," he said at a conservative forum in Iowa.

Others have tried the difficult balance of rebuking Trump while still trying to copy some of his appeal.

"We don't have to target the religion," former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush said in an interview with ABC's "This Week."

"We just have to target those that have co-opted the religion and make sure that we're fully aware of the radicalizations taking place, not just here but all around the world."

On the Democratic side, Clinton has sought to emphasize her depth of experience. Her approach to the fight against terrorism is consistent with a general theme of her campaign: that she would pursue the parts of Obama's agenda that Democratic voters like, but in a tougher, more determined manner.

In a speech Sunday, Clinton said that "the need for action is urgent" and that "the threat from radical jihadism has metastasized and become more complex."

She also picked a new focus for demonstrating that urgency. The technology industry, she said, needs to work more closely with the government to find ways to disrupt Islamic State's propaganda and recruitment efforts online.

"Resolve means depriving jihadists of virtual territory just as we work to deprive them of actual territory," she said.

"You are going to hear all the usual complaints," she said, "freedom of speech, etc." But, she added, "we are going to have to have more support from our friends in the technology world to deny [terrorists] online space."

Clinton's chief opponent for the nomination, Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, has been left to complain about what he called a mistaken belief that "all we should focus on now, 24/7, is ISIS" to the exclusion of domestic issues.

But while the focus on terrorism may help solidify Clinton's lead in the Democratic primary race, it may prove more difficult for her in a general election.

"In an environment of fear, where rationality has already been thrown out the window, Republicans can say anything, and a candidate with a tough-minded new approach will be very attractive to a large percentage of the electorate," said Aaron David Miller, a former U.S. negotiator in the Middle East who is now a vice president at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington.

Clinton "has a command of these issues that is unmatched in the race," Miller said. "But the question is whether -- in this age of terror and rising doubts about Obama's foreign policy -- is it a plus or a minus?"

Jennifer Merolla, a UC Riverside professor of political science and coauthor of "Democracy at Risk: How Terrorist Threats Affect the Public," said that "it is usually Republicans who benefit" when fears of terrorism increase.

"People perceive them as stronger on the issue," she said.

Clinton's backers hope to counter that by relying on the candidate's public image as a tough, seasoned political fighter.

Veteran pollster Peter Hart noted that at two focus groups he conducted among voters in Ohio shortly before the attacks in Paris, voters from both parties, whether they liked Clinton or not, had similar views of that aspect of her character.

Hart asked participants to imagine making a model of each candidate and asked what material they would use for the spine. When it came to Clinton, the responses were uniform: titanium, steel, iron.

"They don't have any doubt about her resolve or her toughness," Hart said.

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## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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**CAPITOL JOURNAL; Gun policies hit us where it hurts; Making high-powered weapons widely available puts everyone at risk**

## ABSTRACT

"Contrary to popular belief, mental illness by itself is not a leading contributor to interpersonal firearm violence," Dr. Garen J. Wintemute, a longtime UC Davis gun violence researcher, wrote in a recent report. [...]caution: A firearm at home is 22 times more likely to be used in a domestic homicide, suicide or accidental shooting than in self-defense, according to the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence.

## FULL TEXT

It may be a while before we know everything about the San Bernardino butchery, but the central detail was clear from the start: The culprits were guns.

Not Muslims. Even so-called radical Islamic terrorists cannot kill 14 and wound 21 with knives or ball bats.

Bombs, maybe. But those two holiday party killers preferred guns because, in America, guns are so easy to obtain and use.

Not mental illness. Anyone who murders is a sicko. But it's insulting and intellectually dishonest to equate all killing with the severely mentally ill.

"Contrary to popular belief, mental illness by itself is not a leading contributor to interpersonal firearm violence," Dr. Garen J. Wintemute, a longtime UC Davis gun violence researcher, wrote in a recent report.

"Severe mental illness is a risk factor, but the risk is small," Wintemute told me. "Age and sex -- young men -- are much higher risk factors."

Yes, the mentally ill need treatment. Governments have been derelict. And the most gravely ill should be kept from firearms because these people, Wintemute says, are a huge risk for suicide.

But murderers? The mentally ill always have been convenient culprits, if you listened to the weapon worshipers.

There has been no indication, however, that the two San Bernardino assassins -- Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and Tashfeen Malik, 29 -- were clinical cases.

True, they were Muslims. But there is roughly one mass shooting -- four or more victims -- each day in America. And here's betting that few of the assailants are Muslim and most were raised Christian.

The common denominator is that they were all blazing away with guns, the preferred killing tool.

America has only 4.5% of the world's population but 41.5% of its civilian-owned firearms.

We have by far the highest gun ownership rate on Earth. What results is no surprise: No other developed nation comes close in firearms fatalities.

Blame it on all of us. Long ago, we decided to let potential killers arm themselves with practically any weapon they choose.

You know, all those law-abiding people -- like that quiet Redlands couple -- who are law-abiding until they're not.

"I've thought a lot about it and have come down to this," says Wintemute, an emergency room physician who has treated countless gunshot wounds. "We know there's a predisposition to use high-capacity weapons in mass shootings. But we, as a country, have made a series of policy decisions to make those weapons available to the widest number of people.

"We are now reaping the harvest of those decisions. These weapons are being used in precisely the way they're designed."

We're told the assault rifles fired at the office party were purchased legally. That's the problem. They should have been illegal.

California, Chicago and Washington, D.C., can pass tough gun laws. But they'll always be the victims of lax bordering states where bad guys can go load up.

So blame us because we haven't pressured Congress to pass strong nationwide laws -- such as banning large-capacity ammunition magazines and requiring universal background checks.

National Rifle Assn. scare propaganda to the contrary, no one is advocating the confiscation of all weapons. But that's where we're headed eventually unless the gunners wake up and compromise on some realistic solutions to the daily slaughter.

Solutions such as requiring smart guns -- firearms that can be used only by their rightful owners, not by thieves or crooks buying weapons in the underground.

Also, solutions like requiring background checks for ammo purchases. And limiting the buys. Farook and Malik fired up to 75 rounds during their killfest and 76 while exchanging fire with police. Cops found 4,500 rounds at their home and 1,600 in their car.

Nobody needs that many bullets unless they're arming for mass mayhem.

Another solution: A well-funded government buyout program that offers financial incentives for people to dump guns they really don't care about but are sitting ducks for thieves or accidents.

If it makes you comfy, keep a gun for self protection. But caution: A firearm at home is 22 times more likely to be used in a domestic homicide, suicide or accidental shooting than in self-defense, according to the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence.

Blame some Democrats, too -- moderates cowed by the powerful gun lobby.

Gov. Jerry Brown has vetoed major gun bills. One would have banned the sale of firearms capable of holding detachable, high-capacity magazines. Another would have led to registration of ammunition sales.

Some liberals don't have clean hands. Last year, they pushed a ballot measure that, among other things, reduced from a felony to a misdemeanor the penalty for stealing most handguns. Voters passed it.

They'll get an opportunity to correct that mistake next November. Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom is sponsoring an initiative to return all gun thefts to a felony while significantly tightening California's firearms laws.

Newsom's proposal would ban possession -- not just sales -- of magazines holding more than 10 rounds. It also would require instant background checks -- the first in the nation -- for every ammo purchase.

"We're at a tipping point in this country," Newsom says. "What do we value? We value our safety and our liberty. How do we balance both? Change has to start from the bottom up, with the public, not from the top down. I have zero optimism about Congress."

Gun violence can't be stopped. But it can be reduced if we're smarter about our asinine arsenal.

—  
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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: WEAPONS at a Rancho Cucamonga gun buyback in July 2015. Mental illness is not a leading contributor to interpersonal firearm violence, an expert said.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Al Seib Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: AN L.A. buyback in May 2015 yielded these weapons and more. The U.S. has only 4.5% of the world's population but 41.5% of its civilian-owned firearms.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Mental disorders; Weapons; Violence; Muslims; Shootings; Mass murders
<b>Location:</b>	United States--US
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	Column SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS TERRORISM GUN CONTROL CRIME PREVENTION
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; UNVANQUISHED ENEMY; Obama seeks to calm Americans on terror threat; But the size of the problem and limited options remain challenges

Memoli, Michael A . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## ABSTRACT

President Obama addressed the nation from the Oval Office on Sunday night hoping to reassure anxious Americans that his administration has a strategy to defeat Islamic State overseas, and to protect Americans from the threat of homegrown terrorism. Obama said, for example, that he's ordered the State Department and Homeland Security to review the K-1 visa program, known as the fiance visa, that allowed Pakistani-born Tashfeen Malik -- one of the two shooters in San Bernardino -- to enter the country in 2014.

## FULL TEXT

President Obama addressed the nation from the Oval Office on Sunday night hoping to reassure anxious Americans that his administration has a strategy to defeat Islamic State overseas, and to protect Americans from the threat of homegrown terrorism.

But the 13-minute speech underscored the magnitude of the challenge and the dearth of options for the White House.

Obama revealed no new ideas or plans for dismantling Islamic State, and he again ruled out sending a large force of U.S. ground troops to fight in the Middle East.

The strategy he did present -- more drone strikes, more special forces, more FBI investigations -- pointed to a long-term struggle rather than a decisive victory any time soon.

Standing before the oaken Resolute desk, the ultimate bully pulpit, Obama insisted that the U.S.-led military coalition is making progress at whittling away the vast territory Islamic State controls in Iraq and Syria, and at choking off the group's illicit revenue sources.

But he also acknowledged the group had dramatically expanded its reach in recent weeks by sponsoring or inspiring attacks around the globe, including killing 130 people in Paris, downing a Russian plane over Egypt, shooting up a hotel in Mali, and using suicide bombs in Lebanon, Libya and Yemen.

Obama paid special tribute to the 14 people killed in San Bernardino on Wednesday, noting that the two killers were lured "down the dark path of radicalization."

"This was an act of terrorism designed to kill innocent people," he said.

He argued that Islamic State is like no terrorist group in the past. It has drawn about 30,000 foreign fighters, uses encrypted apps and software to avoid detection, and uses social media and the Internet to exhort followers to launch attacks in their home countries.

He described the group as "thugs and killers, part of a cult of death." He urged Muslims "to decisively and unequivocally reject the hateful ideology."

But he didn't assign new resources to address that challenge. He instead offered a defense of his current strategy, suggested modest adjustments to existing programs and called on Congress to pass laws it is unlikely to approve.

Obama said, for example, that he's ordered the State Department and Homeland Security to review the K-1 visa program, known as the fiance visa, that allowed Pakistani-born Tashfeen Malik – one of the two shooters in San Bernardino – to enter the country in 2014.

He repeated his calls for new gun-control laws since, he said, history has shown that law enforcement "cannot identify every would-be shooter." But he has urged Congress to pass stiffer gun laws to no avail after every mass killing.

He also urged Congress to draft a new authorization for the use of military force specifically targeting Islamic State. The Pentagon told Congress as recently as Wednesday that it doesn't need new authorization to go after the group.

Obama also said he would urge tech companies to cooperate more with law enforcement to "make it harder for terrorists to use technology to escape from justice." Silicon Valley has largely resisted efforts to give the government backdoor access to encryption.

He argued that the success of U.S. efforts to detect or disrupt complicated plots since Sept. 11, 2001, has given rise to the current crop of "less complicated acts of violence," like the attack in San Bernardino.

"The terrorist threat has evolved into a new phase," Obama said. White House aides say that the FBI has arrested so many people – at least 56 this year – that the group's followers have grown more secretive and thus more dangerous.

Obama insisted he is using "every aspect of American power" to battle and ultimately eliminate the group.

"The threat from terrorism is real, but we will overcome it. We will destroy ISIL and any other organization that tries to harm us," he said, using an acronym for Islamic State.

He added a swipe at his critics: "Our success won't depend on tough talk, or abandoning our values, or giving in to fear."

Earlier Sunday, Donald Trump, the front-runner for the Republican presidential nomination, reiterated his call to profile American Muslims.

"I want real vigilance," he said on CBS' "Face the Nation," "whether it's mosques or whatever it has to be."

Other Republicans said the president missed an important opportunity to clearly define the threat and retool his strategy.

"We are not winning the war against ISIL, and the threat of terrorism against our homeland is real and growing," Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said in a statement. "As the president said, America should never give in to fear. But neither should we fear to acknowledge the nature and severity of the threats we face and do everything within our power to confront them."

Obama hasn't lacked for opportunities recently to try to convince Americans that he has a strategy for beating Islamic State.

Since the Nov. 13 attacks in Paris, the president has spoken with reporters no fewer than 30 times, including at four news conferences where counter-terrorism was a dominant theme.

The president's decision to speak Sunday night was an acknowledgment that his message was not getting through. He last addressed the nation from the Oval Office five years ago, when he announced his plan to withdraw all U.S. combat troops from Iraq.

In the view of his aides, Obama's message on terrorism has been drowned out by the heated rhetoric of Republicans vying to replace him next year, and by the president's own insistence on pressing ahead with other priorities, including global warming and the so-called pivot to Asia.

The calculus changed after the San Bernardino attack, the deadliest terrorist incident on U.S. soil since Sept. 11, 2001.

The president decided late Friday to deliver a major address to "provide the American people with a clear sense of how we need to deal with this threat as a country," a senior administration official said Sunday.

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Times staff writers Lisa Mascaro and W.J. Hennigan contributed to this report.

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Terrorism; Law enforcement; Suicide bombings; Muslims; Criminal investigations; Congressional investigations
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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Grieving for the innocents; Those mourning the victims are as diverse as those killed

Lopez, Steve . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]08 Dec 2015: A.13.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

In conversations with visitors, I encountered no one who personally knew any of the 14 people who were killed Wednesday at a workplace Christmas party just up the street, slaughtered in a cowardly act of terrorism by a husband and wife team of Muslim extremists. [...]the vigil was set up at the corner, across from a Shell station, an auto repair shop and an empty lot in the southern flats of San Bernardino.

## FULL TEXT

The vehicles pulled up to an intersection that once meant nothing but is now memorialized – a steady stream of cars and trucks and vans carrying people who needed to be present.

The doors opened and out came the couples, the families, the devout, the curious, a traveling canine ministry, a rabbi and his sons.

Some held candles and others brought flowers to add to the growing collection at Waterman Avenue and Orange Show Road in San Bernardino. They came early Sunday and into the evening, from nearby and from as far away as Oceanside, to honor the dead.

In conversations with visitors, I encountered no one who personally knew any of the 14 people who were killed Wednesday at a workplace Christmas party just up the street, slaughtered in a cowardly act of terrorism by a husband and wife team of Muslim extremists.

"I'm just here to pay my respects," said Charles Turner, a Fontana retiree.

The massacre unfolded just up the block, but police had that area cordoned off. So the vigil was set up at the corner, across from a Shell station, an auto repair shop and an empty lot in the southern flats of San Bernardino. From there, you could gaze north to a sharp mountain ridge painted onto a powder blue canvas.

"May God bless our city. Condolences & love to the families of the 14," someone had written on a poster covered with such messages.

One visitor had hung red and green Christmas stockings on a sturdy green bush, and each stocking bore the name of a victim.

If you have seen photos of the dead, you were looking at the California yearbook. They were white, Asian, African American, Latino. One had fled Eritrea to escape violence, another had come from the Middle East for the same reason.

The visitors to the vigil looked like them.

"I want to support my community," said Dinah Valverde, a Highland resident who attends Harvest Christian Fellowship and wore a red shirt that asked "Need Prayer?"

She found a cool draft of shade under a tree and sat waiting to receive anyone who needed to talk.

About 3 p.m., I asked how long she'd been there.

"Since 8 a.m.," she said. "I don't understand this kind of horrific crime, but my husband passed and I know a little about death."

There was little in the way of politics on display during my time at the vigil – most people arrived quietly and left the same way, their only statement being their solemn presence.

Turner, the Fontana retiree, did tell me he thought President Obama was doing far too little to protect Americans, and the answer might be to send troops into battle against ISIS.

On the other side of that argument, Maureen Farsadi and her daughter, Tamara, had driven up from Irvine and Corona del Mar to hold two signs overhead for as long as their arms would allow.

"Peace is Possible," said Maureen's, and "War is Unjust," said Tamara's.

Maureen Farsadi's late husband was Persian, she said, and a non-practicing Muslim. She and her daughter are Christian.

"What we're doing isn't working," said Tamara, who believes bombing raids on ISIS will bring more blowback.

Pearl Sanchez arrived with her husband, Henry, after services at their nearby church, and Pearl had a message for Maureen Farsadi.

"God is great," she said with conviction. "He's going to do something good for us."

Alyssa Torres, 14, of Hesperia, who arrived with her mom and dad and two younger siblings, expressed perfectly the insanity of a murderous rampage, against innocent people carried out in the name of faith.

"It doesn't make sense," she said.

Chaplain Ralph Buchhorn of the Extra Mile K9 Response Team brings trained "comfort" dogs to the scene of mass shootings in the hope that they'll be a healing presence and conversation starters for people who need to talk. With the national barrage of mass killings, the dogs unfortunately get way too much work. But Buchhorn and his dogs can only do so much.

"There is no answer to the 'Why,'" he said.

A vigil is not a place for answers. It's an occasion for reflection, communion and recognition.

"I had to stand aside," said Sam Romero, who stepped back from the vigil, surprised by how overcome he was.

Romero, who works in the communications department at Cal State San Bernardino, told me he was born in the city and loves it still. Sure, he said, San Bernardino has taken its hits.

It went bankrupt, it got belted by economic decline even as other parts of the state prospered, and now it is home to the second-largest act of terrorism on American soil since 9/11.

"But I look at this," he said of the diverse gathering of an extended family in mourning, "and I see another part of San Bernardino. There's a small-town feel here. I go to the store and see people I know. I love the mountains. There's culture here. There's a university."

As the afternoon faded into evening, Rabbi Sholom Ber Harlig set up a table next to the vigil and placed a menorah atop it. He gazed west, using the sun as a timepiece, and spoke up when the sky darkened and the air cooled.

"Tonight is a special holiday which is called Hanukkah," said the rabbi, telling the story of the survival more than 2,000 years ago of the holy temple in Jerusalem.

"Hanukkah comes to teach us that if you go in a room, and the room is dark, you don't have to take a stick and start fighting with the dark.... A little light gets rid of a lot of darkness."

The vigil candles became brighter with each passing minute, and red clouds floated atop the Inland Empire sky. For every person who left, another person arrived to pay respects.

They knew, as do all of us, that we are at the mercy of things unseen.

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: TAMARA FARSAADI of Irvine holds a sign Sunday at the growing memorial for the victims of the mass shooting at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Steve Lopez Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# Police got it right in San Bernardino

Banks, Sandy . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]08 Dec 2015: B.1 .

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Police officers, sheriff's deputies and federal agents worked together to stop the killers, search the area and investigate the circumstances. If police departments around the country took those elements more seriously, we might not have so many high-profile incidents in which tactical errors lead to civilian deaths, put officers at risk and diminish public confidence in law enforcement. :: Exhibit A is the death of Kendrec McDade, who was killed by Pasadena officers after a 911 caller falsely reported that McDade had a gun.

## FULL TEXT

If there was any bright spot in the circumstances surrounding last week's massacre in San Bernardino, it was the performance of law enforcement officers.

Police officers, sheriff's deputies and federal agents worked together to stop the killers, search the area and investigate the circumstances.

From the start, San Bernardino officers drew on lessons learned from previous mass shootings.

They didn't hang back as officers had in Columbine, when two students killed 13 people in a high school siege that went on for almost an hour.

San Bernardino officers quickly assembled a team that rushed in, ready to confront the shooters. The hunt for the killers was thorough and transparent. Even through a raging gun battle that left both suspects dead, the police stayed calm and kept residents safe and the public informed.

It was a display of professionalism that we ought to publicly applaud. It highlighted the importance of sound tactics and the value of history.

If police departments around the country took those elements more seriously, we might not have so many high-profile incidents in which tactical errors lead to civilian deaths, put officers at risk and diminish public confidence in law enforcement.

::

Exhibit A is the death of Kendrec McDade, who was killed by Pasadena officers after a 911 caller falsely reported that McDade had a gun. The shooting of the unarmed 19-year-old was ruled justifiable by the department and the Los Angeles County district attorney.

But a report by an independent review commission of law enforcement officials blasted the officers for several egregious tactical blunders and faulted the Pasadena department for its shoddy investigation.

The officers' mistakes put them in "a precarious position" that left them little choice but to try to shoot their way out, the report said. One officer jumped out of the patrol car to chase McDade without telling his partner – who then drew his gun while driving, crashed into a brick wall and made the "potentially disastrous mistake" of getting out of the patrol car without putting it in park.

The shooting occurred more than three years ago. But the report was made public, by court order, only last month. The police union battled its release to protect the officers' "privacy rights." And the department brass didn't want us to see it – probably because it shows how little they cared about making the tragedy a teachable moment.

That's not uncommon in the insular culture of law enforcement. But it's exactly the wrong approach, particularly in an era of cellphone videos and patrol car cameras that provide an objective record and plenty of public fodder.

Some departments recognize that; they have made frequent tactical refreshers a part of their community policing plans.

In Richmond, police supervisors meet regularly to dissect every use-of-force case. They incorporate lessons from those incidents into role-playing sessions that officers attend every few months. There they learn to de-escalate tense situations and practice making split-second use-of-force choices.

The homicide rate in the Northern California city is at its lowest in 33 years. Officer-involved shootings rarely occur.

"There are a million different decisions that go into getting you into that [shoot or don't shoot] situation," said UCLA professor Phillip Atiba Goff, who studies departments around the country as head of the Center for Policing Equity. "You want the kind of tactical training that sets you up so you don't wind up in that place."

::

The tactical flaws cited in the Pasadena report echo a theme in controversial shootings nationwide: Police fire in response to dangerous situations that their own choices helped create.

The Pasadena department concluded that the officers did the best they could in a chaotic situation.

But that chaos existed because the officers' actions "were not congruent with principles of officer safety," the review panel found.

You could say the same about the case of Ezell Ford, who was shot to death last year by LAPD officers who suspected he might be carrying drugs.

Ford was unarmed, but was shot during what an officer said was a struggle for his gun -- a struggle that might not have occurred, the Police Commission found, had the officer not grabbed Ford and tried to wrestle him to the ground.

Or the case of Tamir Rice, the 12-year-old shot to death last year at a park in Cleveland by officers responding to a 911 call about a man with a gun.

A rookie officer began firing at Tamir before his patrol car even came to a stop. It took him all of two seconds to decide the boy was a threat.

Tamir died with a toy gun tucked in his pants. The officer who killed him said he had no choice.

That's the refrain in many use-of-force cases: We focus on that moment when officer and suspect connect.

But tactics matter. Those encounters are choreographed by the choices that both sides make -- and those choices are too important to be left to adrenaline or a hunch.

--

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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: DEPUTIES TAKE aim during the shootout in San Bernardino. Throughout the gun battle, the police stayed calm and kept residents safe and the public informed.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Mark Boster Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Shootings; Patrol cars; Law enforcement; Departments; Mass murders

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# Reactions to terror

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## ABSTRACT

[...]what they got was a speech from the Oval Office that was just a rehash of old talking points, with no new actions or strategies against terrorism. Print pictures of law enforcement, the armed forces, nurses, doctors, teachers and parents who teach their children right from wrong and to value humanity.

## FULL TEXT

Re "Obama seeks to calm Americans on terror threat," Dec. 7

Islamic terrorists attack the United States, shocking the country. The president speaks to rally the nation, asking for support in fighting this new kind of war, and the nation responds. Political differences are put aside for the moment, and all Americans rally behind their commander in chief.

That happened after 9/11, but not this time. After President Obama's speech Sunday night, Republican attack messages blanketed the media within minutes.

Over the past seven years, the lack of civility in the Republican Party has reached new heights. And now it seems clear that not allowing Obama any victories even applies to fighting a war against a brutal foreign enemy. Sure, Americans should be united in wartime, but fighting against the president is far more important.

The GOP calls the Democrats divisive. There is nothing more divisive than attacking the nation's commander in chief during a time of war.

Vince Scully

Long Beach

::

As The Times notes, Obama's speech didn't change the fact that there are "limited options" and "revealed no new ideas or plans for dismantling Islamic State." Isn't it about time we give attention to a new strategy – like really getting at the roots of Islamic State radicalism, asking the question that is rarely heard: Why?

I remember how this question came to be asked in 2001, but only months after the 9/11 attack. When the initial cries for revenge seemed useless, many commentators began to ask, "Why do they hate us so much?"

Human activity is always the result of some sort of motivation. How about turning our attention to grappling with the motives that lie at the roots of this vicious movement, which defies the world's most powerful military establishments?

How about a non-military encounter with the forces that twist so many people's minds to call evil good?

Ken Dale

Claremont

::

Another whiff for Obama.

Does the president think gun control will stop the terrorists from getting assault weapons? Using gun control to deflect from the real issue and create a political issue just continues the president's modus operandi of pointing fingers and blaming others.

The American people want a president that truly fights terrorism. Instead, what they got was a speech from the Oval Office that was just a rehash of old talking points, with no new actions or strategies against terrorism.

Don Black

Rancho Palos Verdes

::

I watched the president address the nation on terrorism Sunday night. Let me quote Obama: "Freedom is more powerful than fear."

I assume he means all freedom except my freedom to bear arms.

Ronald. D. Vavak

Los Alamitos

::

Monday's newspaper was depressing, partly because it included several bad ideas for fighting Islamic State, including Sen. Ted Cruz's (R-Texas) allusion to nuking Iraq and Syria.

The urge is strong to scratch an angry, itchy rash, but that just inflames and spreads it. A cooling ointment and some self-control works much better. One ointment to terrorist recruitment might be to acknowledge our part in inviting hatred by invading foreign lands and then refrain from doing so again without warrant.

The real cures to terrorism at home and abroad are overlooked and, sadly, much maligned: peace, love and understanding. Fighting hatred with hatred only ensures universal defeat.

Kathy Harty

Sierra Madre

--

Stop printing killers' photos

Re "United in life and death," Dec. 6

Why do The Times and other news outlets insist on immortalizing terrorists by displaying their photos repeatedly? Pictures of the San Bernardino killers took up much of Sunday's front page.

This plays into the plans of these monsters and encourages others seeking immortality. Even when law enforcement tries to downplay the identities of the perpetrators, the media find a way to do the opposite.

If you need to print photos, I have a suggestion. Print pictures of law enforcement, the armed forces, nurses, doctors, teachers and parents who teach their children right from wrong and to value humanity.

Sari Beth Goodman

Los Angeles

::

Maybe the caption under the photos on Sunday's front page should have read, "You too can be this famous -- just buy a gun and kill as many people as you can, and we'll do the rest."

The Times and other responsible media should acknowledge that by providing this over-the-top focus on these killers, you are contributing to the likelihood of future similar acts.

Your coverage can be just as informative and useful without this intense focus on the individuals who did it. Those photos did nothing to advance the story.

Ric Schwartz

Oak Park

--

The antidote to the military?

Re "U.S. lifts ban on women in combat," Dec. 4

So, women can now serve in all aspects of combat in the military. Is this progress?

If I were in a war or even a street fight, I would want the meanest, most vicious men at my side. Men are simply the more violent of the species; that's probably why so few women play football.

More importantly, shouldn't women know better than to want to be in combat or even the military? Shouldn't women be the antidote to the military? We need women to be the peacemakers and stop men from fighting wars.

Equality is a good thing, but we need women to be equally strong at stopping combat.

Ken Christensen

Los Osos, Calif.

::

I think ambitious female military officers may be leading women down a road they may not want to follow.

In a volunteer Army, it might be fine to allow women to choose to join combat units. But what if there is a draft in the future? Will 18-year-old women be forced into combat roles as their drafted male counterparts certainly will be?

This is a slippery slope with the potential for grave consequences for women.

Charles Serio

Los Angeles

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El Nino deals a blow to Africa

Re "State's show of force at Paris summit," Dec. 3

It is heartening to see so many California business leaders and state officials, with strong support from Gov. Jerry Brown, attending the United Nations climate change summit in Paris. Your coverage of climate change has made readers aware of the potential positive and negative impacts of El Nino on California.

What your readers may not know is that El Nino already has generated one of the worst food crises to hit East Africa in three decades. Scientists cite the current El Nino weather event as the major cause of severe drought in Ethiopia and Somalia, putting millions of East Africans at risk.

El Nino, in fact, threatens to undo many of the hard-won gains made by the Ethiopian government in food security, education and reduced mortality rates. My group, Save the Children, estimates that at least 4.6 million boys and girls need food assistance, and that number is growing.

Although Ethiopia has never been better prepared to deal with a major food crisis, El Nino's impact is now so severe that more help is needed. As the East Africa food crisis demonstrates, climate change poses a threat to all of us, especially our children.

Carolyn Miles

Fairfield, Conn.

The writer is president and chief executive of Save the Children.

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Police truth serum: video

Re "Police reports conflict with video of teen's shooting," Dec. 6

The disparity between the Chicago police statements and the dashcam video of the Laquan McDonald shooting is a key element in demonstrating the mindset and attitude of the police officers at the scene.

It crucially demonstrates the collusion, coverup and distortions that we have become all too used to and should form key evidence in the trial.

Yet here in Los Angeles, police Chief Charlie Beck allows officers to view video before making statements. It was the wrong decision for him to make earlier this year, and now it is thoroughly reinforced as the wrong decision today.

Jon Phillips

Torrance

### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: DOREEN MONTANO, left, who lives near where the shooters were killed, watches Obama's speech.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Rick Loomis Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Terrorism; Presidents; Firearm laws & regulations; Law enforcement; Speeches
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<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; A CHILLING PORTRAIT; Just days before attack, couple practiced shooting at a gun range; Farook and Malik had been radicalized 'for quite some time' before carrying out assault, officials say.

Serrano, Richard A; Winton, Richard; Parvini, Sarah; Knoll, Corina . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]08 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## ABSTRACT

Fallout from the attack continued to play out on the national political stage, with Republican front-runner Donald Trump calling for all Muslims to be barred from entering the United States for an indefinite period until leaders "can figure out what is going on." Acquaintance Enrique Marquez had given the couple the semiautomatic Smith & Wesson M&P15 and .223-caliber DPMS A-15 rifles, authorities said. [...]a few months ago, Farook and Malik lived in Riverside, next door to Marquez.

## FULL TEXT

Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik had been radicalized "for quite some time" and practiced shooting at a gun range days before they opened fire on a San Bernardino holiday party, authorities said Monday.

Investigators have interviewed more than 400 people since Wednesday's attack but are still trying to determine how long they plotted the massacre and what links if any they had with Islamic terrorist groups.

The FBI and other agencies are also working to assemble a profile of the couple's life and how exactly they amassed their cache of weapons, ammunition and explosives.

"We are attempting to expand that investigation out and build it and build a picture of each person, the timeline and ultimately the crimes they committed," said David Bowdich, assistant director in charge of the FBI's Los Angeles office. "That takes time. We are in Day 5."

Meanwhile, pieces of the puzzle continued to slowly emerge. John Galletta, a firearms instructor at Riverside Magnum Range in Riverside, said Monday that Farook practiced shooting with a military-style weapon, adding that an employee described him as a "normal guy."

Galletta said the company turned over surveillance footage and sign-in logs to the FBI.

Two of the guns Farook and Malik used in Wednesday's massacre -- both semiautomatic rifles -- had been given to the couple by a former neighbor, who was interviewed by investigators and checked himself into a mental hospital after the attacks, two law enforcement sources said.

Fallout from the attack continued to play out on the national political stage, with Republican front-runner Donald Trump calling for all Muslims to be barred from entering the United States for an indefinite period until leaders "can figure out what is going on."

The incendiary statement, coming a day after President Obama sought to reassure the nation, drew immediate condemnation from the White House and several of Trump's rivals for the GOP nomination.

The developments came as officials described a sprawling global investigation into what drove the married couple to adopt extreme beliefs and whether they had any links to foreign terror organizations.

Bowdich cautioned that terrorists can be bred by online rhetoric and are not necessarily linked to a group.

"We are working with our foreign counterparts to determine as much as we can," he said. "It's like any other investigation, but this one is incredibly large." More than 300 pieces of evidence have been collected -- some of which were sent to Washington, D.C., to be analyzed at the FBI's explosive device center. Among the items taken from the shooters' Redlands home were 19 pipes that could be converted into bombs.

The agency is also applying survey technology to the crime scene at the Inland Regional Center, where the shooting began. A reconstruction team is attempting "to ultimately paint that picture of how everything transpired that day," Bowdich said.

"Our job is to continue the investigation at breakneck speed," he added.

John D'Angelo of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives said five guns were recovered from the shootout scene and the couple's rented two-story townhouse. Farook had legally purchased a Savage Arms .22 rifle, a Llama 9mm handgun and a Springfield Armory 9mm handgun between 2007 and 2012, D'Angelo said.

Acquaintance Enrique Marquez had given the couple the semiautomatic Smith & Wesson M&P15 and .223-caliber DPMS A-15 rifles, authorities said.

Until a few months ago, Farook and Malik lived in Riverside, next door to Marquez. Farook, observed as quiet and withdrawn, struck up a friendship with Marquez, who shared a similar interest in tinkering with cars, a neighbor recalled.

"They would spend hours and hours and hours together," said the neighbor, Rosie Aguirre. "That's the most sociable I ever saw him with anyone."

Federal authorities interviewed Marquez over the weekend, and a law enforcement official familiar with the investigation said the weapons he gave to Farook were legally purchased in 2011 and 2012. There is no paperwork of them being transferred to Farook, he said.

On Sunday, the FBI seized items from Marquez's home after having spent several hours there the day before, according to neighbors. There was no indication at the time that Marquez had any knowledge of the plot, a source said.

Authorities have said it appears Farook, 28, and Malik, 29, did a great amount of planning before the attack.

Scrubbing the backgrounds of the couple -- who were killed in a shootout with police hours after their rampage -- has been an international effort, with cooperation from foreign governments. In Pakistan, where Malik attended college and Farook's parents were born, the interior minister announced that an inquiry into the shooters' background had been launched. Investigators were also looking to sources in Saudi Arabia, where Malik lived as a child.

Federal investigators are trying to determine if Farook was influenced by Mohamed Abdullahi Hassan, a former Minneapolis resident known as "Mujahid Miski" who became a recruiter for Islamic State and is alleged to have encouraged the attempted attack on a cartoon contest in Garland, Texas, earlier this year. The U.S. State Department said Monday that Hassan turned himself in to authorities in Somalia, where he had been hiding.

FBI officials have said Farook had "some contact" with someone known to the FBI in this country and also reached out digitally to at least two members of foreign terror groups, including one in Somalia, said a federal law enforcement official who is unauthorized to speak publicly on the matter.

Born in Chicago and raised in Riverside, Farook met Malik on a dating website. The couple were married last year in Islam's holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, and Saudi officials confirmed that Farook spent nine days in the kingdom in the summer of 2014. The couple's daughter was born in May, according to records.

Farook's sister and mother hope to gain custody of the baby, the Council on American-Islamic Relations said in a statement. The organization said it is working to place the baby with a Muslim family as it remains in child protective services.

On Monday, five days after the massacre that killed 14 and injured 21, many San Bernardino County employees returned to work. Filled with emotion, they draped arms around one another as they walked into the county buildings that had just reopened.

"The purpose of terrorism is to make ordinary people afraid to do the ordinary things that make up their lives," Supervisor Janice Rutherford said. "These were dedicated public servants. They weren't politicians, they weren't celebrities. They weren't law enforcement officers, they weren't soldiers. But they became the front line in a battle against terrorists. To honor them, to express our gratitude for their unimaginable sacrifice, we have to fight to maintain that ordinary."

About a year ago, employees of San Bernardino County's Environmental Health Services division underwent an "active-shooter training."

It was held in the very same room that would one day be a site of bloodshed and horror.

It was not clear if Farook, an environmental health specialist for the county, attended the earlier training, but some of the victims of the mass shooting were likely to have participated, said a county spokeswoman.

Staff members within Farook's division will return to work next week.

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Times staff writers Paloma Esquivel, Veronica Rocha, Joseph Serna, Matt Stevens and Matt Hamilton contributed to this report.

### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: KATEN PAREDES-TUPPER, 29, of San Diego attends a vigil to honor the 14 people killed and 21 injured in last week's mass shooting.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Rick Loomis Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: CUSTOMERS enter Riverside Magnum Range, where Syed Rizwan Farook practiced shooting.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: TRUDY RAYMUNDO, director of San Bernardino's Department of Public Health, addresses the media at a news conference. Many San Bernardino County employees made an emotional return to work Monday.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Mark Boster Los Angeles Times; GRAPHIC: MAP: The building that was attacked; CREDIT:LORENA INIGUEZ ELEBEE and THOMAS SUH LAUDER Los Angeles Times

## **DETAILS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearms; Law enforcement; Criminal investigations; Explosives
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# High court rejects gun case; In doing so, the justices allow a local ban on semiautomatic weapons to stand.

Savage, David G . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]08 Dec 2015: A.7.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Opponents of gun control say, to the contrary, that the shootings demonstrated the limited effectiveness of such measures, since France and California already strictly regulate gun sales. Because the court decided not to consider the appeal, the justices in the majority did not issue a written opinion.

## FULL TEXT

The Supreme Court gave an apparent green light Monday to lawmakers who want to restrict the sale of guns such as the rapid-fire weapons that have been used in the recent wave of mass shootings from Paris to San Bernardino.

The justices by a 7-2 vote turned down a 2nd Amendment challenge to a local ordinance in the Chicago suburb of Highland Park, which banned the sale or possession of semiautomatic guns that carry more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

In dissent, Justice Clarence Thomas said the court, by refusing to consider the challenge, was "relegating the 2nd Amendment to a second-class right."

The court's decision was not a formal ruling – the justices simply decided not to consider an appeal. But it strongly suggests the majority of the court does not see the 2nd Amendment as protecting a right to own or carry powerful weapons in public.

"The court's decision will encourage gun-control advocates to push more cities and states to enact assault weapons bans," said UCLA law professor Adam Winkler, an expert on gun rights.

"The justices appear anything but eager to enter into the 2nd Amendment fray again," he added. "Perhaps, like many in America, some of the justices are viewing gun control through the lens of the recent mass shootings."

The court's only two previous decisions upholding gun rights struck down ordinances in Chicago and Washington that prohibited keeping a handgun at home for self-defense.

Since then, the justices have repeatedly refused to hear appeals from gun-rights advocates who have sought to extend the 2nd Amendment right beyond handguns at home, to include, for example, carrying weapons in public.

California and seven other states – Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey and New York – have adopted laws similar to the Highland Park ordinance, as have several other cities in the Chicago

area. The court's decision not to hear the appeal has the effect of upholding the laws in Highland Park and elsewhere.

In the aftermath of the San Bernardino shooting, several California lawmakers have proposed additional restrictions on gun sales to close what they characterize as loopholes in the state's restrictions, which already are among the toughest in the country.

The justices in their private weekly conferences considered the gun-rights appeal over two months, during which repeated mass shootings took place.

Gun-control supporters argue that such shootings demonstrate the need for tighter controls. Opponents of gun control say, to the contrary, that the shootings demonstrated the limited effectiveness of such measures, since France and California already strictly regulate gun sales.

Because the court decided not to consider the appeal, the justices in the majority did not issue a written opinion. The dissenters in *Friedman vs. City of Highland Park*, Thomas and Justice Antonin Scalia, wrote to explain why they thought the court should have heard the case.

The decision upholds "categorical bans on firearms that millions of Americans commonly own for lawful purposes," they wrote. "If broad bans on firearms can be upheld based on the conjecture that the public might feel safer (while being no safer at all), then the 2nd Amendment guarantees nothing."

The case began after Highland Park adopted its ban on semiautomatic weapons in 2013. Dr. Arie Friedman and the Illinois State Rifle Assn. filed suit.

But a federal judge upheld the law. The U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, based in Chicago, did the same in a 2-1 decision in April.

Friedman filed an appeal with the high court in July, which won the backing of the National Rifle Assn. and state attorneys from 23 mostly Republican-led states.

Bans on rapid-fire weapons have been upheld by federal appeals courts in San Francisco and New York in addition to the 7th Circuit panel that upheld the Highland Park ordinance.

Dan Gross, president of the Brady Center, a gun-control advocacy group, said the court's decision was a victory for common sense.

"By rejecting this case, the Supreme Court sided with a community that has taken action to protect itself from the type of violence we've seen in San Bernardino, on college campuses and in movie theaters. The American people have had enough of gun violence," he said.

But Chuck Michel, a Long Beach lawyer and president of the California Rifle & Pistol Assn., said he still wanted to see a formal ruling on the 2nd Amendment's reach.

"It is only a matter of time before the Supreme Court takes a case, sets things straight, and properly subjects this and similar unconstitutional laws to renewed challenge," Michel said.

—  
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### Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: NANCY R. ROTERING, mayor of Highland Park, Ill., which banned semiautomatic guns in 2013.;  
PHOTOGRAPHER:Stacey Wescott Chicago Tribune

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Firearm laws & regulations; Firearms; Supreme Court decisions; Federal court decisions; Litigation
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## LINKS

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# TECHNOLOGY; L.A. TECH; Intuit closes filing-sharing firm Docstoc

Dave, Paresh . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]08 Dec 2015: C.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

In other news: \* Venture capital firm Greycroft Partners announced a new \$200-million fund to invest in start-ups, mostly in Los Angeles and New York City.

## FULL TEXT

Intuit has shut down Docstoc two years after acquiring the Santa Monica file-sharing company for about \$50 million. The closure last week, which had been announced in September, affected about 70 employees.

Docstoc had launched eight years ago seeking to be the YouTube for documents, such as "Property Sale Agreement" and "Napping at Work Policy." Users shared and sold documents, and Docstoc drew revenue through fees and subscriptions. Co-founder Jason Nazar said on Facebook that more than 1 billion people visited Docstoc's website over its history and that it had hundreds of thousands of paying subscribers.

But Intuit is scaling back to focus on QuickBooks, leaving Docstoc and several other services out of the picture. Nazar, who left as chief executive in February to pursue a new venture, said he spent months "trying everything I could" to re-acquire Docstoc with his own wealth. He made increasingly larger offers and assured that Docstoc would not seek to compete with any other potential Intuit services. But Intuit wasn't interested, and he's not sure why. Intuit didn't immediately comment.

Nazar said most Docstoc employees have found new jobs and that Intuit has treated everyone fairly. But he remains perplexed at why Intuit made a "shortsighted decision" to shut Docstoc down.

"Maybe it just was an easier path than to go through with a simple transaction," he said by phone.

Now, Nazar is a co-founder of Crew32 Inc., a human resources start-up that has raised at least \$5.2 million, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing last week.

In other news:

\* Venture capital firm Greycroft Partners announced a new \$200-million fund to invest in start-ups, mostly in Los Angeles and New York City. The new fund, the company's fourth since its founding in 2006, will expand a special investment approach. Compared with most firms, Greycroft is more willing to own a smaller percentage of a company.

The firm specializes in helping start-ups connect with big players in media and advertising. Current L.A. investments include All Def Digital, Makers Kit and Scopely.

Greycroft's newest investment came Monday. It joined Nordstrom and other investors in a \$15.5-million financing of Shoes of Prey. The custom footwear maker moved this year to Santa Monica from Australia.

\* Finnish start-up Futurefly visited with entertainment industry executives in Los Angeles last week to show off a chat app it plans to launch early next year. Most big-name chat apps, including Facebook Messenger and Snapchat, are trying to become platforms where users can do far more than just chat. But Futurefly Chief Executive Oskari Hakkinen said he wants to tackle what he thinks others aren't paying enough attention to: Improving the actual chat experience.

His small team's app uses real-time computer analysis of what people are talking about to animate their personalized avatars (kind of like full-bodied emojis that can kick, kiss and even play games with each other). The goal is to have the avatars accurately reflect your attire, location, actions and emotions.

Hakkinen aims for an emotionally engaging experience that gets brands and celebrities wanting to design and sell animations and virtual accessories. Already, digital entertainment investors in Los Angeles and New York are on board. Futurefly has raised about \$3 million from "Saturday Night Live" executive producer Lorne Michaels' Broadway Video Ventures, former Fox Television Entertainment Chairman Sandy Grushow, Nokia Chairman Risto Siilasmaa and Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg's sister, Arielle. Increased usage of video chat could present a challenge.

\* Meantime, an iOS app aiming to reduce some of the hassles around gift-giving, like hunting down addresses, was launched by Santa Monica-based Giftagram. It lets users order Fitbits, cookies, handbags and more from more than 40 brands. Users just need to provide a recipient's phone number or email. The gift-receiver enters where they want something shipped. Users don't pay for the service; Giftagram generates revenue by sharing revenue with the brands.

In case you missed it:

\* Super Evil Megacorp took over eSports Arena in Santa Ana over the weekend for the largest live tournament for a mobile game in the U.S. The San Bernardino shooting showed off Snapchat's quirks as a news source. And YouTube is seeking to license movies and TV shows to attract subscribers to Red, the video app's new \$9.99-a-month offering. Apparently, YouTube stars alone aren't commanding many subscribers, analysts say.

Coming up:

\* Competitive video-gaming, or esports, has championships, coaches, teams, player contracts and many other trappings of major professional sports. Here's another one: an All-Star Game. Los Angeles game developer Riot Games is hosting the best "League of Legends" players for a series of All-Star events Thursday through Sunday. Tickets cost up to \$30.

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# MARKET ROUNDUP; Stocks fall amid oil price drop

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## ABSTRACT

In each of the last three quarters, as oil prices have tanked, earnings per share for energy companies in the S&P 500 have dropped more than 50%, according to S&P Capital IQ, a financial data provider.

## FULL TEXT

A sharp drop in the price of oil Monday rattled investors and helped push stocks lower across several industries.

Investors sold from the start of trading after a decision by OPEC last week not to cut production. Benchmark U.S. crude dropped nearly 6%, deepening its stunning 11/2-plunge, to close at its lowest level in nearly seven years.

The losses were broad, with seven of the 10 industry sectors in the Standard & Poor's 500 index closing lower.

As they have all year, oil drillers bore the brunt of the selling. Chevron and Exxon Mobil, both members of the 30-stock Dow Jones industrial average, each fell nearly 3%.

"There was a big hope that OPEC would announce a production cut, but it just didn't happen," said Steven Ricchiuto, chief economist at Mizuho Securities. "The whole world is facing excess supply as the global economy slows."

The Dow gave up 117.12 points, or 0.7%, to 17,730.51. The S&P 500 fell 14.62 points, or 0.7%, to 2,077.07. The Nasdaq composite dropped 40.46 points, or 0.8%, to 5,101.81.

Airlines stocks were among the winners as investors anticipated bigger profits thanks to falling fuel costs. JetBlue Airways jumped \$1.01, or 4%, to \$26.49. Delta Air Lines also rose 4%, gaining \$2 to close at \$51.78.

U.S. crude fell \$2.32, or 5.8%, to close at \$37.65 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, its lowest price

since February 2009. Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell \$2.27, or 5.3%, to \$40.73 a barrel in London trading.

In theory, lower oil prices should help many stocks because consumers often spend money elsewhere that they save at the pump or on heating bills. But investors have been disappointed.

"Retailers have been waiting for the pump-price dividend to filter into their stores, but for the most part we're not seeing it," said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at BMO Private Bank.

Meanwhile, the shift in the U.S. to producing more oil has made the stock market more vulnerable to price swings in the commodity.

In each of the last three quarters, as oil prices have tanked, earnings per share for energy companies in the S&P 500 have dropped more than 50%, according to S&P Capital IQ, a financial data provider. After Monday's drop, their stocks are down 22% since the start of the year.

Among other stocks making big moves, gun makers soared on the prospect of big sales amid a push for greater gun control after the San Bernardino shootings. Smith & Wesson Holding added \$1.45, or 7.6%, to \$20.44.

Credit: Associated Press

## DETAILS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; For attack survivors, more time to heal

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## ABSTRACT

[...]employees of the Division of Environmental Health Services, whose members were gathered for a training session and holiday celebration when the shooting occurred, were scheduled to remain off the job for at least another week as the county made plans to tend to their mental health.

## FULL TEXT

San Bernardino County government offices reopened for the first time Monday with heightened security and a pledge by officials to "embrace the ordinary again" after a mass shooting last week that killed 14 people.

But employees of the Division of Environmental Health Services, whose members were gathered for a training

session and holiday celebration when the shooting occurred, were scheduled to remain off the job for at least another week as the county made plans to tend to their mental health.

More than 70 workers in the 100-person division of the Department of Public Health had attended Wednesday's events. Of the 14 people killed, 12 were county employees. Many of the 21 who survived with injuries were also from the division.

"To honor them, to express our gratitude for their unimaginable sacrifice, we have to fight to maintain that ordinary," San Bernardino County Supervisor Janice Rutherford said of the victims Monday. "We can't be afraid of our lives, of our community, of our neighbors, of our co-workers."

County officials were drafting workers from neighboring counties and local universities to help cover the division's workload of nearly 60,000 annual safety and quality inspections of restaurants, food trucks, swimming pools, mosquito hot spots and other sites in a county that is larger than nine states.

"These are the folks that are making sure that, when you're in a restaurant, the food is the right temperature and doesn't have diseases in it that are going to make you sick," Rutherford said.

Corwin Porter, who led the division until he was promoted two months ago, said the workers labored "behind the scenes, defending us from disease and injury, and they were very rarely recognized for their effort."

For now, not even the top managers have a firm date to return to work.

"One challenge is that the division chief, who is only a few weeks into the job; the immediate past division chief, who was promoted to deputy public health director; and the public health director were all in the room where the shooting took place," said David Wert, a spokesman for the county executive. "They weren't physically injured, but the county is trying to ask as little of them as possible at the moment."

Trudy Raymundo, the director of the Department of Public Health, spoke with her voice wavering at a Monday morning news conference, describing her office as one with close personal bonds.

"They have always supported each other. They are beyond co-workers," she said. "They are friends and they are family. They are tight and we are holding on to each other right now."

A county hotline has been established for workers in need of counseling, and in-person sessions were conducted across the county.

Rutherford said she attended one counseling session Monday with about a dozen workers. "They're just trying to process their emotions and get a grasp on the new reality of their workplace," Rutherford said.

Salihin Kondoker said his wife, Anies, became best friends with fellow division employee Tin Nguyen when they shared their experiences as immigrants from Asia. Nguyen was killed in the shooting, and Kondoker said his wife wants to take as much time off as possible to process the loss and prepare to confront a workplace with gaping voids.

And in smaller ways, restaurant operators noticed the absences as well.

Sean Konkell, assistant manager of the Islamorada Fish Company Restaurant in Rancho Cucamonga, was one of the last to be inspected by Nicholas Thalasinis.

A picture of Thalasinis popped up on Konkell's Facebook feed Thursday. At first, he couldn't place the face but then asked his fellow managers.

"It clicked. It was surreal. This was the health inspector sent to our restaurant just a week ago," Konkell said. "I did the walk-through with him. It's just one of those things that just sends a little chill. It's a shock."

On the day before she died, Yvette Velasco visited Genesis 2000 Bakery to conduct the restaurant's annual inspection.

Teresita Reyes de Gonzalez, who has run the bakery for 15 years with her husband, Teodosio, said it was the first time Velasco had inspected the bakery. "She was efficient, friendly and very respectful. Very respectful," Gonzalez said. "What a shame."

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Restaurants; County executives; Public health; Shootings; Mass murders
<b>Location:</b>	San Bernardino County California
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTING; 'People forget we are Americans'; Trump's proposal to ban all Muslims from entering the United States is met with widespread criticism.

Karlamangla, Soumya; Kohli, Sonali; Zarembo, Alan . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]08 Dec 2015: A.14.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

"Yes, I'm a Muslim," said Salahat, now a 28-year-old student at Cal State San Bernardino. Since last week's massacre, which left 14 people dead and 21 wounded, President Obama has urged Americans not to demonize Muslims.

## FULL TEXT

After 9/11, Mohammad Salahat's eighth-grade classmates mocked him for being Muslim. Last month, after the attacks in Paris, a college classmate called him a terrorist.

And Saturday, as he walked through an office supply store in Temecula, he said he could not help but feel some people were staring at him.

"Yes, I'm a Muslim," said Salahat, now a 28-year-old student at Cal State San Bernardino. "Yes, my name is Mohammad. But not all Muslims are bad."

Since last week's massacre, which left 14 people dead and 21 wounded, President Obama has urged Americans not to demonize Muslims. But on Monday, Donald Trump called for banning all Muslims from entering the United States.

Trump's proposal troubles Salahat, who fears it will only further inflame tensions.

"I'm hoping to God that Donald Trump does not get elected," Salahat said.

Trump's plan met with widespread criticism, even among his rivals for the Republican presidential nomination. But among Muslims in the U.S., the anger was tinged with fear.

"There is no place for a person who wants to advance his political agenda over the very values that this country was founded on: freedom, democracy, equality," Oussama Jammal, the secretary general of the U.S. Council of Muslim Organizations, said during a televised news conference.

Federal officials are investigating the motive behind the last week's shooting during a Christmas party for San Bernardino County employees. Investigators are studying shooter Tashfeen Malik's devotion to a fundamentalist strain of Islam and her husband Syed Rizwan Farook's apparent fixation on Israel.

A ban on Muslims is "playing on people's fears," said Rodina Bizri-Baryak, a 33-year-old healthcare consultant from Cleveland who works in San Bernardino every other week. "The terrorists have already succeeded."

Bizri-Baryak was born in Lebanon and moved to the United States with her parents and brother in 1992 in the wake of the Lebanese civil war. Arab Americans such as her face a dual threat.

"We feel equally vulnerable to being victims of terrorism and also the hate mongering on the other side," she said. "I think people forget we are Americans."

Before the San Bernardino attacks, Trump had suggested that the nation track Muslims in some way, including possibly requiring them to register in a national database.

"Who would like to be tracked like some kind of criminal?" said Ranea Al-Tikriti, a 24-year-old nutrition student and president of the Muslim Student Assn. at Cal State San Bernardino. "Nobody would like that."

Grouping all Muslims together, she said, is a sign that the United States is "regressing instead of progressing."

Mohammed Zafarullah, imam at the Bait ul Hameed Mosque in Chino, said he would support tracking Muslims with radical tendencies – but not indiscriminately keeping tabs on the hundreds of thousands of Muslims living in the United States peacefully.

"I don't want our peace to be vandalized or to be taken away," Zafarullah said. "We want peace."

Elsewhere in the San Bernardino area, Trump's proposal met with less resistance from those who said much stronger action is needed to prevent more terrorism in the U.S.

Gregory W. Brittain, an attorney whose office is about two blocks from the shooters' apartment in Redlands, said he generally supports Trump for president, along with Ted Cruz.

The San Bernardino mass shooting showed the ease with which Muslims can become radicalized and that the threat of Islamic terrorism is real, Brittain said.

Brittain said he was uncomfortable with the notion of a religious test for would-be immigrants, and he said that he would rather the U.S. halt all immigration from countries "where there's a terrorist or jihadist problem."

Still, his disagreement with Trump over the proposal did not diminish his support for the candidate. Monday's announcement was "an idea, a proposal – it's not a piece of legislation."

John Galletta, a firearms instructor at Riverside Magnum Range, said he supports Trump's presidential bid but wouldn't comment on whether he backs the proposal to ban Muslims from the U.S.

"But I understand his concern," Galletta said. "The war we had was with Muslim factions. It's hard to erase people's fear."

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Times staff writers Sarah Parvini, Matt Stevens, Matt Hamilton, Christine Mai-Duc and Laura J. Nelson contributed to this report.

### **Illustration**

Caption: PHOTO: MOHAMMED ZAFARULLAH, second from left, imam at the Bait ul Hameed Mosque in Chino, prepares for a news conference and prayer vigil. He said he would support tracking Muslims with radical tendencies.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Michael Robinson Chavez Los Angeles Times

## **DETAILS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Terrorism; Muslims; Criminal investigations; Mass murders
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<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	TRUMP, DONALD J SAN BERNARDINO (CA) MASS MURDERS TERRORISM MUSLIMS PUBLIC OPINION
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; State Democrats join calls for gun control; One proposal would ban terror suspects from buying firearms.

Wire, Sarah D . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]08 Dec 2015: A.15.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

Helena), chairman of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, worked Monday to force a vote on a measure that would allow the attorney general to prohibit a person from purchasing or being licensed to own a firearm if the person has supported or engaged in terrorism and is expected to use the weapon or explosive in connection with terrorism.

## FULL TEXT

California Democrats are taking up President Obama's call to action, asking for more law enforcement resources and trying to force a congressional vote on banning suspected terrorists from legally purchasing guns.

Legislative leaders and Gov. Jerry Brown also are tackling the issue as new details emerge on how the San Bernardino attackers obtained – and trained to use – their weapons.

On Capitol Hill, Rep. Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena), chairman of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, worked Monday to force a vote on a measure that would allow the attorney general to prohibit a person from purchasing or being licensed to own a firearm if the person has supported or engaged in terrorism and is expected to use the weapon or explosive in connection with terrorism.

The bill is sponsored by Rep. Peter King (R-N.Y). To get it out of the committee where it is pending and onto the House floor, Thompson is trying to get signatures from a majority of House members on what is known as a discharge petition.

Thompson said that under the bill, the attorney general would make a determination for who could buy guns based on the FBI's terrorism watch list.

"The FBI has said that these are people we need to be concerned about and then we turn around and let them buy guns," he said. "It's not Sunday school teachers and L.A. Times reporters."

People may be mistakenly on the FBI's terrorism watch list, but there is an appeals process for getting a name removed, Thompson said. The proposed legislation would allow a person to sue to restore his or her right to own the firearm.

"I'd rather you be inconvenienced and forced to get your name taken off that list than just hope you're not really a terrorist," he said.

Rep. Norma Torres (D-Pomona) is calling for more resources and coordination between federal and local law enforcement agencies, including giving local authorities more access to surplus military equipment and training on how to use it.

"Our local law enforcement agencies are our first line of defense in the fight against domestic terrorists, both in responding to attacks and in working within our communities to prevent them," she said in a statement over the weekend.

Torres hasn't proposed specific legislation, her staff said Monday. After criticism of the police response to protests in Ferguson, Mo., in 2014, the Obama administration moved to limit local law enforcement's access to some military surplus, such as grenade launchers and tracked armored vehicles, and to provide training for proper use of other military equipment.

Federal agencies recently began recalling some of the now-prohibited items.

"The program has come under scrutiny recently, but the congresswoman believes that it not only provides needed resources to agencies with limited funding, but as we saw last week, this equipment can be critical to effectively respond to major threats," said Torres spokeswoman Anna Gonzalez, adding that training on the equipment is necessary.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi urged colleagues to sign Thompson's petition.

"Following the horrific attack in San Bernardino and as we mark the solemn anniversary of Sandy Hook, House Democrats will press forcefully for Congress to take up common-sense solutions to address the epidemic of gun violence in our country," the San Francisco Democrat said.

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy's Chairmen's Task Force on Counterterrorism and Homeland Security, created after the Nov. 13 attacks in Paris, is reviewing several proposals, including looking at the K1, or "fiancee visa," program, he said.

Tashfeen Malik, one of the San Bernardino shooters, entered the country on a K1 visa.

"We will look at everything, yes. We'll wait until we get all the information," McCarthy said.

He wants all House members to be briefed because "what took place in California was a terrorist act, and I think we have to treat it as such," he said.

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## DETAILS

**Subject:** Terrorism; Firearms; Attorneys general; Law enforcement; Task forces

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## LINKS

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# SAN BERNARDINO SHOOTINGS; Pressure builds on tech firms to aid fight

Halper, Evan . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]08 Dec 2015: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## ABSTRACT

How do you get a handle on it?" The firms, wary of alienating their users, have been coy about precisely what they do and do not report to law enforcement – several declined to answer questions – but there is general agreement in Washington that the relationship between tech companies and government agencies has improved since a low point a couple of years ago, in the immediate aftermath of Edward Snowden's disclosures of widespread government snooping on Americans' communications.

## FULL TEXT

The attack in San Bernardino has put technology firms under new pressure to do more to fight terrorist recruitment, propaganda and plotting online, alarming Silicon Valley companies that have previously succeeded in blocking government efforts that they say would undermine privacy.

Hillary Clinton and President Obama both have publicly called on technology companies to cooperate more after last week's shootings, saying they must work harder to help confront Islamic State, also known as ISIS, online.

Their remarks renewed the question of whether existing laws offer too much protection for Internet freedom at the expense of finding and stopping terrorists. The comments came as the directors of both the CIA and FBI were already charging that encryption services provided by some firms enable terrorists to operate out of the sight of intelligence agencies and police.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) has led a push in Congress for legislation that would require social media companies to root out and report suspicious activity. Tech firms and privacy advocates beat back an effort by Feinstein earlier this year. But the landscape has changed, and her proposal is now getting a second look.

"We're going to have to have more support from our friends in the technology world to deny [terrorists] online space," Clinton said in a speech here Sunday. "Technology is often called the great disrupter. We need to put the great disrupters to work in disrupting ISIS and stopping them from having this open platform for communicating with their dedicated fighters and their wannabes, like the people in San Bernardino."

Clinton emphasized that Silicon Valley must be more engaged despite "all the usual complaints. Freedom of speech, et cetera."

Leaders of technology firms say they have been quietly working with law enforcement in recent months to find suspicious activity on their websites and apps, remove it and report it to law enforcement. Twitter, Facebook and YouTube are constantly being scraped for suspicious content.

But the firms' cooperation so far has not quieted complaints from law enforcement officials, nor the growing questions on Capitol Hill.

"There is a general sense that companies are not doing enough," said James Lewis, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "That's the problem, not that they aren't doing anything. It's like people woke up one day and realized ISIS had 20,000 Twitter accounts. How do you get a handle on it?"

The firms, wary of alienating their users, have been coy about precisely what they do and do not report to law enforcement – several declined to answer questions – but there is general agreement in Washington that the relationship between tech companies and government agencies has improved since a low point a couple of years ago, in the immediate aftermath of Edward Snowden's disclosures of widespread government snooping on Americans' communications.

"We share the government's goal of keeping terrorist content off our site," said a statement from Facebook, which is under particular scrutiny because one of the San Bernardino attackers pledged allegiance to Islamic State in a Facebook post that investigators discovered after the attack.

"Facebook has zero tolerance for terrorists, terror propaganda, or the praising of terror activity, and we work aggressively to remove it as soon as we become aware of it," the company said. Facebook's policy is to alert law enforcement if the company becomes aware "of a threat of imminent harm or a planned terror attack."

Feinstein is unimpressed. She recently recounted how she tried, without success, to get attorneys from tech companies to remove posts that provided detailed instructions on how to build bombs. Yet whether lawmakers could successfully mandate what kind of content is and is not acceptable is unclear.

"There are enormous limitations as to what you can do," said Lorenzo Vidino, a specialist on extremism at George Washington University's Center for Cyber & Homeland Security. Tech companies lack the manpower to monitor every posting on their sites, he said, and Congress would be hard-pressed to provide clear instruction about what material must be taken down and reported to the government.

While Feinstein and Clinton have talked about militant groups' use of social media to recruit and inspire potential terrorists, the Obama administration seems more focused on the problem of encryption. Tech companies have fought furiously to keep lawmakers from mandating that they build a so-called back door to encryption technologies – a way for law enforcement agencies to gain access to otherwise encoded communications.

Prosecutors and intelligence officials say current technologies can make it impossible to examine suspects' communications even if police have a court order.

Law enforcement officials note that some tech companies have boasted to customers that when their technologies are used, nobody can gain access to their messages ever, including the government.

The Manhattan district attorney's office said in a report issued in November that it was unable to execute 111 search warrants for smartphones over the last year because they were running on encrypted technology offered through Apple's iOS 8 operating system.

On Sunday, in his Oval Office speech, Obama suggested he is preparing to act on those concerns when he said, "I

will urge high-tech and law enforcement leaders to make it harder for terrorists to use technology to escape from justice."

A senior White House official said, however, that the administration so far is not reconsidering a decision Obama made this year to avoid asking Congress to pass new legislation on encryption. Officials say they believe a legislative effort would be hopeless and are looking to forge a voluntary agreement with tech firms.

Shortly after the attacks in Paris on Nov. 13, CIA Director John Brennan warned "there are a lot of technological capabilities that are available right now that make it exceptionally difficult, both technically as well as legally, for intelligence and security services to have the insight they need" into potential attacks. "Hand-wringing" over the government's data-collection efforts, such as those disclosed by Snowden, had left agencies without tools they need to track down terrorists online, he said.

A back door to encrypted messages is high on the law enforcement wish list. Tech companies warn that forcing them to provide one would make Internet users less safe, as such back doors could be exploited by hackers and cyberterrorists. The Internet Assn., an industry group that represents major Silicon Valley firms, argues it would be unwise to engineer vulnerabilities into technology that protects not just messages between anonymous users, but also the nation's electricity grid and world banking systems.

But pressure on the companies is not just coming from Washington. Leaders in Europe grappling with terrorism are starting to demand American tech companies help find a solution, particularly after reports that the attackers in Paris may have used encryption to evade law enforcement.

"Some people seem to hope if we just sit tight the pressure will go away," Lewis said. "But if there are more incidents, you are going to see an international debate on how to deal with encryption."

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Times staff writer Paresh Dave in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

## Illustration

Caption: PHOTO: PRESIDENT OBAMA is seeking access to encrypted messages.; PHOTOGRAPHER:Saul Loeb Pool Photo

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Social networks; High tech industries; Law enforcement; Terrorism; Cooperation; Propaganda

**Company / organization:** Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Central Intelligence Agency--CIA; NAICS: 928110, 928120

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## LINKS

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# THE DAY IN SPORTS; U.S. is turning Presidents Cup into a rout

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[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The Americans came within one match of winning the Presidents Cup – on Saturday.

The U.S. team is playing to its full potential, and the result is the biggest blowout since these matches began in 1994.

Anirban Lahiri and Si Woo Kim had the only victory for the International team over two sessions, and Phil Mickelson broke Tiger Woods' Presidents Cup record with his 25th victory as the Americans poured it on at Liberty National in New Jersey. They had a 141/2-31/2 lead and need only one point Sunday to win the cup for the seventh straight time.

The 11-point margin is the largest going into the 12 singles matches, breaking the International record of nine points set in 1998 at Royal Melbourne, the only time that team has won the cup.

Rory McIlroy moved into contention at the British Masters by shooting a six-under 64 in the third round, leaving him two strokes off the lead held by Robert Karlsson. ... Five-time PGA Tour winner Jonathan Byrd shot a seven-under 64 to take the third-round lead in the Web.com Tour Championship.

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ETC.

George: Westbrook makes choice 'easier'

Paul George says teammate Russell Westbrook's new \$205-million contract extension with the Oklahoma City Thunder "absolutely" will factor into his future.

"We've been on an unbelievable start right now and for him to be committed here, it says a lot," George told reporters Saturday. "Not only in us pairing together, but just knowing what type of dude Russ is and his values and his beliefs and him being committed to the organization says a lot. And I'm one person that's enjoying it here, so I think when that time comes, the decision will be easier to make for myself."

George, who can become a free agent next summer, has expressed a desire to play for his hometown Lakers, who were expected to make a hard push for him and Westbrook, another L.A. native, in 2018. But the Thunder have built a contender this summer by trading for George in June and Carmelo Anthony in September. "This feels like a championship team," George told USA Today last month.

Kawhi Leonard will miss the entire preseason while rehabbing a right quadriceps injury, the San Antonio Spurs announced.

South Carolina women's basketball coach Dawn Staley told the Associated Press her NCAA champion Gamecocks are still waiting for their invite to the White House, and she isn't sure they'd attend if invited. Staley said other teams that won titles after the Gamecocks did in April, like the North Carolina men's team, have been invited. The Tar Heels said last week they won't visit because of a scheduling conflict.

Ryan Blaney crashed the Xfinity Series playoffs as the NASCAR Cup Series regular dominated Saturday's second postseason race at Dover International Speedway. ... Ben Rhodes moved into the second round of NASCAR's Truck Series playoffs with his first career win, at Las Vegas. ... Lewis Hamilton took pole position for the Formula One Malaysian Grand Prix.

Police acted appropriately detaining Seattle Seahawks defensive end Michael Bennett following a report of gunfire at an after-hours club, the head of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department said. ... The NFL said it's investigating a claim that Tennessee Titans tight end Delanie Walker and his family received death threats over the anthem protests.

Toronto FC became the first Canadian team to win the Supporters' Shield as the MLS regular-season champion, beating the New York Red Bulls 4-2. The Vancouver Whitecaps clinched a playoff spot with a 1-0 win over Sporting Kansas City, and the Columbus Crew did the same with a 2-0 win over D.C. United. ... Romelu Lukaku scored for the sixth straight game as Manchester United beat Crystal Palace 4-0 in the English Premier League.

Unseeded Caroline Garcia won her first title of the year, beating Ashleigh Barty 6-7 (3), 7-6 (4), 6-2 in the Wuhan

Open final in China.

The International Weightlifting Federation has suspended nine leading countries including Russia, China, and Kazakhstan for a year after drug test samples from the 2008 and 2012 Olympics were re-examined.

Credit: Wire Reports

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Professional soccer; Presidents; Professional basketball; Professional golf
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<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: USA Today; NAICS: 511110; Name: National Collegiate Athletic Association--NCAA; NAICS: 813990; Name: Associated Press; NAICS: 519110; Name: San Antonio Spurs; NAICS: 711211; Name: National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing; NAICS: 711320, 813990; Name: Oklahoma City Thunder; NAICS: 711211
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# No evidence of shooting at USC; Police say campus lockdown was prompted by a false report of gunfire.

Nicole Santa Cruz; Winton, Richard; Agrawal, Nina . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: B.5.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Los Angeles police said they found no evidence of a shooting on the USC campus Monday after a report of gunfire prompted a lockdown and a substantial LAPD response.

"No danger to community," the Los Angeles Police Department said on Twitter after completing a search of campus buildings.

Public safety officials said evacuations were prompted by a false report that came in shortly after noon. "It was reported a faculty member during class falsely told her students there was an active shooter in the building," John Thomas, head of USC's Department of Public Safety, said in an emailed statement.

USC police said the incident occurred in a third-floor classroom in Fertitta Hall, a building of the business school. LAPD Deputy Chief Phillip Tingirides said the professor appeared to have some sort of "episode" and told students there was an active shooter on campus.

The woman, whose name department officials declined to release, was not booked on a criminal charge. She was detained for questioning, LAPD Officer Tony Im said.

At this point police are trying to figure out "why she did what she did," Im said.

USC issued an alert telling students to shelter in place at 12:23 p.m. Within about half an hour, police had verified there was no active shooter.

Tiago Rodriguez was sitting in a business communication class in Fertitta Hall when campus public safety officers walked by and told everyone to stay inside. Minutes earlier, the professor had been going over the procedures for an active-shooter situation.

At first, Rodriguez thought it was a drill, but the mood in the class intensified quickly. Students lined up against a wall. One student gave the professor his belt to lock the door. At one point, the people in the room piled up their

desks and chairs in front of the door to form a barricade. Some students called their parents, crying. "It totally felt like my life was in immediate danger," Rodriguez said. "It was sobering that this is the reality of the United States today."

Brian Frost, an MBA student, was grabbing coffee before his 12:30 p.m. class when he saw a stampede of people sprinting out of a building. "I just started running," he said.

Frost said he thought people were even more jittery than usual in the aftermath of the mass shooting in Las Vegas on Sunday night.

Ignacio Barron, also an MBA student, said he was in the middle of an exam when a person burst into the classroom with orders to evacuate.

Barron and his classmates quickly left Popovich Hall and waited for updates as fully armed police stood nearby. Barron said everything happened so quickly that he didn't have a chance to be fearful. He praised the school's response.

"Everything was really well-coordinated," he said.

Officers with the school's department of public safety let students back into classrooms about 2 p.m.

In a statement released late Monday afternoon, USC Provost Michael Quick praised the rapid police response as well as students, staff and faculty for how they reacted to the alert.

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Caption: PHOTO: USC STUDENTS gather on South Figueroa Street after being evacuated because of a report of an active shooter on campus, which turned out to be false.  
PHOTOGRAPHER: Jay L. Clendenin Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Mass murders; Public safety; Evacuations & rescues; Graduate students
<b>Location:</b>	Los Angeles California United States--US Las Vegas Nevada
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Police Department-Los Angeles CA; NAICS: 922120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SHOOTINGS EVACUATIONS POLICE INVESTIGATIONS MISINFORMATION
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
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<b>Section:</b>	California; Part B; Metro Desk
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# Spreading fake news on killings; Despite pledges, Google and Facebook steer users to hoaxes.

Pierson, David . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: C.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Accuracy matters in the moments after a tragedy. Facts can help catch the suspects, save lives and prevent a panic.

But in the aftermath of the deadly mass shooting in Las Vegas on Sunday, the world's two biggest gateways for information, Google and Facebook, did nothing to quell criticism that they amplify fake news when they steer readers toward hoaxes and misinformation gathering momentum on fringe sites.

Google posted under its "top stories" conspiracy-laden links from 4chan -- home to some of the internet's most ardent trolls. It also promoted a now-deleted story from Gateway Pundit and served videos on YouTube of dubious origin.

The posts all had something in common: They identified the wrong assailant.

Law enforcement officials have named Stephen Paddock as the lone suspect, and so far pinpointed no motive. But

the erroneous articles pointed to a different man, labeling him a left-wing, anti-Trump activist.

Meanwhile, Facebook's Crisis Response page, a hub for users to stay informed and mobilize during disasters, perpetuated the same rumors by linking to sites such as Alt-Right News and End Time Headlines, according to Fast Company.

"This is the same as yelling 'fire' in a crowded theater," Gabriel Kahn, a professor at the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, said of Google's and Facebook's response. "This isn't about free speech."

The missteps underscore how, despite promises and efforts after the 2016 presidential election to rectify the problem of fake news with fact checkers and other tools, misinformation continues to undermine the credibility of Silicon Valley's biggest companies.

Google and Facebook have since tweaked their results Monday to give users links to more reputable sources – acknowledging their algorithms were not prepared for the onslaught of bogus information.

"This should not have appeared for any queries, and we'll continue to make improvements to prevent this from happening in the future," a Google spokesperson said about the 4chan link, which surfaced only if users searched for the wrongly identified shooter's name and not the attack in general.

Facebook did not respond to a request for comment but told Fast Company it regretted the link to Alt-Right News. "We are working to fix the issue that allowed this to happen in the first place and deeply regret the confusion this caused," the social network said.

Both Google and Facebook – along with Twitter – are under growing pressure to better manage their algorithms as more details emerge about how Russia used their platforms to interfere in the presidential election to sow discord. The platforms have immense influence over what gets seen and read. More than two-thirds of Americans report getting at least some of their news from social media, according to the Pew Research Center. A separate global study published by Edelman last year found that more people trusted search engines (63%) for news and information than traditional media such as newspapers and television (58%).

Facebook's and Google's algorithms are designed to favor the kinds of stories and posts that are shared and commented on the most. Promoting those posts drives up engagement, and with it advertising revenue.

But that strategy also helped inflame the spread of fake news during the campaign season – intensifying calls for the platforms to behave more like media companies by vetting the content they promote.

That would require more human management, something tech companies are loath to do given their very existence is owed to replacing human activity with software.

Still, Facebook has tried to strike a balance. In March, it rolled out a third-party fact-checking program with PolitiFact, FactCheck.org, Snopes.com, ABC News and the Associated Press. Those partnerships, however, did not stop inaccurate reports from landing on Facebook's Crisis Response page.

Putting people in charge of content can help tech companies avoid controversy. Snapchat, the disappearing-message app, maintains strict control over news shared on its platform by employing staffers, including journalists, to curate and fact-check its stories. Granted, Snapchat attracts far fewer users – and far less content – than Facebook or Google.

Facebook has begun boosting its human oversight team. On Monday, the Menlo Park, Calif., social network pledged to hire more than 1,000 employees to vet its advertisements for propaganda.

The changes come amid growing frustration in Washington as lawmakers push Facebook, Google and Twitter to be more forthcoming in the investigation into Russian election meddling.

Facebook on Monday gave congressional committees more than 3,000 ads purchased during the 2016 election campaign by a firm with ties to Russian intelligence.

In a blog post, the company said an estimated 10 million people in the U.S. saw the ads.

Last week, Twitter briefed Congress on the number of fake accounts run by Russian operatives. And Google said it would conduct an internal investigation on Russian interference. (In a separate move to placate news organizations, the search giant said Monday it will tweak policies to help publishers reach more readers.)

Still, skepticism abounds about whether the companies beholden to shareholders are equipped to protect the

public from misinformation and recognize the threat their platforms pose to democratic societies. Now, calls are growing to regulate the companies more strictly. As platforms, they aren't liable for most of the content they distribute.

"These algorithms were designed with intent and the intent is to reap financial reward," USC's Kahn said. "They're very effective, but there's also collateral damage as a result of designing platforms that way.

"It's not good enough to say, 'Hey, we're neutral. We're simply an algorithm and a platform.' They have a major responsibility that they still have not fully come to terms with."

—  
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Caption: PHOTO: AFTER the presidential campaign, Google pledged to take steps to prevent the spread of fake news.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Paul Sakuma Associated Press

PHOTO:FACEBOOK'S Crisis Response page helped spread fake news of the mass shooting by linking to Alt-Right News and End Time Headlines.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Noah Berger Associated Press

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Social networks; Election results; False information; Algorithms; Mass murders; Presidential elections; Political advertising; Voter fraud
<b>Location:</b>	Las Vegas Nevada
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Facebook Inc; NAICS: 518210, 519130; Name: Google Inc; NAICS: 334310, 519130
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS FACEBOOK INC GOOGLE INC MISINFORMATION HOAXES
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	C.1
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
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## LINKS

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Call to unite against 'pure evil'; A somber President Trump plans to visit Las Vegas. Aides resist talk of gun control.

Bierman, Noah; Mascaró, Lisa . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.11.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

President Trump called for unity and prayer in the aftermath of "an act of pure evil," somberly addressing the nation from the White House on Monday, hours after the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

Trump, visibly moved and reading carefully from a teleprompter, announced that he would visit Las Vegas on Wednesday. That visit to the scene of a man-made disaster will follow his trip on Tuesday to storm-ravaged Puerto Rico, amid criticism that he and his administration have been slow to respond to the devastation caused by Hurricane Maria nearly two weeks ago.

The Las Vegas shooter "brutally murdered more than 50 people and wounded hundreds more. It was an act of pure evil," Trump said.

Trump's tone was a far different one than Americans are used to seeing from the president, who tends toward provocation and finger-pointing even at times of distress or tragedy, such as the mass shooting in Florida during the 2016 campaign. Instead of his typical tweets, Trump first spoke to the nation and then he and First Lady Melania Trump led a national moment of silence on the White House's South Lawn.

Also there were Vice President Mike Pence and his wife, Karen Pence, and scores of employees, from West Wing

advisors to kitchen staff members.

At least in the initial stages of investigation and mourning, the White House was eager to steer clear of policy discussions, resisting calls from Democratic leaders in Congress to address gun control.

In recent years, Congress has repeatedly been unable to advance legislation to limit firearm ownership, even after mass shootings such as the 2012 massacre of 20 first-graders and six adults in Newtown, Conn., and the one in June when a gunman opened fire on Republican lawmakers at morning baseball practice before a charity game. Republicans, who control Congress and the White House, generally oppose gun restrictions.

On the contrary, the only gun-related proposal with serious traction in Washington, one that predated the shooting, would loosen gun restrictions by making it easier to purchase silencers. House Republicans remain on track to approve a package of bills backed by the National Rifle Assn. that includes the silencer provision, though no vote has been scheduled.

Supporters say silencers can prevent hearing damage among hunters. Opponents argue that making silencers more prevalent could worsen the impact of mass shootings, by making it more difficult to react to the violence or detect where shots are coming from.

Former New York Police Commissioner and Los Angeles Police Chief William J. Bratton made that argument on MSNBC on Monday. "I've been a police officer for almost 50 years," he said, and "the lack of regulation in this country defies sanity."

White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders, who teared up during her daily news briefing with reporters as she discussed the shooting, declined to weigh in on the silencer bill. She said she had yet to discuss it with the president, but reminded reporters of Trump's strong support for gun rights.

In response to multiple questions about gun restrictions, Sanders echoed an argument often heard from pro-gun groups and their supporters, saying it is too soon to talk about such matters.

"There is a time and place for political debate, but now is a time to unite as a country," Sanders said.

She did not rule out a gun control discussion, however. She told reporters that policy issues are "something that we can talk about in the coming days."

Trump, who appeared downcast as he read his statement in the White House's Diplomatic Reception Room, praised first responders, saying "the speed with which they acted was miraculous and prevented further loss of life."

Speaking of the victims and their families suffering the loss of "a parent, a child, a brother or sister," he said, "we cannot fathom their pain, we cannot imagine their loss."

During such tragedies, Americans typically expect a president to provide comfort, and to serve as a unifying figure for the country.

"Our unity cannot be shattered by evil. Our bonds cannot be broken by violence," he said. "It is our love that defines us today and always will forever."

Trump was a candidate during the June 2016 attack at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Fla., that killed 49 people -- previously the worst gun massacre in modern U.S. history. At the time, he tweeted extensively, criticizing President Obama and Hillary Clinton, his Democratic rival, while arguing that the events vindicated his proposal to ban Muslims from entering the country.

"What has happened in Orlando is just the beginning," Trump tweeted then. "Our leadership is weak and ineffective. I called it and asked for the ban. Must be tough."

He also used the event to vindicate his false assertion that Muslims in New Jersey held mass celebrations after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. "I was right," he tweeted after Orlando.

By contrast, after the school shooting at Newtown, Trump initially praised the response by Obama. "President Obama spoke for me and every American in his remarks in #Newtown Connecticut," he tweeted at the time.

Sanders on Monday dismissed questions about Trump's rhetoric after the Pulse shooting, saying that "there's a difference between being a candidate and being the president."

She also criticized Clinton, who on Monday tweeted opposition to the silencer bill and urged Americans to stand up

to the NRA.

"It's very easy for Mrs. Clinton to criticize and to come out, but I think we need to remember, the only person with blood on their hands is that of the shooter," Sanders said. "And this isn't a time for us to go after individuals or organizations."

The Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement, or SHARE, Act was introduced last month in Congress, and gun advocates hoped for swift passage. It would allow gun owners to transport registered firearms across state lines, carry guns in national parks and eliminate the \$200 transfer tax on silencers.

Earlier versions of the bill had stalled under Obama, but advocates have been hopeful that Congress will send it to Trump's desk to be signed into law.

"America's gun owners have been waiting for many years for Congress to send the SHARE Act to the president's desk," the NRA's legislative arm wrote when the bill was introduced. "Their patience may now be rewarded with the strongest, most far-reaching version of the act yet."

Sen. Christopher S. Murphy, a Democrat from Connecticut who has taken the lead on gun safety issues after the Newtown shooting, urged lawmakers to act against such a bill and for gun restrictions.

"This must stop. It is positively infuriating that my colleagues in Congress are so afraid of the gun industry that they pretend there aren't public policy responses to this epidemic," Murphy said. "It's time for Congress to get off its ass and do something."

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Times staff writer Brian Bennett in Washington contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: AT THE White House, President Trump and wife Melania lead a moment of silence. Joining them are Vice President Mike Pence and wife Karen and staffers.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Carolyn Kaster Associated Press

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	American history; Bans; Reporters; Political campaigns; Presidents; Shootings; Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations; Murders & murder attempts; Firearms
<b>Location:</b>	United States--US Puerto Rico Florida
<b>People:</b>	Pence, Mike Pence, Karen
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	TRUMP, DONALD J LAS VE GAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS MOURNING GUN CONTROL
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<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 3, 2017
<b>Last updated:</b>	2017-11-24
<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# ANALYSIS; Plenty of talk, again, but don't expect any action; Trump, like Obama before him, consoles nation after a mass shooting

Decker, Cathleen . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

In the immediate aftermath of a crushing national disaster, Americans want a consoler in chief, a president who tries to bind obvious wounds and unify a shattered public.

Then they want results, and usually get them: the strengthening of building regulations after a destructive

hurricane; the engineering of safer airplanes after a calamitous crash.

America got its consoler in chief Monday morning when President Trump spoke somberly to the nation from the White House. They are not likely to get results beyond that.

Mass shootings like Sunday night's tragedy in Las Vegas have become outliers: horrific events that lead to almost no change.

As Trump did on Monday, Republicans often respond to mass shootings with a benign lament, quoting Scripture, flaying evil and hoping aloud for the survivors. Democrats, too, cite Scripture but also angrily blame the easy availability of weapons. Neither side prevails.

The lack of results is a product of the nation's angry and partisan disagreement over guns. It would be an anomaly if Sunday's massacre of 59 people, with more than 500 wounded, has any impact when it comes to gun or related mental health laws.

The topic is particularly difficult for Republican politicians, given their party's strong opposition to restrictions on guns and opposition to social spending. In their remarks Monday neither Trump nor Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval talked at any length about how the shooter could slaughter so many so quickly at a country music concert.

Trump, in Washington, said he prayed "for the day when evil is banished and the innocent are safe from hatred and from fear." Sandoval, in Las Vegas, referred twice to figuring out how to prevent such assaults.

"There's not much we can do, but we can learn," he said. About what, he did not say.

Martin Medhurst, a Baylor University scholar of political rhetoric, said those approaches were in keeping with how politicians typically approach the first hours of crisis. Their goal is to reassure the public that there is no continued threat, and that government officials are on top of any lingering problems.

He called Trump's remarks Monday "the best speech he's given yet as president."

"I thought he hit all the right notes expressing this pure evil, expressing his condolences, giving voice to the grief and sorrow for the families' experience, calling for national unity," Medhurst said. "All of those are pretty standard themes, but that's what people want."

Even Democrats have been reluctant to use the first hours after a mass shooting to hammer their proposed solutions. Former President Obama was somewhat oblique when it came to his immediate response to mass shootings, although he forcefully backed gun restrictions at other times.

In emotional remarks the day 20 children and six elementary school employees were gunned down in Newtown, Conn., in 2012, Obama listed the shooting sites in recent years.

"As a country we've been through this too many times," he said. "And we're going to have to come together and take meaningful action to prevent more tragedies like this, regardless of the politics."

But he did not offer specifics. Nearly three years later, after another mass shooting in San Bernardino, which was classified a terrorist event, he offered similarly mild sentiments.

"Right now it's just too easy," Obama said of finding guns. "And we're going to have to, I think, search ourselves as a society to make sure that we can take basic steps that would make it harder – not impossible, but harder – for individuals to get access to weapons."

Yet there is no "regardless of the politics," as Obama put it. There were no substantial legislative changes after either shooting, despite Democratic efforts to expand mental health programs and somewhat limit the access to guns.

Trump has shifted his views on gun measures over the years. He once supported a ban on assault weapons, yet now presents himself as a fierce defender of the 2nd Amendment.

He talked of his opposition to gun restrictions twice in a speech 10 days ago in Alabama, where he touted gun ownership as a cherished value.

"If crooked Hillary [Clinton] got elected, you would not have a 2nd Amendment, believe me," he said, and pantomimed a forced turning-over of weapons. "You'd be handing in your rifles, you'd be saying, 'Here, here, here they are.'"

Trump's evolution reflects that of his party, which has grown more dogmatic about protecting gun rights.

Asked whether it was more important to protect gun rights or to control ownership, 76% of Republicans cited protecting gun rights, according to a June Pew Research poll. Only 22% of Democrats agreed – a 54-point margin. In 2000, the margin had been only 18 points. Over that span of time, Republican support for gun rights had doubled, whereas Democratic views remained nearly constant.

Republican views have been solidified by the power of the National Rifle Assn., which according to the Center for Responsive Politics spent \$54.4 million in outside expenditures in the 2016 elections, and an additional \$3.2 million on lobbying. The organization opposes all measures to restrict access to weapons and ammunition, even those supported by wide majorities of Americans.

As Trump avoided divisive language on Monday, others stepped in to deliver the predictable if heartfelt responses that spool out after every shooting.

"To all those political opportunists who are seizing on the tragedy in Las Vegas to call for more gun regs ... you can't regulate evil," tweeted Matt Bevin, the Republican governor of Kentucky.

On the other side was Democratic Sen. Christopher S. Murphy of Connecticut, who has become a nationally known supporter of gun restrictions since the Newtown massacre.

"This must stop," he said. "It is positively infuriating that my colleagues in Congress are so afraid of the gun industry that they pretend there aren't public policy responses to this epidemic. There are, and the thoughts and prayers of politicians are cruelly hollow if they are paired with continued legislative indifference."

Barbara Perry, director of presidential studies at the University of Virginia's Miller Center, noted that the circumstances of the Las Vegas shooting contradicted one of Trump's and the NRA's arguments for gun ownership: that the counterpoint to a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with one.

"If every single one of the [audience members] carried a weapon, they weren't going to take out that man on the 32nd floor," she said.

She recalled the June 14 shooting of Rep. Steve Scalise on a baseball field in Virginia, which prompted quick laments that went nowhere. The Louisiana Republican returned to the House only last week and is still undergoing therapy.

"There was a lot of talk ... that no one should speak of policy on a day such as that," Perry remembered. "When would it be more appropriate?"

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Caption: PHOTO: FLAGS FLY at half-staff on the grounds of the Washington Monument following the Las Vegas shooting. It would be an anomaly if Sunday night's massacre has any impact when it comes to gun control laws.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Mark Wilson Getty Images

PHOTO:PRESIDENT TRUMP'S address to the nation following the Las Vegas shooting was "the best speech he's given yet as president," one scholar said.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Evan Vucci Associated Press

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Assaults; School employees; Weapons; Political parties; Speeches; Presidents; Mental health; Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations; Massacres
<b>Location:</b>	Nevada Las Vegas Nevada
<b>People:</b>	Sandoval, Brian
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Baylor University; NAICS: 611310

<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	TRUMP, DONALD J LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTING S CONCERTS GRIEF GUN CONTROL REPUBLICAN PARTY
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<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

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# THE DAY IN SPORTS; Louisville votes to fire Pitino as coach

## FULL TEXT

Louisville's interim president was authorized Monday to fire Rick Pitino because of a federal bribery investigation, a scandal that has shaken the university and brought down one of the most prominent coaches in college basketball.

The school's Athletics Assn., a separate body of officials that oversees Louisville's sports programs, unanimously approved a resolution to fire Pitino after meeting for more than two hours. Pitino was placed on unpaid administrative leave last week after law enforcement officials announced the probe and the school acknowledged its inclusion in the investigation. Though the Hall of Fame coach is not named in court complaints, interim president Greg Postel says the allegations violated his contract and provided just cause to be placed on unpaid leave.

Athletic director Tom Jurich was placed on paid administrative leave and Postel said he plans to announce an interim replacement Tuesday. Postel's next move after the vote is notifying Pitino of Louisville's plan to fire him after 16 seasons. David Padgett was named as Pitino's interim replacement Friday.

Pitino's attorney, Steve Pence, did not immediately return messages seeking comment. Pitino maintains he has done nothing wrong, saying in a statement Wednesday through his lawyer that the "rush to judgment is regrettable."

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Grayson Allen has been elected captain of Duke's men's basketball team, receiving a second chance after losing that title last season for tripping an opponent in a game. ... Arkansas freshman guard Khalil Garland hasn't been cleared to practice because of an undisclosed health condition.

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ETC.

Wolverines, Ducks QBs out indefinitely

John O'Korn will start for seventh-ranked Michigan against Michigan State on Saturday as quarterback Wilton Speight is out indefinitely with an undisclosed injury.

Also, Oregon quarterback Justin Herbert is out "for a while" because of a fractured collarbone, coach Willie Taggart said Monday, and it's unclear who will start Saturday's home game against No. 11 Washington State. Backup quarterback Taylor Alie left last week's game with an injury in the fourth quarter, and third-stringer Braxton Burmeister made his first college appearance.

Taggart also said junior linebacker Kaulana Apelu is out for the season with an ankle fracture. Running back Royce Freeman and receiver Dillon Mitchell, also starters, were lumped into a group labeled "day to day."

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Coach Jim McElwain expects No. 21 Florida to be without leading receiver Tyrie Cleveland against Louisiana State on Saturday. ... Texas El Paso is bringing back former coach Mike Price to be interim coach and replace Sean Kugler, who resigned after a 0-5 start. Price, 71, coached UTEP from 2004-12 and took the Miners to three bowl games. ... Youngstown State agreed to settle a federal lawsuit with Ma'lik Richmond, a football player convicted of rape as a teen who sued after the school allowed him to join the team and then told him he couldn't play.

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Kevin Love will be the Cleveland Cavaliers' new starting center, coach Tyronn Lue announced. Tristan Thompson will come off the bench and newly acquired forward Jae Crowder will take Love's former spot.

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Jonathan Byrd is heading back to the PGA Tour for the first time in three years after winning the weather-delayed Web.com Tour Championship.

–  
The UFC will donate \$1 million to the families of victims of Sunday's mass shooting in Las Vegas, president Dana White told ESPN. ... Nick Robone, an assistant hockey coach at Nevada Las Vegas, had surgery to remove a bullet from his chest after being shot in the mass shooting.

–  
The Ducks cut their roster to 27 players when they assigned forwards Giovanni Fiore, Kalle Kossila, and Scott Sabourin and defenseman Jacob Larsson to San Diego of the American Hockey League. The moves left them with 15 forwards, nine defensemen, and three goaltenders. However, those totals include injured center Ryan Kesler and injured defensemen Hampus Lindholm and Sami Vatanen, who are not expected to be ready for Thursday's season opener against the Arizona Coyotes at Honda Center. Fiore, a left wing, was one of the biggest surprises of training camp.

– Helene Elliott

–  
Kings goalie Jack Campbell and forward Justin Auger cleared waivers, according to the Ontario Reign. Tuesday is the deadline for teams to cut their rosters to 23 players.

– Curtis Zupke

–  
The Minnesota Wild will start the regular season without veteran left wing Zach Parise, who has been slowed by a back injury.

–  
Mayor Megan Barry has proposed a \$250-million stadium deal as the final piece in Nashville's bid for a Major League Soccer expansion team.

–  
John Frascatore, the New York police officer who tackled James Blake in a mistaken arrest, filed a defamation lawsuit against the former pro tennis player, the police department and the watchdog group prosecuting his misconduct case.

Credit: Staff and Wire Reports

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Coaches & managers; Mass murders; Professional soccer; Professional golf; Sports injuries; Professional hockey
<b>Location:</b>	Arkansas Michigan Oregon
<b>People:</b>	Price, Mike McElwain, Jim Padgett, David
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	D.5
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
<b>Publication date:</b>	Oct 3, 2017

<b>Section:</b>	Sports; Part D; Sports Desk
<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Interactive, LLC
<b>Place of publication:</b>	Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Country of publication:</b>	United States, Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Publication subject:</b>	General Interest Periodicals--United States
<b>ISSN:</b>	04583035
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<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1945498678?accountid=7285">http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1945498678?accountid=7285</a>
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 3, 2017
<b>Last updated:</b>	2017-11-24
<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# BUSINESS BEAT; Gun stocks rise after Las Vegas mass shooting

Mohan, Geoffrey . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: C.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Stock prices of the biggest firearms companies jumped Monday as investors feared the mass shooting in Las Vegas could lead to tougher gun laws.

Gun sales have soared after previous mass shootings -- and in response to other current events, including the election of Barack Obama and the death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who had defended a narrow interpretation of the 2nd Amendment protecting gun ownership.

American Outdoor Brands, parent of Smith & Wesson, had been trading down more than 25% so far this year. It closed Monday at \$15.74, up about 3.2%.

Sturm Ruger & Co. surged 3.48%, closing at \$53.50. Vista Outdoor stock rose 2.4% to \$23.50. Olin Corp., which owns the Winchester trademark, soared 6.63% to \$36.52.

With the exception of Olin, the companies had been faring poorly since Trump's election, with stock prices down as much as 36% in the case of Vista.

The rise in gun stock prices during the Obama years came despite any moves toward further gun restrictions.

Sales of handguns rose 287% annually from 2006 to 2013, while sales of rifles and long arms rose 166%, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Lacey Wallace, an assistant professor of criminal justice at Penn State University, said gun sales tend to rise in the first few months after major shooting incidents, and then settle back down. The more attention an incident receives in the media, the higher the spike, she found.

She based her findings on a tally of criminal background checks for gun purchases, which rose after six major mass killings between 2000 and 2009.

—

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations; Massacres; Firearms
<b>Location:</b>	Las Vegas Nevada
<b>People:</b>	Obama, Barack
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Olin Corp; NAICS: 325180, 331410
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	GUNS SECURITIES PRICES LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	C.2
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
<b>Publication date:</b>	Oct 3, 2017
<b>Section:</b>	Business; Part C; Business Desk
<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Interactive, LLC
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<b>Country of publication:</b>	United States, Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Publication subject:</b>	General Interest Periodicals—United States
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Language of publication:	English
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ProQuest document ID:	1945498723
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Copyright:	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 3, 2017
Last updated:	2017-11-24
Database:	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# DENVER 113, LAKERS 107; Lakers rookie who's turning heads is Kuzma

Ganguli, Tania . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: D.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## FULL TEXT

Early in the first quarter, a handful of fans chanted Kyle Kuzma's name to a beat. Amused Lakers teammates Larry Nance Jr. and Andrew Bogut grinned on the bench and began dancing to it, teasing the rookie.

When Kuzma checked into the game and made his first three-point attempt, a chorus of "Kuuuuuz" rang throughout Staples Center for the first time. It happened again late in the fourth quarter when Kuzma nearly single-handedly brought the Lakers back from what had been a 20-point deficit.

He scored eight points in the final three minutes and led the Lakers with 23 points on nine-for-17 shooting. Still, the Lakers fell to 0-2 in the exhibition season with a 113-107 loss to the Denver Nuggets. They played to another packed house as fans crammed in to see Lonzo Ball's debut at Staples Center, but Kuzma once again shined most brightly.

"I'm getting confident as a scorer and shooter every single game," Kuzma said. "It's only my second time playing against NBA competition. For me it's all about confidence and getting reps and getting minutes."

His Monday performance followed a team-high 19-point effort Saturday against the Minnesota Timberwolves.

After a strong training camp, he is giving credence to Lakers forward Brandon Ingram's media-day utterance that Kuzma is the "steal of the draft."

"His competitive spirit is very impressive," Lakers coach Luke Walton said. "I think that's what kind of drives him to keep having these nice games for us."

Ball finished with eight points, two on a dunk off an alley-oop pass from Jordan Clarkson. He also had four assists, two rebounds and four turnovers.

Late in the second quarter, Ball came down awkwardly on his left ankle after blocking a shot, but his limp was no real cause for alarm. He had the ankle taped at halftime and returned to start the second half.

Midway through the fourth quarter, Ball was removed from the game and began getting treatment for a mild sprain, the Lakers said.

Second-year center Ivica Zubac started after being utilized as a reserve in Saturday's exhibition opener. Shooting guard Kentavious Caldwell-Pope, Ingram and power forward Julius Randle started alongside Zubac and Ball.

Kuzma was inserted into the game midway through the first quarter and immediately made an impact. He hit his first two three-point shots.

"I have been around him long enough now that I am a believer in him," Walton said. "It's not just hot shooting and whatnot. He is a competitor and he finds ways to get it done. ...

"He has a good feel for playing the game and a knack for making plays."

Etc.

The Lakers are expected to play their Sunday game in Las Vegas as scheduled, though they are expecting heightened security.

On Sunday night 59 people were killed and more than 500 injured when Stephen Paddock opened fire on a crowd gathered for a country music concert.

The Lakers planned to remain in touch with the Las Vegas Metro Police Department regarding security concerns for the game against Sacramento.

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Caption: PHOTO: DENVER'S Kenneth Faried powers past Lakers defender Kyle Kuzma.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Mark J. Terrill Associated Press

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Professional basketball
<b>People:</b>	Bogut, Andrew Clarkson, Jordan Ingram, Brandon Randle, Julius Walton, Luke
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Minnesota Timberwolves; NAICS: 711211; Name: National Basketball Association; NAICS: 813990; Name: Staples Center; NAICS: 711310; Name: Denver Nuggets; NAICS: 711211
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LOS ANGELES LAKERS (BASKETBALL TEAM)
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	D.1
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
<b>Publication date:</b>	Oct 3, 2017
<b>Section:</b>	Sports; Part D; Sports Desk
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Last updated:	2017-11-24
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; 42 firearms found in hotel room and house; Police say they still have not discovered a motive for the Las Vegas slaughter.

Nelson, Laura; Tanfani, Joseph; Winton, Richard; Mather, Kate . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.11.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

A day after 59 people were killed and 527 others were wounded at a shooting at a Las Vegas concert, police said they had recovered an arsenal of at least 42 weapons stashed in the gunman's car, house and hotel room, but had still had not discovered a motive for one of the worst mass shootings in U.S. history.

The Islamic State extremist group on Monday claimed responsibility for the attack. Providing no evidence, a news

agency affiliated with the group quoted an unnamed security source who said Paddock was a "soldier" who had converted to Islam.

Almost immediately, the special agent in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's field office in Las Vegas, Aaron Rouse, said federal authorities had found no such evidence.

"We have determined, to this point, no connection to an international terrorist group," Rouse said.

In the 32nd-floor hotel room at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino where police said gunman Stephen Paddock unleashed a hail of bullets at concertgoers below, officers found 23 firearms, and in his vehicle and home northeast of Las Vegas, more guns, explosives and several thousand rounds of ammunition.

Paddock, 64, had checked into the hotel Thursday, and used more than 10 suitcases to sneak the firearms to his suite, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said.

The weapons recovered ranged from .308- to .223-caliber rifles, Lombardo said. Many were military-style rifles equipped with scopes, allowing Paddock to fire on victims more than 500 yards away.

At least one rifle had been modified with a legal "bump stock" style device that allows the shooter to rapidly fire off rounds without actually converting to a fully automatic weapon, a law enforcement source said.

Such devices modify the gun's stock so that the recoil helps increase the speed with which the shooter can pull the trigger.

Other weapons may have been converted to fully automatic fire, and were still being examined, the source said.

Paddock had four Daniel Defense DDM4 rifles, three FN-15s and other rifles made by Sig Sauer. Paddock apparently bought the guns legally, passing the required background checks.

Police officers swarmed Paddock's home Monday in a golfing community called Sun City Mesquite, about an hour outside Las Vegas on the Arizona border.

A search there revealed 19 more firearms, said Assistant Sheriff Todd Fasulo. Police also found several pounds of Tannerite, a chemical mix used to make explosive targets that are used in shooting practice.

In Paddock's car, police found ammonium nitrate, another compound that can be used to make explosives.

Investigators are now working to track down all of Paddock's gun transactions, including some at Nevada gun shows. Records show that he had owned at least 30 guns at one time or another. "He had good-quality, high-powered rifles," the source said.

At least six of the guns were purchased at one store, a Cabela's in Verdi, Nev. Several other weapons were purchased at Discount Firearms and Ammo, a few blocks from the Strip in Las Vegas, the source said.

Doctors at local hospitals have treated victims for gunshot and shrapnel wounds, and also trample injuries and scrapes from jumping fences trying to escape the gunfire, said Greg Cassell, chief of the Clark County Fire Department.

"I have worked here for 30 years and I have never seen that many ambulances as I saw," Cassell said of Sunday night's mayhem. "Dozens and dozens."

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Times staff writers Mather reported from Las Vegas, Tanfani from Washington and Nelson and Winton from Los Angeles.

Caption: PHOTO: VICTIMS of the mass shooting. Police found military-style rifles with scopes in the gunman's hotel room that allowed him to fire from more than 500 yards away.

PHOTOGRAPHER:David Becker Getty Images

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Shootings; Mass murders; Hotels & motels; Firearms; Explosives; Weapons
<b>Location:</b>	United States--US Arizona
<b>People:</b>	Rouse, Aaron
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Islamic State of Iraq & the Levant--ISIS; NAICS: 813940; Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	A.11
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
<b>Publication date:</b>	Oct 3, 2017
<b>Dateline:</b>	LAS VEGAS
<b>Section:</b>	Main News; Part A; National Desk
<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Interactive, LLC
<b>Place of publication:</b>	Los Angeles, Calif.
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<b>Document type:</b>	News
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<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1945499130?accountid=7285">http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1945499130?accountid=7285</a>
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 3, 2017
<b>Last updated:</b>	2017-11-24
<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# Long and lethal shadow; For victim of 1966 sniper, pain and anger

Lopez, Steve . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Irma Garcia did not go to work Monday.

She was too broken up about the Las Vegas shooting massacre, the deadliest in U.S. history. It brought back painful memories of another horrific rampage by a man with a rifle.

Garcia was a 21-year-old student at the University of Texas in 1966, when a Marine named Charles Whitman climbed a tower and began shooting.

Sixteen people were killed and 31 wounded.

Garcia was shot through the shoulder, and the bullet exited near the middle of her back. A stranger dragged her to safety while the shots kept coming.

"Yes, this does bring it back," she said Monday by phone from her home in Whittier, where the courtroom interpreter was watching the news with her husband at her side for support.

The death toll stood at nearly 60, with hundreds injured.

"I feel for those people. It was so horrible and out of the blue, and you don't expect it. I'm thinking about all of them, and the ones who survived should get some help. Psychological help. I want to let people know it takes a while."

The last time I spoke to Garcia was in April 2013. A few months earlier, 20 elementary school children had been shot and killed – and six adults murdered – in Newtown, Conn., by a lone, well-armed gunman. It was a tragedy so incomprehensible, many thought it would lead, finally, to comprehensive gun control.

But just before I met with Garcia, an assault weapons ban and an amendment to expand background checks on gun purchases had failed in Congress.

"I was so disappointed," she told me at the time. "I just wish senators had had more courage to do the right thing." Will it be any different this time?

Garcia said she hopes so. Me, too. But I'm not betting on it.

The National Rifle Assn. spent millions of dollars helping elect President Trump, who later told the gun lobby:

"You have a true friend and champion in the White House."

The congressional GOP delegation, as well as some Democratic lawmakers, are among the NRA's true champions. I don't think it matters how many people get killed in Newtown, Orlando, San Bernardino or Las Vegas. The numbers and details do not make a difference.

"Our Founding Fathers knew that without 2nd Amendment freedom, all of our freedoms could be in jeopardy," NRA boss Wayne LaPierre said after Newtown. "If you aren't free to protect yourself – when government puts its thumb on that freedom – then you aren't free at all."

No one is free or safe, as a matter of fact, when automatic weapons such as the one used by the Vegas shooter are easy to get ahold of. No such weapon is necessary for self-defense, and no one should be able to amass dozens of firearms, as the Vegas shooter did, without alarms going off.

For all the talk of Muslim travel bans to protect Americans on our own soil, a far bigger threat is domestic terrorism – and, by extension, the NRA. But so far in Washington, the official response to such tragedies hasn't been to make it harder for weapons to fall into the wrong hands. A package of bills is pending, one of which would make it easier to purchase silencers, and another that would expand the right of gun owners with concealed carry permits to take their weapons into states with more restrictive gun laws.

A far bigger issue than mass shootings is the daily toll of gun violence, most of which doesn't make headlines. "Mass shootings are horrible and grab the nation by the lapels," said Los Angeles City Atty. Mike Feuer, who has worked on gun control as a city councilman, legislator and prosecutor. So sure, he said, restricting large magazines and automatic weapons are public policy no-brainers.

But the majority of gun violence, Feuer said, is from suicide, domestic abuse and gang violence.

"Our focus should be not on what might have had an impact on any one case," Feuer said, "but on what will have an impact in reducing violence generally."

Feuer – who is strategizing with a bipartisan group of prosecutors nationally – said one helpful reform would be to make it illegal in every state for someone subject to a temporary restraining order to purchase a gun.

The city attorney also thinks there's room for more careful restrictions on gun purchases by people with mental health issues.

In my conversation with Garcia, she told me – and then repeated for emphasis – that she was heartbroken by what her home state of Texas has done about guns at school.

Last year, Texas made it legal to carry concealed weapons on college campuses, and that right has now been expanded to include community colleges.

She does not agree with the argument that, in a nation with an estimated 300 million guns and far more gun violence than any other country, having more guns on campus makes everyone safer.

"People are going to say, well, if you have a gun you can defend yourself," said Garcia, who had nightmares for years and whose upper body is still twisted from the damage caused by the bullet that tore into her. "How are you going to defend yourself if a whole bunch of people are packing guns? Can you imagine the crossfire?"

Just as someone came to her aid half a century ago, Garcia said, lots of brave people came to the aid of those who were cut down in Las Vegas. She sees hope in that, and prays there's a national reconciliation on curbing senseless violence.

One commentator said Monday that mass shootings are the price of freedom.

It's true that we can't protect everyone at all times in a country that values civil liberties.

But mass shootings and daily bloodshed are not the price of freedom.

They are the price of gun lust, the multimillion-dollar clout of the gun lobby, the mind-twisting glorification of violence and, most of all, the unconscionable failure of lawmakers to keep us as safe as we can possibly be.

–

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Caption: PHOTO: CONCERTGOERS run for cover during the attack in Las Vegas. A woman who survived the 1966 shooting rampage at the University of Texas says she's disappointed with legislators' inaction on gun control.

PHOTOGRAPHER:David Becker Getty Images

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Weapons; Shootings; Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations; Violent crime; Firearms; Gangs

**Location:** United States--US Las Vegas Nevada

<b>People:</b>	Trump, Donald J LaPierre, Wayne
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940; Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: University of Texas; NAICS: 611310
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1945499395?accountid=7285">http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1945499395?accountid=7285</a>
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 3, 2017
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Key venue for Strip festivals; Owners have sought to make Las Vegas

# Village a destination for music followers.

Kennedy, Gerrick D . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.12.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Before it became the site of Sunday's deadly mass shooting, the Route 91 Harvest Festival was one of a handful of concert blowouts aiming to burnish the Las Vegas Strip's reputation as a live-music destination.

Jason Aldean, Eric Church and Sam Hunt were among the major country music stars performing at the sold-out, three-day festival at Las Vegas Village. Last month, the iHeartRadio Music Festival used the same outdoor space for its Daytime Village performances.

The 15-acre plot near Luxor and Mandalay Bay is one of two open-air venues on the Strip owned by MGM Resorts International.

For years, owners of the Village and the much larger Las Vegas Festival Grounds have been looking to turn the venues into preeminent destinations for music fans in a city boasting a seemingly unlimited supply of entertainment options.

Electric Daisy Carnival may be the king of Vegas festivals -- it drew an estimated 400,000 EDM fans this year -- but the event, which moved from Los Angeles in 2011, is anchored miles away from the glitz of the tourist-driven Strip. Route 91 was one of the events trying to draw music fans closer to the Strip. The Live Nation-promoted concert did so by breaking ground as the first festival in Vegas strictly dedicated to country music.

Launched in 2014, Route 91 was a success out of the gate and served as an example of what could be pulled off on the Strip. In its inaugural year, when Aldean, Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert headlined, the event lured 30,000 fans over three days to a parking lot that had been converted into a festival space. Last year, Route 91 attracted 25,000 guests per day.

Aside from the main stage, the festival promoted emerging acts on its Next From Nashville stage. It also featured line dancing and, because it's Vegas, nightclub-like lounges.

Route 91's success stands in contrast to MGM's attempt to up the festival ante with the massive, multi-genre Rock in Rio USA at the 40-acre Las Vegas Festival Grounds in 2015. Taylor Swift, Bruno Mars and No Doubt headlined the inaugural two-weekend event.

The Las Vegas Festival Grounds, like the smaller Las Vegas Village, once housed vehicles: It served as a recreational vehicle campground for Circus Circus before MGM decided to diversify its entertainment offerings. Anchoring a festival on the Strip came with a number of selling points that executives proudly touted: no port-a-potties, no camping in brutal heat and no snarled traffic in and out of festival grounds considering the tens of thousands of hotel rooms overlooking the Strip.

"This is not Coachella," Chris Baldizan, senior vice president of entertainment for MGM Resorts International, said ahead of Rock in Rio's 2015 launch. "People can have their usual Vegas stay ... and then walk or take a shuttle to this great music festival and head back to the Strip, which will still be going on." He added that the festival grounds were "within walking distance of 80,000 hotel rooms."

Even so, Rock in Rio reported losses of up to \$28 million and attendance figures well below the anticipated 328,000.

"Going to a new country, especially one as important as the U.S., we were afraid people might not like it," festival founder Roberto Medina told The Times during the inaugural weekend.

After Rock in Rio USA, the Festival Grounds have been mostly unused -- with the exception of the Academy of Country Music's Party for a Cause Festival in April 2016. Recently, there was chatter that Route 91 would relocate

to the larger property.

MGM executives were for it, arguing it would provide more growth, but promoters had a different idea: Stay put and set a manageable capacity of 25,000 guests.

"The 'look' of that site ... is one of the things that makes Route 91 so great," Live Nation executive Brian O'Connell told the Las Vegas Review-Journal last year amid rumors of an impending move. "The casino's bright lights and that real Vegas look. You go north, you lose a little of that, and we don't want to lose Vegas. That's why we are here."

Being able to manage crowd sizes was crucial to Vegas' Life Is Beautiful festival, which continues to grow each year.

Now in its fifth year, the festival is spread over 18 blocks in downtown Las Vegas and merges music, food, art and creative expression over three days.

The festival, which has grown from 17,000 guests per day to 50,000 this year, has been successful at proving it's not impossible to do big business outside of the many residencies that power Vegas' entertainment. Last year, Life Is Beautiful was named Pollstar's 2016 Festival of the Year and Chance the Rapper, Lorde and Muse were among the marquee acts at the September event.

Some have attributed the festival's rise to organizers staying focused on its fundamental purpose – and not looking to expand its reach outside of the city.

"We made the decision to keep the fabric of it being an intimate, low-key festival experience," Justin Weniger, one of two organizers behind Life is Beautiful, said ahead of September's event.

"I grew up on Bonaroo and Coachella and these amazing festivals, but it gets harder to go out to a field or a desert," Weniger continued. "We wanted it to be relatively easy for people to get a flight and a less expensive hotel than other cities for festivals."

Ahead of last weekend's Route 91, MGM was hard at work planning on other uses for its larger festival grounds as executives hadn't yet given up on making both of its open-air venues a larger part of its entertainment portfolio.

"Entertainment is a huge component of our company," Baldizan said this past summer. "The biggest thing we learned is we have to be in it or not. We're going to dedicate a bit more of our resources to make festivals a bigger part of our experience."

Certainly many of those resources will be spent on beefed-up security. Whether that will be enough to ease music fans concerns is impossible to know in the immediate wake of Sunday's tragedy.

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Caption: PHOTO: PEOPLE run for cover at the Route 91 Harvest Festival after gunfire was heard coming from the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino.

PHOTOGRAPHER: David Becker Getty Images

PHOTO: A MAN is wheeled away from the festival grounds Sunday. The 15-acre plot on the Strip near Mandalay Bay and Luxor is owned by MGM Resorts International.

PHOTOGRAPHER: David Becker Getty Images

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Photographs; Fans (Aficionados); Hotels & motels; Mass murders; Music festivals; Country music

**Location:** Nashville Tennessee Los Angeles California

<b>People:</b>	Lambert, Miranda Swift, Taylor Aldean, Jason Shelton, Blake Mars, Bruno
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: MGM Resorts International; NAICS: 721120; Name: Circus Circus Enterprises Inc; NAICS: 721120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	A.12
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
<b>Publication date:</b>	Oct 3, 2017
<b>Section:</b>	Main News; Part A; Entertainment Desk
<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Interactive, LLC
<b>Place of publication:</b>	Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Country of publication:</b>	United States, Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Publication subject:</b>	General Interest Periodicals--United States
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<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1945499456?accountid=7285">http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1945499456?accountid=7285</a>
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 3, 2017
<b>Last updated:</b>	2017-11-24
<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Nevada locked in gun control limbo; Initiative hits a snag over language for the FBI to implement background checks -- a task it refuses to do.

Lee, Kurtis . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.12.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

As law enforcement continues to gather details on how Stephen Paddock obtained the rifles he used in Sunday's mass shooting on the Las Vegas Strip, elected officials are using the incident to again call for stricter gun laws. Nevada is no stranger to gun law reform efforts and the political battles that ensue.

Last year, voters in the state narrowly passed Question 1, an initiative that required most private buyers and sellers of guns to conduct a background check through a licensed dealer. Millions of dollars from national groups supporting and opposing the law poured into the state.

The initiative, which passed 50.4% to 49.5%, mandated that private-party gun sales -- with a few exceptions, such as transfers between family members -- be subject to a federal background check through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, which is administered by the FBI.

That's where language in the law ran into a roadblock.

In December, the FBI sent a letter to the Nevada Department of Public Safety, noting it would not conduct the checks. In its letter, officials from the agency said that "the recent passage of the Nevada legislation regarding background checks for private sales cannot dictate how federal resources are applied."

Two weeks after the initial letter from the FBI, Nevada Atty. Gen. Adam Laxalt, a Republican who opposed Question 1, released an opinion saying that "citizens may not be prosecuted for their inability to comply with the act unless and until the FBI changes its public position and agrees to conduct the background checks consistent with the act."

At the time, Laxalt's office also released a statement, emphasizing that "without this central feature [the FBI background check]" the initiative "cannot commence." To date, the initiative remains in limbo and has not gone into effect.

Under state law, the language of ballot initiatives approved by the electorate cannot be changed by the Legislature for three years.

Nevada is hardly an anti-gun state. It allows open carrying of firearms and recognizes concealed weapons permits from nearly 30 other states. The state still takes pride in its hard-scrabble, anything-goes Western heritage.

But it also has been shading more blue in recent years -- Hillary Clinton defeated Donald Trump there in 2016 -- and is more open to regulations that once would have been seen as an anathema.

—

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Background checks; Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations; Firearms; Initiatives
<b>Location:</b>	Nevada
<b>People:</b>	Trump, Donald J Clinton, Hillary
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Department of Public Safety-Nevada; NAICS: 922120; Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation-FBI; NAICS: 922120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	NEVADA GUN CONTROL INITIATIVES SECURITY CLEARANCES FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS
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<b>Last updated:</b>	2017-11-24
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## LINKS

# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; How past gun violence shaped California laws; Some state leaders say the nation should follow their example after Vegas massacre.

McGreevy, Patrick . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.10.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

In the wake of the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history, some say the nation could look to California, a state where previous incidents have sparked laws to combat gun violence, for guidance.

"I urge statehouses across the nation to look closely at the work we've accomplished here, through the Legislature and the ballot box, and act," Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom said in a statement Monday as the nation started to get a grim picture of the attack on a concert in Las Vegas.

California has some of the toughest gun control laws in the nation, in part because of its history of gun violence. Here is a look at the last 30 years.

Jan. 17, 1989

Five dead: Stockton

California approved the nation's first law banning the sale of military-style assault weapons in California after the killings of five Southeast Asian refugee children in a Stockton schoolyard.

The children were killed by a mentally ill drifter clad in combat fatigues, who fired 105 shots from a Chinese-made AK-47 at the playground. He also wounded 29 other children and a teacher before turning the gun on himself.

The Roberti-Roos bill was announced before the shooting, but the legislation's supporters said the massacre provided the outrage and emotion needed to get it passed. Republican Gov. George Deukmejian, who generally opposed gun control, signed it May 24, 1989.

At the time, Deukmejian was anguished over the killing of children and said he hoped the bill would "save innocent lives."

Years later, in 2013, Deukmejian told The Times: "My thoughts simply were that regardless of what argument somebody might make about having the right to own and possess a gun, there was no common-sense reason for someone to have an assault weapon."

July 1, 1993

Eight dead: San Francisco

A gunman at a San Francisco law firm killed eight and wounded six before killing himself. The attack at the Pettit & Martin law firm was cited by California Sen. Dianne Feinstein as she pushed successfully for passage of the Federal Assault Weapons Ban, which took effect in 1994 but expired in 2004.

Feinstein's career has been marked by violence. In 1978, former county Supervisor Dan White shot and killed San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk. Feinstein took over as mayor.

At the state level, California lawmakers in the succeeding years approved additional restrictions, including a ban on purchasing more than one handgun a month and a requirement that handguns meet basic safety standards.

Dec. 14, 2012

20 dead: Newtown, Conn.

Stricter gun controls were enacted in California after the 2012 shooting deaths of 20 students and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut and the murder of 12 people by a gunman in a Colorado movie theater that same year.

Resulting laws include a prohibition on kits that allow ammunition magazines to be altered to hold more than 10 rounds and a five-year ban on firearm possession by anyone who makes serious threats of violence to psychotherapists.

May 23, 2014

Six dead: Isla Vista

A disturbed young man killed six UC Santa Barbara students and wounded 13 other people in a shooting and stabbing rampage in Isla Vista, Calif.

After reports that the shooter's family had unsuccessfully sought help from authorities over concerns he might become violent, legislation was introduced and signed into law that allows the seizure of guns from people determined by the courts to be a threat to themselves or others. The measure allows family members or law enforcement officers to petition the court for a restraining order.

Oct. 1, 2015

Nine dead: Roseburg, Ore.

Newsom, who is running for governor, wrote a gun control ballot initiative partly in response to a mass shooting that left nine dead at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg.

The initiative, Proposition 63, requires a background check and Department of Justice authorization to purchase ammunition, prohibits possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines and establishes procedures for enforcing laws prohibiting firearm possession by certain people, including felons.

Dec. 2, 2015

14 dead: San Bernardino

At the same time the initiative was moving forward, California lawmakers introduced six gun control bills in response to the terrorist attack in San Bernardino that left 14 people dead.

The measures included a ban on large-capacity ammunition magazines, a requirement for background checks on those buying bullets, and new restrictions on semiautomatic rifles.

Gov. Jerry Brown signed them into law on July 1, 2016, saying in a statement: "My goal in signing these bills is to enhance public safety by tightening our existing laws in a responsible and focused manner, while protecting the rights of law-abiding gun owners."

California voters in November 2016 approved Proposition 63, which earned 63% of the vote.

Senate leader Kevin de Leon (D-Los Angeles), who wrote some of last year's bills, said Monday that he hoped the Las Vegas massacre would persuade national leaders to follow California's lead.

"California has learned its lesson and taken steps to ban military-grade weapons and large-capacity magazines," De Leon said. "I hope that Congress will consider the casualties of its cozy relationship with the gun lobby and finally find the courage and independence to stand up to them."

Craig J. DeLuz, a spokesman for the Firearms Policy Coalition, a gun owners' rights group, denounced political commentary about gun control.

"Gavin Newsom and Kevin de Leon are nothing more than opportunistic politicians who prey on tragedies for headlines, so it's not surprising that they would try to rush to promote gun control before the police have finished their investigation," DeLuz said. "They treat anti-gun laws as magic talismans that will ward off evil. It hasn't worked in California and it won't work in other states."

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Violence; Firearm laws & regulations; Massacres; Firearms
<b>Location:</b>	United States--US San Francisco California
<b>People:</b>	Newsom, Gavin
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Umpqua Community College; NAICS: 611210
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	CALIFORNIA GUN CONTROL LAW MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	A.10
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
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<b>Section:</b>	Main News; Part A; News Desk
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## LINKS

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Gambler, investor and killer; Many depict Stephen Paddock as a 'normal guy,' giving no motive or clue for rampage.

Vives, Ruben; Ryan, Harriet; Serna, Joseph . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

He was 64 years old and, to those who knew him, showed no signs of mental illness, extreme political views or an unhealthy interest in guns. He liked to gamble, and had bounced around over the years, living in Southern California, Texas and Nevada. But he seemed to have plenty of money, and had held steady jobs as a mail carrier, accountant, auditor and apartment manager.

Stephen Paddock's last stop was here, in Mesquite, Nev., a modest desert oasis 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas, where he lived in a retirement community with his female partner and kept a low profile, conversing little and maintaining no Facebook or Twitter accounts.

In an era when social media invites full-throated expression of even the most minor annoyance, Paddock gave no hint of whatever it was that drove him to commit mass murder on the Las Vegas Strip, killing 59 people in an assault on a country music festival late Sunday night.

"We are completely dumbfounded," said a younger brother, Eric Paddock, who broke into tears in front of his suburban Orlando, Fla., home. "We can't understand what happened."

"He was always normal," said Donald Judy, a former next-door neighbor who said he was struggling to reconcile the friendly conversations about real estate and family with carnage carried out from a hotel room on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino.

Almost every week, Paddock and his girlfriend, Marilou Danley, would go to Peggy Sue's bar and diner in Mesquite, where they would have a few drinks and she would sing karaoke, other patrons and the bartender said.

"She really could sing -- great set of pipes," Bob Hemley said. "Him? He didn't affect me. Didn't stand out."

Everyone seated at the U-shaped bar Monday evening remembered Danley in particular. Bartender Monique Ortega said that when she learned Paddock was the shooter, she called her boss immediately.

"Now [that] I know that it was him, he seemed kind of creepy," she said.

Paddock, described by the local sheriff as a "lone wolf" attacker, killed himself inside the luxury suite at the Mandalay as SWAT officers closed in. On Monday, authorities searched his house in Mesquite and a second home in northern Nevada and questioned relatives and associates but acknowledged that they had uncovered no explanation yet.

Paddock gambled frequently, and two law enforcement sources said he had made chip purchases in Nevada casinos in the last year that were in excess of \$10,000 a day, the amount required to be reported to the government.

But relatives and acquaintances said he was a successful real estate investor who showed no sign of financial problems.

Asked if authorities had a working motive at a news conference Monday afternoon, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo replied, "No, we don't."

Investigators have all but dismissed a claim by Islamic State that Paddock was a recent convert to Islam acting at the group's direction. Law enforcement authorities seized computer hard drives from Paddock's Mesquite home and are examining dozens of weapons taken from the hotel suite and the home along with explosive material found in his vehicle and residence.

Rep. Ruben Kihuen (D-Nev.), who received a briefing from the multiagency anti-terrorism center, said no new clues had emerged so far.

"Law enforcement were looking through his computer. They couldn't find a motive. As of a couple of hours ago, there was no motive. That's all we know," he said late Monday afternoon.

Before Monday, Paddock had been a nonentity to local police. "We didn't have prior run-ins with him. We didn't have any traffic stops; we didn't have any arrests of any kind," Mesquite Police Officer Quinn Averett said.

Agents hope they may learn more from Danley, 62. Police were initially searching for her in Nevada as a person of interest in the shooting, but later learned she was out of the country.

Lombardo said she was currently in Tokyo, and investigators are arranging an interview.

Paddock grew up in Arizona, the son of a notorious bank robber. Benjamin Hoskins Paddock robbed a bank in Tucson in 1960, when Stephen was 7 years old.

When authorities cornered the elder Paddock in Las Vegas, he attempted to run down an FBI agent with his car, according to press clippings. He escaped from federal prison in Texas, where he was serving a 20-year sentence, on New Year's Eve 1968. Wanted posters described him as "psychotic," "armed and very dangerous," and an avid bridge player and gambler. He was removed from the list in 1977, the FBI website said.

He was captured the following year in Oregon and died in 1998.

Stephen Paddock, who was divorced twice, spent much of his adult life in the Los Angeles area. He and his wives lived or owned property in Panorama City, Cerritos, North Hollywood and other areas from the 1970s to early 2000s.

Paddock's former brother-in-law, Scott Brunoehler, recalled the gunman in the 1970s and 1980s as a smart, fun-loving person who enjoyed entertaining on his boat at Castaic Lake.

"He seemed like a normal, good guy. I don't remember anything bad back then at all," said Brunoehler, whose sister, Sharon, married Paddock in 1977. "I'm still in shock."

Paddock listed his occupation as postal carrier at the time of their marriage. He worked for a predecessor to Lockheed Martin for three years in the late 1980s, according to a company statement. His brother-in-law said he was an accountant; public records describe him as an internal auditor.

He also owned rental properties across the country. In Los Angeles, Paddock co-owned two run-down apartment buildings in a working-class neighborhood of Hawthorne.

For nearly a decade, he owned an apartment complex in the Dallas suburb of Mesquite. Tenant Richard Gehring said Paddock improved the Texas property by checking applicants' credit and quickly evicting those who didn't pay.

As he watched television coverage Monday, Gehring said it seemed impossible that the gunman was his mild-mannered landlord.

"He was just a nice guy, and that was it," said Gehring, a roadway engineer. "There's nothing really that sets him out from anybody else."

Paddock sold the complex in 2012.

Paddock had lived near his mother and brother in Florida for several years but decided to move to Nevada a few years ago to escape the humidity and play high-level poker, Eric Paddock said.

Donald Judy's wife, Sharon, who lived next door to Paddock in Florida, said he described himself as a world traveler

and "professional gambler by trade" and said he once showed her a picture of himself winning a \$20,000 slot-machine jackpot.

"He was friendly all the time," she said.

Paddock liked to gamble in Strip hotels. He sued the swanky Cosmopolitan in 2012, claiming he fell and was injured on the hotel property and sustained "substantial injuries." He sought damages of more than \$10,000. The suit was dismissed by agreement between the parties in 2014, according to the Las Vegas Review Journal. His attorney declined to comment.

Speaking outside his home in Waterford Lakes, Eric Paddock said his brother was never violent and had no history of mental illness or known ties to extremist groups. His brother had some guns but never a machine gun or an automatic weapon, Eric Paddock said.

"He's never even drawn his gun before," he said. "He's just a guy."

Authorities said they found a total of 42 guns in the hotel room and Paddock's house. At least one had been modified to make it tantamount to an automatic weapon.

Paddock and Danley moved to a house on Babbling Brook Court in a new 55-plus community called Sun City Mesquite in 2015. Residents of their subdivision had little information for police, according to Lombardo, the sheriff.

"He was reclusive," Lombardo said.

One neighbor, who declined to give his name, described Paddock to a reporter as "a real loner."

"If he saw you a few times he'd finally say, 'Hi,'" the man said.

A sign posted on the front door of a next-door neighbor read: "We do not have anything to provide relating to the actions of our neighbor or insight into his behavior. We did not know him."

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Vives reported from Mesquite, Nev., and Serna and Ryan from Los Angeles. Times staff writers David Montero in Mesquite; Richard Winton, Adam Elmahrek, Joel Rubin, Victoria Kim, Brittny Mejia and Paul Pringle in Los Angeles; Joseph Tanfani in Washington; and Orlando Sentinel reporters David Harris and Michael Williams in Florida contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: LAS VEGAS police stand guard outside the Route 91 Harvest Festival grounds opposite the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, where at least 59 people were killed.

PHOTOGRAPHER:David Becker Getty Images

PHOTO:"WE ARE completely dumbfounded," brother Eric Paddock said. "We can't understand what happened."

PHOTOGRAPHER:John Raoux Associated Press

PHOTO:GUNMAN Stephen Paddock in undated photo.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:THE SHOOTER killed himself inside a luxury suite on the 32nd floor of Mandalay Bay as SWAT officers closed in. Above, police advise people to take cover.

PHOTOGRAPHER:John Locher Associated Press

P: GRAPHIC: Deadly mass shootings in the U.S.

CREDIT: Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Social networks; Bars; Photographers; Criminal investigations; Law enforcement; Mass murders; Bank robberies; Hotels & motels; Gaming machines; Internal auditors; Mental disorders
<b>Location:</b>	Texas Nevada
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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## LINKS

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; The victims: 'Ray of sunshine,' 'best dad,' 'teddy bear' ...

Mozingo, Joe; Kohli, Sonali; Etehad, Melissa . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

They came from Alaska and Tennessee, Riverside and Simi Valley, commercial fishermen, police officers, teachers, retirees -- drawn together only by a love of country music.

When the shooting stopped, 59 of those distant lives would end on the warm desert asphalt in the latest massacre to take the grim title of "the worst mass shooting in modern American history."

As the afternoon light faded on Sunday at the Route 91 Harvest Festival, Denise Burditus leaned in for a selfie with her husband, Tony. The lens caught a sliver of the gold-glass Mandalay Bay Resort, to that point still famous only for its luxury lounges, lagoon pools and walk-through shark aquarium.

The couple had traveled from Martinsburg, W.Va., and were posting photos of themselves poolside and at dinner. This would be their last photo together.

"It saddens me to say that I lost my wife of 32 years, a mother of two, soon to be grandmother of five this evening in the Las Vegas shooting," Tony later wrote in a Facebook post. "Denise passed in my arms. I LOVE YOU BABE." Denise, 50, was a Seattle Seahawks fan and described herself on Facebook as semi-retired. In photos, she's often surrounded by family, acting goofy, planting kisses on Tony.

"Oh Tony," wrote Tammy Petersen Hacker on his Facebook page. "I just keep looking at the cool, beautiful pictures both you and Denise have been sharing of all the fun you were having ... your loss is unfathomable."

And so the litany of loss went, the sickeningly random toll of a soft-target attack on 22,000 people, with grief now gripping the nation and beyond.

In Bakersfield, co-workers at Infinity Communications and Consulting Inc. lost Bailey Schweitzer, 20, their "ray of sunshine ... on a cloudy day," her boss, Fred Brakeman, said in a statement.

"No one could possibly have a bad day when Bailey was around," he said.

Thomas Day Jr.'s adult children lost a father they were so close to that all four were with him at the concert when he died.

Day, 54, was a home builder from Riverside.

"He was the best dad," said Day's father, Thomas Sr. "His kids are with me right now. They're crushed."

At Vista Fundamental Elementary School in Simi Valley, students lost their longtime office manager, Susan Smith, 53, the first to greet them as they walked in with her warm laugh and big sense of humor.

The victims fell as others around them spun around trying to pinpoint the rapid tapping in the distance. With thousands of people in the wide open and little sense of where the shooting was coming from, life and death was a matter of luck.

Adrian Murfitt, 35, a commercial fisherman, flew down from Alaska with his childhood friend Brian MacKinnon. He died in his buddy's arms.

MacKinnon, 33, described his friend as an animal lover and goofball. "He made me laugh. He was like an Alaskan cowboy, but when he saw a dog he'd turn into a 10-year-old kid," he said.

Others eulogized him as a man who went out of his way to help his friends.

"Can't describe in words how thankful and grateful I am to have you show me what a real true gentleman you are," Christine Young said of Murfitt on Facebook. "I'll keep the advice you gave me and I promise to take it as I go through life moving forward ... you'll be kept in a special place in my heart."

John Phippen, the owner of JP Specialties, a home remodeling company in Santa Clarita, was dancing next to his son, Travis, at the country music festival when he was struck by a bullet in the lower back.

Travis, an emergency medical technician, carried his father to a car that transported both of them to Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center, where John later died from his injuries. He was 56.

"He was my best friend," Travis said. "He never did anything wrong to anybody. He was always kind and gentle. He was the biggest teddy bear I knew."

In the chaotic scene, Travis had been shot in the arm but didn't realize it until he arrived at the hospital. In his grief, the wound was an afterthought.

For some, final word on their loved one's fate was hard to pin down.

In Garden Grove, Mavis Barnette was almost asleep when she received a phone call about 11:30 p.m. Sunday from a friend of her daughter, Carrie.

Carrie had been shot, the friend said.

"I said, 'What are you talking about? ... Where? When? What?' And she told me she was shot in the chest."

Carrie, 34, a food service worker at Disneyland, had died before reaching the hospital, the friend told Mavis.

As of late Monday, Mavis still had not been able to get confirmation from Las Vegas officials that her daughter had been killed Sunday night, despite multiple calls, she said.

"Nobody has any idea where she's at," she said.

Her friends were already mourning.

"She was the kind of friend that everybody would want in their life," Carrie's friend Nicole Johnson wrote in an email. "She was vivacious, caring, funny, sweet, energetic, creative, loyal, thoughtful, giving and full of life."

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Caption: PHOTO: CARRIE BARNETTE, a Disneyland worker, died.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO: THIS SELFIE was the last photo Tony and Denise Burditus took together. She later died in his arms.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO: SANDY CASEY, a special ed teacher, died.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO: THOMAS DAY JR. of Riverside was killed.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO: ANGELA GOMEZ was a Riverside native.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO: ONTARIO Officer Mi-chael Gracia was injured.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO: CANADIAN Jessica Klymchuk was killed.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO: SONNY MELTON died while grabbing his wife, Heather, and running out of the festival.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:ADRIAN MURFITT died in a buddy's arms.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:RACHAEL PARKER died at a hospital.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:JOHN PHIPPEN of Santa Clarita was killed.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:BAILEY SCHWEITZER of Bakersfield died.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:SUSAN SMITH of Simi Valley was killed.

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:PEOPLE GATHER at a candlelight vigil in Las Vegas to remember the shooting victims. Friends and family members also mourned them, often on social media.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

P: GRAPHIC: Carnage on the Strip (MAP: Las Vegas)

CREDIT: Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; MAYHEM IN VEGAS: 'LIKE A WAR ZONE'; GUNMAN KILLS 59, INJURES 527 AT CONCERT; Scenes of chaos and heroics unfold as bullets rain on country music fans on the Strip; shooter is found dead in 32nd-floor hotel room

Branson-Potts, Hailey; Poston, Ben; Pearce, Matt; Mather, Kate . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]03 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Pop pop pop pop pop. As bullets rained onto the crowd gathered on the Strip for three days of country music, Travis Phippen's training kicked in.

The off-duty emergency medical technician crawled from one victim to another, more than a dozen in all. They lay helpless and bleeding among the cowboy hats and plastic beer cups that concertgoers had dropped in panic when the shooting started.

Phippen plugged wounds with clothing. As he worked, a woman next to him was shot in the head.

He crawled to his next patient, a 240-pound man, and rolled him over.

It was his father.

The two men had traveled from Santa Clarita for the Route 91 Harvest Festival concert but were separated in the

chaos. Now John Phippen, 56, was a casualty vying for Travis Phippen's attention.

Phippen tried to plug the bullet hole in his father's back with one of his fingers as he carried him to help. But it would not be enough.

A total of 59 people were killed and 527 injured when a gunman opened fire from a room in the Mandalay Bay hotel across the street.

It was the deadliest U.S. mass shooting in nearly a century, carried out, authorities said, by a reclusive real estate investor and gambler who'd hauled 23 weapons up to his 32nd-floor room and turned it into a hunting platform. Police said Monday that a search of the home and computer of Stephen Paddock, 64, turned up nothing to explain why he had shot hundreds of people assembled below on the concert grounds before killing himself as a police SWAT team burst through his hotel room door.

"It was an act of pure evil," said President Trump, who will travel to Las Vegas on Wednesday. "Our unity cannot be shattered by evil, our bonds cannot be broken by violence."

Authorities said 19 additional weapons were recovered from Paddock's home in the town of Mesquite, Nev., 80 miles northeast of Las Vegas. Ammonium nitrate, which can be used to manufacture an explosive device, was found in his car, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said.

"Law enforcement were looking through his computer," Rep. Ruben Kihuen (D-Nev.) said after being briefed by Nevada's multi-agency anti-terrorism center. "They couldn't find a motive."

Those who had gathered for Sunday night's festival described a night of laid-back music overcome by the crackle of gunshots so suddenly that at first no one knew what it was.

Country music star Jason Aldean was on his fourth or fifth song -- "When She Says Baby," a sugar-sweet love song -- when the crowd heard the first pop.

Tom Cassidy, 60, of Calabasas saw somebody step on something, maybe a plastic bottle, and thought: Wow, that thing is loud. Others guessed it was fireworks, but there were no fireworks to be seen.

Then Cassidy saw a woman next to him. She had a hole in her face.

With a randomness that was heartbreaking, concertgoers learned the hard way that they were under attack.

Adrian Murfitt, 35, had put his arm around his friend from childhood, Brian MacKinnon, 33, for a photo. Both had come from Anchorage for the show. They heard the pops, and when Murfitt turned to look, a bullet hit his neck and knocked off MacKinnon's hat. Murfitt died in his friend's arms.

The shooting seemed to last about 10 minutes, much of it rapid-fire, suggesting the gunman had a fully automatic rifle. Aldean and his band ran offstage, and the crowd panicked.

Karlie Cruz, 21, called her mom and left a voicemail: "There's an active shooter. I'm OK -- for now. I love you." But she still had to escape.

Suddenly, a concert space that had been designed for openness, to accommodate as many people as possible, but also fenced in to provide security, was now a free-fire zone with precious little cover and little chance of escape. Dozens of people cowered under bleachers. Some, stunned, sat frozen in their seats as others tried to pull them down.

Desera Prosser, 37, and James Glass, 36, had come to Las Vegas to get away from their home in Naples, Fla., damaged in Hurricane Irma. Like many others, they became separated in the chaos and the crush of people.

Glass hid behind a beer cart. He felt a bullet whiz by. He looked up and saw a hole in the beer cart. He ran.

Prosser took cover beneath a food vending truck. After she decided to run, a woman a few feet in front of her was shot in the back. Prosser kept running.

Some helped others hop over the fences to escape. "There was a 3- or 4-foot gap in the fence, and everyone was trying to squeeze through it," said Brian Claypool, a Los Angeles attorney.

Some injured survivors were carried away in wheelbarrows. Streets were littered with abandoned heels, skirts and shirts torn off in the chaos.

Once out, some crammed into strangers' cars to escape. Many flooded into nearby hotels. They hid in strangers' hotel rooms and in restaurant freezers.

Loved ones received desperate phone calls. Mavis Barnette was almost asleep when she received a phone call about 11:30 p.m. from her daughter's friend. Her daughter had been shot in the chest.

"What are you talking about?" Barnette said. "Where? When? What?"

Her daughter, Carrie Barnette, 34, died before reaching a hospital.

Police started to flood the area, and some officers loaded multiple victims into the backs of their squad cars to take them to hospitals. "We're going to have a lot of people self-transporting in pickup trucks," one officer radioed. The nearby cluster of hotel towers created an echo that made it seem as though the barrage was coming from everywhere. Many thought the gunman was on foot, inside the concert space and getting closer.

In the confusion, police confronted passersby at gunpoint outside the nearby T-Mobile Arena, forcing them to lie facedown on the sidewalk.

As off-duty Los Angeles Police Department Officer Joel Twycross ran out of the concert venue -- a gun-free zone -- he saw people pointing toward the glimmering Mandalay Bay hotel.

Muzzle flashes illuminated one of the windows.

Police and SWAT teams streamed into the building.

Police said they coordinated with hotel security to narrow down what floor the gunman was on.

When a security guard approached Paddock's room, the gunman fired through the door and struck him in the leg, police said.

A "strike team" of police assembled to breach the door.

"We need to pop this and see if we've got any kind of response from this guy," one officer whispered into his radio from near Paddock's room, trying to keep his voice down, as he and other officers prepared an explosive charge for the door.

"All units move back, all units move back," a dispatcher said.

"Breach, breach, breach!" one of the officers said, a transmission that was followed by the sound of an explosion.

But Paddock had killed himself, leaving behind no manifesto explaining what he'd done, officials said later. "We have one suspect down inside the room," one official radioed.

But the night had only just begun.

A University Medical Center nurse called clinical supervisor Toni Mullan and gave her a blunt instruction: "Mass casualty incident. We need you in."

"I hung up," Mullan said. "I didn't even ask questions."

The wounded poured in on trucks, in taxis, in police cars, in ambulances, some even driving themselves -- 104 victims at that facility alone, the area's only Level 1 trauma center. Staff started doing triage in the parking lot; blood was splattered across the entrance.

Along with the crush of wounded, though, came an invasion of support: hospital staff who showed up unasked, medical professionals and nurses visiting from out of town showing up and offering to help.

Dr. Jay Coates, a trauma and critical care surgeon at the center, arrived at 11 p.m. and began doing surgeries nonstop for the next six hours.

"I had no idea who I was operating on," Coates said. "They were coming in so fast, we were taking care of bodies."

The victims didn't have the relatively contained trauma of wounds from handguns, but complex wounds from high-velocity rifle rounds, which often fragment when they hit their victims.

"You had people with lung contusions, liver and spleen contusions, broken bones," Coates said. "It was like a war zone."

John Phippen hadn't made it -- despite the efforts of his son, who'd struggled to haul his father to safety in time to stop the bleeding. As it turned out, Travis Phippen had been shot too, in the right arm, but hadn't noticed in the rush to save his father.

Feeling helpless and wanting to do what he could to help, Rep. Kihuen showed up at the Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center at 3 a.m.

"Every single bed was occupied. Every room was occupied in the emergency room area. Every single hallway had

patients on beds because they didn't have enough space in the rooms," said Kihuen, who still sounded shaken 12 hours later. "People were turning purple."

At about 4:20 a.m., Mason Van Houweling, chief executive of University Medical Center, stood with the police officers outside his building and praised the "miraculous" work of his staff.

But then his eyes grew cloudy. "It's like a bad dream," he said.

An ambulance soon pulled up with a man on a stretcher. He was conscious and shirtless, with a large wrap around his abdomen.

As the sun rose, hundreds of volunteers in the city lined up to give much-needed blood donations for the victims in the local hospitals. Bodies still lay on the ground as police began the massive task of documenting evidence and identifying the dead.

Those who'd been at the concert the night before were easy to spot as they lingered, still wearing their cowboy hats. This was a city used to late nights that stretch into the early morning – but not like this. Not like this.

"We just wanted to come and have a great weekend," said Robynn Hernandez, 47, of Santa Clarita, who was still wearing her cowboy boots and purple concert wristband.

"And we did," Hernandez said, her voice shaken. "Up until then."

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Branson-Potts and Mather reported from Las Vegas and Poston and Pearce from Los Angeles. Times staff writers Matt Hamilton in Las Vegas and Laura J. Nelson, Melissa Etehad, Sonali Kohli, Richard Winton and Benjamin Oreskes in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: A MAN helps a woman at the Las Vegas festival. He got her up and they walked away together.

The shooting seemed to last about 10 minutes, much of it rapid-fire.

PHOTOGRAPHER:David Becker Getty Images

PHOTO:RESCUERS CARRY OUT a wounded person. Victims went to hospitals in ambulances, police cars, taxis and trucks; some drove themselves. At one facility, "every single bed was occupied," a visiting lawmaker said.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Chase Stevens Las Vegas Review-Journal

PHOTO:PEOPLE CARRY AWAY a shooting victim at the Route 91 Harvest Festival on the Las Vegas Strip on Sunday night. Strangers helped many of the wounded flee the site, and early Monday hundreds of volunteers lined up to give blood for the victims at local hospitals.

PHOTOGRAPHER:David Becker Getty Images

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; 72 MINUTES OF TERROR IN VEGAS; How the mass shooting unfolded, as seen by police

Nelson, Laura J; Winton, Richard; Parvini, Sarah . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The first call came across the Las Vegas radio channel in a burst of static.

"We got shots fired," the police officer said in a breathless voice. "Sounded like an automatic firearm."

The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's scanner traffic and body camera video released Tuesday captured officers' frantic efforts to find and stop the gunman firing into a crowd of 22,000 people from a perch high above a music festival.

From the first reports of gunshots at 10:08 p.m. Sunday, it would be 72 chaotic minutes until a SWAT team crept down a carpeted hallway on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay hotel and blew open the room occupied by suspected gunman Stephen Paddock.

By then, the gunfire had long since ceased and Paddock was dead.

Although 72 minutes sounds like an eternity during a shooting, officials and experts on Tuesday insisted that the delay before entering the gunman's hotel room did not suggest a slow response.

"I want to make it clear, again, that while there was that slight delay, the suspect was no longer firing into the crowd," Clark County Undersheriff Kevin Mc-Mahill said at a news briefing late Tuesday.

President Trump tweet-ed: "It is a 'miracle' how fast the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police were able to find the demented shooter and stop him from even more killing!"

In the first minutes of nearly continuous shooting, chaos reigned. "We have an active shooter!" an officer said seconds after the shots began. "We have an active shooter inside the fairgrounds."

Body camera video showed officers ducking behind a cinder-block wall looking for the source of the gunfire. It was coming from somewhere high up, first responders said, but they weren't sure where. Mandalay Bay? An entrance gate? The Luxor?

"I need eyes," one man said on his radio. "Somebody, can you tell me where it's coming from?"

That initial confusion is common during mass shootings, said James Allen Fox, a Northeastern University criminologist. Locating a gunman is even more challenging when he is perched above the ground, in a building covered in blinding gold windows.

"He was camouflaged," Fox said. "It would be hard to find him at such a high profile."

But within minutes, officers had zeroed in on the source of the gunshots.

"We're seeing multiple flashes in the middle of Mandalay Bay on the north side," one officer said at 10:13 p.m. over the sound of gunfire. "It's one of the middle floors."

A minute later, a police officer who had darted into Mandalay Bay had already reached the floor below Paddock's room.

Breathing heavily, he whispered into his radio: "I'm inside the Mandalay Bay on the 31st floor. I can hear the automatic fire coming from one floor ahead."

Paddock, using rifles that had been modified to allow multiple shots per second, continued to shoot.

Thirty-two stories below, concertgoers lay inert on the artificial grass. First responders, panic clear in their voices, reported victims bleeding from their mouths, chests and thighs.

One officer found himself pinned against a wall at the edge of the fairground, huddled next to more than 40 people. "We're taking gunfire," he said. "It's going right over our heads."

Moments later, the extent of the attack began to sink in. Bodies lay scattered among discarded bottles and hats. Friends knelt in the grass, administering CPR as bullets whizzed around them.

Medics wearing helmets and body armor walked into the fairground, flanked by armed police officers. They moved cautiously through the crowd, checking each wounded person, said Clark County Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Buchanan.

At a medical tent, volunteers tended to injuries with few supplies. "We're making tourniquets out of blankets, but I'm running out of blankets here," one officer said into the radio.

As reports of injuries came in thick and fast, a dispatcher broke in: "Hey officers, please stay calm. Just relax."

We're trying to get this set up. Just stay calm."

When the gunfire showed no sign of letting up, a veteran officer cut through the reports of the wounded with a harsh reminder.

"Hey, we can't worry about victims," he said. "We need to stop the shooter before we have more victims. Anybody have eyes on the shooter?"

It's a difficult message, but a shooter can kill victims faster than medics and police can save them, said Charles "Sid" Heal, a retired Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department commander who reviewed the Las Vegas audio.

"It is very tough to step over a body or wounded person, but the shooter has to have priority," Heal said.

The gunman's position made killing him from the ground almost impossible, experts say, and an attack launched by air too dangerous.

Instead, police officers who had been working another event at the Mandalay Bay began searching the hotel floor by floor, accompanied by hotel security guards and the tempo of gunfire.

They knew they needed to move quickly to find the gunman, or the shooting could continue for hours.

Mass shootings in Orlando, Fla., and Columbine, Colo., have shown "that even a small police response will stop the suspect's actions," Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said Tuesday. "Officers on their own, without direction from a supervisor, knew what they had to do."

Still, they faced a daunting task: 43 floors and 3,309 rooms to search.

Tips from hotel guests and the officers' observations soon narrowed the field. Police and guards fanned out to sweep the 29th, 30th, 31st and 32nd floors.

At the time, officers feared there were at least two armed suspects in the hotel, and maybe more.

"It is not unusual in these situations for officers to see the potential for multiple suspects with multiple vehicles," said John Incontro, the former Los Angeles Police Department SWAT captain and the police chief in San Marino.

U.S. Army veteran Chris Bethel heard the crack of gunfire echo through the hotel from his room on the 30th floor. He could tell that the shots were coming from nearby and that the shooter was changing weapons and changing calibers.

He called 911 and the hotel front desk, to no response, then tried the police again, telling them to try the 32nd floor, he told CBS-DFW.

Moments before police arrived at Paddock's room, a Mandalay Bay security guard approached the door, McMahill said. The gunman fired through the door at least twice and struck the guard in the leg.

"He was acting independently," Lombardo said. "He got separated from our team."

Police would later determine that Paddock had installed two security cameras outside the room and one peering out through the room's peephole, giving him the ability to see the guard coming down the hall.

The guard directed police to the room. At 10:23 p.m., an officer said over the radio: "I'm on the 32nd floor. The room is going to be 135."

By then, Paddock had stopped shooting. Investigators believe he had been firing off and on for nine to 11 minutes, McMahill said.

It is unclear why Paddock stopped shooting – and the fact that he did took a few minutes to register with harried officers.

"It's been a while since we've heard any shots," an officer said about 12 minutes after the attack began. "Does anybody have eyes on the shooter?"

Officers decided he was no longer an active shooter, and decided not to enter the room immediately, McMahill said.

Pinpointing the location of a gunman that quickly is "very, very good work," Heal said. "The behavior changes when they become the prey, not the predator."

Police feared there could be another gunman roaming the hotel. Officers and guards moved through the hotel, evacuating guests and clearing the way for SWAT teams to arrive.

Officers descended on movie theaters, casino floors and the Sports Book Grill, hoping to protect tourists and

gamblers from another attack.

"Be advised, we're getting multiple calls about shooters at multiple locations," a dispatcher said at 11:15 p.m. Pedestrians on the Strip described an older white man in fatigues with a black bag hiding in a mobile home at a Motel 6. Tourists at the New York-New York and Tropicana hotels reported hearing shots. All those reports were false.

It's common for anyone under fire to report "shadow or ghost sightings," Heal said.

Witnesses can see anyone with a gun – including a police officer – as a possible shooter, he said, adding to the confusion.

By then, two SWAT teams had gathered at the valet stand at Mandalay Bay, and a third was headed upstairs. As the officers converged in the 32nd floor, they heard no sound from Paddock's room. A SWAT officer switched on his radio.

"We're gonna sit on the suspect's door," he said. "I need everybody in that hallway to be aware of it and get back. We need to pop this and see if we can get any type of response from this guy."

Five seconds passed. Then, one officer radioed, "Breach, breach, breach!" and an explosion rattled the hallway.

Five minutes later, a SWAT officer turned on his radio to report that Paddock was dead in his room. He is believed to have committed suicide before officers entered, but the timing of his death is still unclear.

"There is one down," the officer said. "One suspect down in 135, floor 32, Mandalay Bay. I have the floor."

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Times staff writer Cindy Carcamo in Las Vegas contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: THE ENTRANCE to Stephen Paddock's suite on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay hotel. A SWAT team blew open the door Sunday night. Paddock had placed cameras inside and out to watch for police.

NATION, A9

PHOTOGRAPHER: Bild Exclusive / Polaris

PHOTO: INVESTIGATORS CONVERGE at the site of the mass shooting in Las Vegas. On Sunday night, police zeroed in on the source of the gunshots within minutes.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcio Jose Sanchez Associated Press

P: GRAPHIC: 72 minutes of terror in Las Vegas

CREDIT: Chris Keller Los Angeles Times

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## LINKS

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; 'I'll drag you if I have to'; Survivors recount terror, heroism and lifesaving help from friends and strangers.

Carcamo, Cindy; Tchekmedyan, Alene; Mather, Kate; Winton, Richard . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Oct 2017: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

As the gunshots echoed and people began to drop around her, Carmen Alegria was certain her time was up. "We're going to die here," the 41-year-old social worker thought. "We're going to die."

A gunman holed up on the 32nd floor of the nearby Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino tower was spraying a crowd of thousands of country music fans with bullets, killing nearly 60 people and wounding hundreds more.

Many, who like Alegria traveled to the Route 91 Harvest Festival from California, emerged with incredible tales of courage and survival.

Strangers ripped off their clothes to apply makeshift tourniquets to gunshot wounds. At least one was grazed by a bullet while giving someone CPR. Others drove through the gunfire, filling the beds of their trucks with bloodied victims they took to hospitals. Some threw themselves in front of loved ones, trying to save their lives and, in at least one case, losing their own.

Survivors from California spoke out this week, some from hospital beds awaiting or recovering from surgery, and shared details of their harrowing escapes.

"All I could describe it as was a war zone," said John Kline, an officer with the Los Angeles Police Department who was on his third trip to the annual concert. "There were people covered in blood."

Soon after the gunfire started, Alegria, the social worker from Shafter, saw her best friend fall to the ground, shot in her left shoulder.

Alegria tore off the festival shirt she'd bought the day before and pressed it against Angelica Soto's wound.

Seconds later, Alegria was shot in her left knee. She was bleeding badly. Bullets continued to fly. She was terrified. But the women – who call themselves sisters – pulled each other up, held hands and ran, taking cover behind vendor carts until they made it to a dirt lot where they hunkered behind vehicles with others.

"Are you guys OK?" a woman asked. "I'm a nurse."

She checked Soto and told her it was just a flesh wound. She'd be OK. Alegria's knee – gushing blood – was much worse, the nurse said. A man took off his shirt and wrapped it around her wound.

The gunfire continued as concertgoers hid behind metal bleachers and Las Vegas police officers shielded others with their own bodies.

"We have to get out of here," Soto told Alegria.

By this time, the pain from Alegria's knee was registering. "I don't think I can run," Alegria answered. Later she would learn that both her tibia and femur were fractured.

Soto grabbed her hand.

"Come on, girl. I'll drag you if I have to," Soto told her.

Alegria hobbled as fast as she could to a nearby street, where a man who looked to be in his early 20s pulled up in a gray pickup.

"Who's hurt? Who's hurt?" the man yelled.

"We've been shot," Alegria and Soto responded.

Two men lifted them onto the bed of the truck. "Oh my God. We're safe," Alegria thought to herself.

Then more gunfire.

The women scooted closer to the truck's cab and hid their heads under an attached toolbox.

Soto recited the rosary in Spanish. Alegria did the same in English. The women held on to each other as the driver stopped several times to pick up more people.

Men grabbed the injured and lifted them into the bed of the truck. "Bodies were literally being tossed on top of us," Alegria said.

With more than half a dozen people in its bed, the truck sped toward Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center. The sound of gunfire finally began to fade.

About the same time, a couple from Chino heard the gunfire and ran. In cowboy boots, Jessica Leonard kept stumbling over abandoned shirts, purses and hats.

For a moment, she and her fiancé, Anthony Crisci, took cover behind a metal cooler the size of a bathtub.

When bullets struck the cooler, it was time to move again.

Eventually, Crisci realized he'd been shot. He was bleeding badly from his left thigh. Leonard was hit too, just above her right rear pocket. Her phone was coated in blood.

Crisci called his parents, just in case he didn't make it out alive.

"Pop. A terrorist is in Vegas. I've been shot," he told his father, Tony Crisci, who lives in Chino Hills.

When he could no longer stand, he crawled. When he could no longer crawl, Leonard dragged him by his arms and - with the help of two strangers - made it to the street.

A red pickup pulled up. Leonard climbed in the cab as strangers lifted Crisci into the pickup bed that held at least 15 others. Most were injured. One, a woman with curly brown hair, was dead.

Crisci's legs dangled out the tailgate as the truck careened down side streets, the horn blaring as they blew through intersections on the way to Desert Springs Hospital Medical Center.

When they got there, blood was smeared in the emergency room lobby. Patients were lying on the floor. Some had gunshot wounds to their faces. Others to the chest, stomach and legs.

The couple are expected to recover. But the events keep replaying in Leonard's mind. And Crisci keeps seeing the dead woman in the pickup.

-

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Carcamo and Mather reported from Las Vegas, Tchekmedyian and Winton from Los Angeles.

Caption: PHOTO: CARMEN ALEGRIA, who was shot as she attended to her wounded friend, relives their harrowing escape in a stranger's truck. With her at the hospital are Danny Alegria, left, Evan Algeria and Lucy Alegria.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

PHOTO: MANHATTAN BEACH Police Chief Eve Irvine, left, consoles police employee Sayeh Kahn after a news conference on the death of police records technician Rachael Parker. Many of the people attending the Route 91 Harvest Festival were from California.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Wally Skalij Los Angeles Times

PHOTO: CARMEN ALEGRIA, fleeing with her friend, hobbled to safety after being shot in the knee.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Photographers; Women; Social workers; Festivals
<b>Location:</b>	California
<b>People:</b>	Kline, John
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Police Department-Los Angeles CA; NAICS: 922120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS ASSAULTS CRIME VICTIMS HEROISM
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<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 4, 2017
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<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTINGS; Science is shot down; CDC can't fund gun violence studies due to NRA

Lopez, Steve . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Oct 2017: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Garen Wintemute, an emergency room doctor in Davis, Calif., knows there's only so much he can do to prevent a gunshot victim from dying.

"To be good doctors, we have to prevent people from being shot in the first place," said Wintemute, who runs the Violence Prevention Research Program at UC Davis. "Once they're shot, our options are really limited."

In the 1980s, Wintemute began studying gun violence as a national public health crisis. Who were the victims and were there demographic patterns? What could be learned about the shooters, and were there risk factors that might help predict -- and prevent -- violence?

Once upon a time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention did just that kind of research, and Wintemute was one of the docs on the team. But when one CDC study suggested that having firearms in the home increased the risk of homicide, the National Rifle Assn. took aim. Funding for violence research was eliminated, and subsequent legislation forbade the CDC from spending money to "advocate or promote gun control."

Today, after countless mass killings and a daily toll of about 90 deaths from firearms, many involving suicide, the CDC is still out of the game.

"I'm a scientist, and I believe knowledge is power, and I believe sound public policy should be based on sound scientific evidence," Wintemute said. "Because the research was shut down, we don't know more than we knew 20 years ago."

That's because over the course of those two decades, the NRA's grip on Washington has only tightened.

To be honest about it, as much as we'd like to believe there's a way to peer into the mind of every potential killer, no amount of research will make it possible to intervene in every instance.

We'd all like to know if it was rage, or revenge, or mental illness that motivated the Las Vegas shooter, Stephen Paddock, to take aim at a crowd of innocent people.

We'd like to believe there's a truth to be learned, something about the human psyche that can be added to the watch list, so we can send our kids to school or go to a concert without fear.

Unfortunately, it's complicated stuff because the mind is so mysterious and no two shooter profiles are the same.

"I still think these are almost impossible to predict," said Dr. Jeffrey Swanson, professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Duke University. "Mass shooters are all different, but they're usually young men, which was not the case here, who tend to be alienated and isolated and maybe emotionally troubled. They have access to guns and they get access to the cultural script that if you go out and do a mass shooting, you will be a notorious antihero."

The problem with profiling, Swanson said, is that there are "tens of thousands of angry, alienated, screwed-up young men who are never going to do this."

Swanson said his research indicates that just 4% of violence in the United States is attributable to mental illness. Although there's a need for more mental health service, Swanson said, untreated mental illness and gun violence are two different issues that get conflated when there's a mass shooting.

We also tend to forget that despite a disturbing number of mass shootings, the vast majority of firearm deaths occur daily, usually without much attention. If the goal is to reduce gun violence, Swanson said, a keener understanding of behavior patterns and risk factors can help build a case for smarter gun laws.

"We know that violence is the best predictor of future violence -- a better predictor than mental illness," Swanson said. But in many states, he said, you can purchase a gun even if you have a violent misdemeanor conviction or a temporary restraining order against you.

Swanson lauded California's response to the 2014 rampage in Isla Vista, where six people were killed and a dozen injured by a man who then killed himself. A new law allowed family members or police to seek a court order to temporarily remove weapons from someone exhibiting risky, unstable behavior.

UC Davis' Wintemute said he is not studying the mind, but combinations of risk factors. Although mental illness alone is not a big predictor of violence, he said, it's worth knowing if the likelihood rises among people who have a history of alcohol or drug addiction and some form of mental illness along with a history of violence.

More than three dozen weapons were found in the Vegas shooter's hotel room and home, which poses another

possible research question.

"If someone has a large amount of guns, or purchases several in a short time span, is there an increased risk for violence?" Wintemute asked.

In the absence of national leadership, the UC Davis program – formed over the last year or so – became the first state-funded violence research center in the country. Wintemute said he wants to compile basic statistics on firearm violence and better understand who owns guns, who doesn't, and what the effect of violence is on individuals and communities.

His team is now working with state and federal justice departments on a program involving people who legally purchased firearms in California but then became prohibited from possession because of crimes, restraining orders or psychiatric emergencies. The guns are being confiscated, and the UC Davis center is studying the effect on future crimes, as compared with communities where there is no such gun-confiscation program.

Additional research is underway on the effectiveness of background checks and restraining orders in preventing violence. Wintemute said he has personally donated \$2 million to the cause. But this issue has to be studied in depth at the national level, he argued, because the federal government has "resources the states simply don't have."

We have more than 300 million guns in civilian hands, he said, with firearms taking more than 90 lives daily. No one would have suggested we stop researching heart disease or cancer or motor vehicle injuries.

"I ran a research study in the '90s that was shut down when the CDC took funding away," Wintemute said. "My personal belief is that thousands of preventable deaths have occurred over the last 20 years because the science didn't get done."

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Caption: PHOTO: AFTER the mass shooting in Las Vegas, personal items lie at the scene. Gun violence research might save lives, but the NRA blocks national studies.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Studies; Prevention; Restraining orders; Risk factors; Mental disorders; Violence; Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations; Massacres; Confiscation; Firearms; Disease control
<b>Location:</b>	California
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Duke University; NAICS: 611310; Name: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention–CDC; NAICS: 923120
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<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 4, 2017
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Gunman apparently planned 'extensively'; The ex-federal worker altered several rifles and used security cameras to watch for cops, investigators say.

Pearce, Matt; Carcamo, Cindy; Sahagun, Louis; Mather, Kate . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Oct 2017: A.9.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The gunman who attacked a Las Vegas country music festival installed cameras outside his hotel room, including at least one in a room service cart, to watch for approaching police officers as he carried out his rampage, officials said Tuesday.

They still haven't offered a motive for why Stephen Paddock, 64, of Mesquite, Nev., a gambling aficionado and real estate investor, opened fire at a concert across the street from the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino on Sunday night, killing 59 people and injuring more than 500 others.

But additional information obtained by investigators revealed the extent to which Paddock, who owned dozens of guns, apparently "preplanned extensively" for the attack, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said.

Before the attack, Paddock placed two cameras outside his suite and one inside, on the peephole of his door, to watch for approaching police, authorities said.

New details emerged Tuesday about Paddock, who according to federal records held a series of federal jobs over the years. He was a post office letter carrier in the 1970s, and after graduating from Cal State Northridge with a degree in business administration in 1977, he became an agent for the Internal Revenue Service, a job he held from 1978 to 1984. He then was employed as an auditor for the Defense Contract Audit Agency for a little over a year, federal personnel records showed.

Inspection of the weapons found at the scene of the shooting showed that at least 14 of the firearms had been legally modified with "bump stock" accessories that allow a shooter to fire rounds at a rapid pace, according to Jill A. Snyder, the special agent in charge of the San Francisco division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Paddock owned at least 47 guns purchased in Nevada, Utah, California and Texas, and he brought at least 23 weapons, mostly rifles, to his hotel room, officials said.

Lombardo said authorities were hoping to talk soon with Paddock's girlfriend, Marilou Danley, who has been in the Philippines.

A federal law enforcement official said investigators had discovered significant recent bank transfers to an account in the Philippines belonging to Danley. The Clark County Sheriff's Department said the FBI had filed a subpoena for financial records to trace Paddock's money.

Paddock had a history of berating his girlfriend publicly, according to baristas at the Starbucks inside the Virgin River Casino in Mesquite, where the couple were frequent customers.

"It happened a lot," Esperanza Mendoza, supervisor of the Starbucks, said Tuesday.

Paddock's abuse would come when Danley asked to use his casino card to make the purchase, Mendoza said. The card enables gamblers to use credits earned on electronic gambling machines to pay for souvenirs or food at the casino.

"He would glare down at her and say -- with a mean attitude -- 'You don't need my casino card for this. I'm paying for your drink, just like I'm paying for you.' Then she would softly say, 'OK' and step back behind him. He was so rude to her in front of us."

In addition to raiding the couple's home in Mesquite, police also raided their home in a retirement community in the rolling foothills outside Reno. Investigators recovered five handguns, two shotguns and ammunition there.

Neighbor Susan Page, a retired financial analyst, rarely saw the couple. She said Paddock left the house for good sometime near the middle of August. She last saw Danley a week later, she said. Danley was packing up her car, piling things on the roof.

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Pearce reported from Los Angeles, Carcamo from Las Vegas, Sahagun from Mesquite, Nev., and Mather from Reno. Richard Winton contributed to this report from Los Angeles.

Caption: GRAPHIC: How a bump-fire works

CREDIT:Swetha Kannan Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Cameras; Defense contracts; Gaming machines; Casinos; Firearms; Legalized gambling
<b>Location:</b>	Texas Philippines California Los Angeles California Nevada Utah
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Starbucks Corp; NAICS: 722515; Name: Internal Revenue Service--IRS; NAICS: 921130; Name: Defense Contract Audit Agency; NAICS: 921190; Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; The shows go on amid the grief; Tourists still fill the casinos in Las Vegas; others are in town to be with or mourn shooting victims.

Branson-Potts, Hailey; Hamilton, Matt . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]04 Oct 2017: A.9.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The electronic billboard at the MGM Grand on the Las Vegas Strip flashed a somber message:

"For help locating missing or injured loved ones contact Las Vegas Metro Police 1-800-536-9488."

Beside that announcement loomed an advertisement for illusionist David Copperfield. "Alter your reality," it reads. Las Vegas is a city in mourning, but Vegas being Vegas, sorrow takes a seat beside glamour. This desert playground is now a city of contrasts, where the cacophony of slot machines still echoes in the casinos even as people come to claim the dead.

The Strip was uncharacteristically quiet Tuesday -- save for the screams coming from the roller coaster at New York-New York Hotel and Casino.

At a prayer vigil at City Hall the night before, Nevada state Sen. Aaron Ford (D-Las Vegas) said he saw lines of people, stretching around the block, waiting to donate blood. At one packed site, a spot was set aside for Lyft and Uber drop-offs to accommodate so many donors.

"Our city of lights, in our hour of darkness, still shines," Ford said.

For most of the day Tuesday, a stretch of the famous Las Vegas Boulevard had remained closed two days after Stephen Paddock opened fire on the Route 91 Harvest Festival from his room on the 32nd floor in the Mandalay Bay hotel across the street, killing 59 people and injured more than 500 others.

At Reno Avenue and Las Vegas Boulevard, next to the concert grounds, the world's media had set up shop. So many television cameras lined the sidewalk that it was impassable.

Chaplains stood on the pedestrian bridge between the Tropicana and Excalibur hotels, where people speaking different languages posed for selfies with the faux New York skyline behind them and snapped photos of the broken windows on the 32nd floor of Mandalay Bay.

One woman stopped her husband as they walked across the bridge, turning toward the hotel's gold tower.

"Oh," she said. "That's what I should take a picture of."

Gail Ferguson, 60, flew to Las Vegas from Orting, Wash., late Monday to be with her 33-year-old son, who was wounded in the leg in the shooting.

On Tuesday, Ferguson and her husband called MGM, which put them up in the Bellagio. Inside the cavernous hotel lobby were throngs of tourists.

"I said, 'This is too much for me,'" she recalled. "I'm staring at people, going, 'They are all so happy.'"

The Bellagio provided Ferguson and her husband a limousine to chauffeur them to and from the hospital. It was

appreciated but didn't offer relief.

"This is a place where you come and forget about your life and have fun," she said. "This isn't fun."

Daniel Snell, whose daughter was shot in the thigh and suffered a fractured femur, left Sunrise Hospital late Monday and returned to the South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa. Snell, 58, of Laguna Niguel was struck by the abrupt change in environment from hospital to casino. At South Point, everyone was drinking and gambling. The scene left him numb.

"I didn't feel anything," he said. "People can't feel my pain, or anybody else's pain."

Snell's daughter -- who attended the festival with three friends, one of whom was shot in the back -- underwent surgery Monday afternoon and was expected to be discharged in a few days.

Jostling between the sober hospital and the boozy casino, Snell said, he realized "life has to go on."

And yet, Las Vegas residents overwhelmingly want to help out. So many donations of food and water and clothing have poured in that they are being rerouted. Billboards throughout the city urge you to pray for Las Vegas.

In an interview, Mayor Carolyn Goodman said that although Las Vegas is devastated by the loss of life, it is "pulling together because we're trying to build a world-class city." She didn't mince words about the shooter: "His soul should rot in hell."

Goodman was not surprised that tourists were still filling the casinos. "We're a No. 1 convention center for 24 years in a row," she said. "There's great pride here. Everyone's hearts and minds are so saddened by this."

On Tuesday afternoon, the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority put out a news release saying the "resort community" would use billboards to display a "message of strength and gratitude."

"We've been there for you during the good times. Thank you for being there for us now," the billboards would read.

A few miles north of the shooting site, outside the Las Vegas Festival Grounds, a memorial grew: candles, flowers, teddy bears.

Anthony Dominguez, 17, who has lived his whole life in Las Vegas, brought a white candle from home and a Station Casinos matchbook. Two friends of friends were killed in the shooting, the quiet teenager said.

On Monday, his sister had posted a video on Snapchat from the normally busy Fashion Show Mall, where she works. There were no customers.

David and Sarah Grunder, tourists from Switzerland, tied an American flag to a fence.

"We're thinking about all the victims," David said, on the verge of tears.

They were here for their honeymoon. Then they rushed away, trying to avoid the television cameras.

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Times staff writer Kate Mather contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: (A1) MOURNING THE VICTIMS: Las Vegas is a city in mourning, but Vegas being Vegas, sorrow takes a seat beside glamour as the shows and casinos go on.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

PHOTO: CONNIE LANE of Las Vegas holds her daughter Celestial Olave in a city park during a prayer vigil for the victims of the mass shooting.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

PHOTO: DESTINY ALBERS weeps at a makeshift memorial at Las Vegas Boulevard and Reno Avenue. She attended the concert Sunday and one of her friends was killed.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Grief; Photographers; Mass murders; Casinos; Hotels & motels; Gaming machines; Festivals
<b>Location:</b>	Nevada New York
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<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 4, 2017
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# BACK STORY; Entertainment turns tragic; A look at concerts and other events taken over by deadly violence

Publication info: Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: A.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Las Vegas' Route 91 Harvest country music festival was tragically cut short Sunday night when a gunman opened fire on the crowd, killing 58 people and wounding nearly 500 others. The attack took place during the headlining set by Jason Aldean, who later called the events "beyond horrific."

The incident was only the most recent in a long line of attacks and mass murders perpetrated at live events and theaters, from the disorder and death at a Northern California rock festival to the recent bombing of a British pop concert.

Dec. 6, 1969

### Altamont Speedway chaos

A hastily organized outdoor concert headlined by the Rolling Stones and taking place 50 miles east of San Francisco descended into chaos amid overdoses, accidents and violence. The melee reached a peak when a concert attendee named Meredith Hunter drew a gun and was stabbed to death near the stage by members of the Hells Angels, who were hired as the event's security. The killing was captured on film and included in the 1970 documentary "Gimme Shelter." Several other fatal incidents were reported, with one concertgoer drowning in a canal and two more dying after being run over by a car.

Oct. 23, 2002

### Moscow theater hostage crisis

During a sold-out performance of the musical "Nord-Ost," the Dubrovka Theater was seized by more than 40 armed Chechen separatists, led by Movsar Barayev, who were demanding Russia's withdrawal from Chechnya. The attackers took 850 hostages and killed two of them after two days. On the fourth day of the standoff, Russian special forces pumped an unidentified gas into the theater's ventilation system, which ended up killing all of the attackers but also killed 130 of the hostages.

Dec. 8, 2004

### Alrosa Villa nightclub shooting

Grammy-nominated guitarist and former Pantera member "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott was one of five people killed when an ex-Marine named Nathan Gale jumped onstage and began firing during a performance by Abbot's band, Damageplan, at a Columbus, Ohio, nightclub. Police shot and killed Gale at the scene.

July 20, 2012

### "The Dark Knight Rises" shooting

During a midnight showing of the third film in Christopher Nolan's Batman trilogy at a theater in Aurora, Colo., a heavily armed shooter named James E. Holmes killed 12 theatergoers and wounded 70 others. Holmes was captured and is serving 12 consecutive life sentences plus 3,318 years without the possibility of parole. At the trial, his defense team unsuccessfully argued that he had been "floridly psychotic."

July 23, 2015

### "Trainwreck" shooting

Partway through a showing of the Amy Schumer comedy "Trainwreck" in a Lafayette, La., movie theater, John Russell Houser stood up and opened fire on the crowd with a semiautomatic handgun, killing two people and injuring nine. After an aborted escape attempt, Houser returned to the theater and committed suicide.

Nov. 13, 2015

#### Paris attacks

More than 130 people were killed and hundreds injured in a series of shootings and explosions in Paris. The Bataclan concert hall, where California band Eagles of Death Metal was performing, served as the attack's epicenter. Two of the gunmen committed suicide at the scene, while a third was later killed by police.

June 10, 2016

#### Christina Grimmie murder

Christina Grimmie, a former contestant on NBC's "The Voice," was shot and killed during a post-concert meet-and-greet with fans in Orlando, Fla. Grimmie was shot about 10:30 p.m. and pronounced dead after midnight. The gunman, identified as Kevin James Loibl, killed himself at the scene.

June 12, 2016

#### Pulse nightclub shooting

A heavily armed gunman who had reportedly pledged allegiance to Islamic State stormed into the packed gay nightclub Pulse in Orlando, Fla., and began firing into the crowd, killing 49 people and wounding 53 others. The attacker, Omar Mateen, was killed by police.

May 22, 2017

#### Manchester Arena bombing

Twenty-two people were killed and more than 59 others were injured in an explosion at an Ariana Grande concert in Manchester, England, that police said was caused by Salman Abedi, a suicide bomber carrying an improvised explosive device.

Oct. 1, 2017

#### Route 91 Harvest Festival attack

Fifty-eight people were killed and nearly 500 others injured when a gunman opened fire at a country music festival opposite the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino on the Las Vegas Strip, authorities said.

The gunman, 64-year-old Stephen Paddock, a resident of Mesquite, Nev., killed himself in his hotel room, authorities said.

Caption: PHOTO: CONCERTGOERS scramble for shelter during the shooting at Las Vegas' Route 91 Harvest music festival.

PHOTOGRAPHER:David Becker Getty Images

PHOTO:THOUSANDS GATHER to honor those killed during the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando, Fla., in 2016.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Carolyn Cole Los Angeles Times

PHOTO:IN 2012, a passerby in Moscow looks at the faces of some of those killed at the Dubrovka Theater in 2002.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Yuri Kadobnov AFP/Getty Images

PHOTO:IN AURORA, Colo., a memorial grows for moviegoers killed during "The Dark Knight Rises" in 2012.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Joe Raedle Getty Images

Credit: By Times Staff Writers

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Suicide bombings; Stabbings; Shootings; Hostages

**Location:** Russia Ohio Northern California California Las Vegas Nevada San Francisco  
California

<b>People:</b>	Aldean, Jason Schumer, Amy Nolan, Christopher
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Hells Angels; NAICS: 813410; Name: Rolling Stones; NAICS: 711130
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<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
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<b>Section:</b>	Main News; Part A; Entertainment Desk
<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Interactive, LLC
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<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 5, 2017
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<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# Iger slams gun violence after Vegas carnage; America must face its problem, Disney chief

# says. One employee was killed in massacre.

James, Meg . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: C.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Walt Disney Co. Chief Executive Bob Iger took the unusual step of wading into political waters after the Las Vegas gun massacre that killed at least 59 people and left more than 500 injured.

The chief of the Burbank entertainment giant, speaking Tuesday at Vanity Fair's new establishment summit in Beverly Hills, said Disney executives spent the bulk of Monday sorting out which of its many employees were in Las Vegas over the weekend, and who might have been in harm's way.

About 70 employees were in Las Vegas, with many of them attending the country music concert that the shooter targeted. One Disney employee was killed and a handful were injured.

America must face its problem with gun violence, he said, citing the long list of mass shootings in the United States, including the 2012 Sandy Hook school shooting in Newtown, Conn., and last year's Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando, Fla. Those shootings prompted little in the way of legislation.

"These are incidents that touch everybody," Iger said. "Where is the outrage here? This is a huge crisis for our country. We should demand a dialogue about this from our politicians."

Iger also talked business, saying Disney did consider buying the social media platform Twitter last year, but ended up acquiring Bantech instead. The company plans to use the platform, which will be renamed, to launch an ESPN-branded streaming service next year and a Disney entertainment platform in 2019. Disney movies will be fed to the new service after their runs in theaters.

Vanity Fair staff writer Nick Bilton tried to coax Iger into a discussion about President Trump, but Iger just smiled. Iger resigned from Trump's panel of corporate leaders this year after the president announced that he was withdrawing the United States from the Paris climate accord.

Bilton said it took awhile before Trump weighed in on sports, which just happens to be one of Disney's largest businesses.

"I don't think Donald Trump touched sports -- I think sports touched Donald Trump," Iger said, noting that sports is a huge component of American pop culture.

Disney's sports juggernaut has been accused of being too political this year, as conservative fans simmer over ESPN's coverage of NFL players kneeling during the national anthem. Iger said he stands for the national anthem and would prefer that others do as well, but that people have a 1st Amendment right to express themselves. ESPN faced an even bigger backlash after it refused to fire analyst Jemele Hill -- despite calls from the White House to do so -- after she accused Trump of being a white supremacist on Twitter.

Iger said that he personally got involved in the decision about whether to discipline Hill for her comments. (She later apologized for her remark, saying she was expressing her "personal beliefs," and for putting ESPN in a difficult spot.)

Iger said Disney has policies barring employees from making statements that reflect poorly on the company. "Jemele Hill is an ESPN employee, and she can't separate herself from that when she speaks publicly," Iger said. But the company stopped short of reprimanding her.

"We had to take context into account," Iger said. He noted that after the racial clashes in Virginia, many people within ESPN were upset, particularly African Americans, feeling that they have not been afforded the same constitutional protections as white people.

"I have not experienced prejudice, and certainly not racism," Iger said, adding that some employees were

expressing their feelings about experiencing racism.

"We have to take into account what we are seeing in society and how people are feeling," Iger said.

Iger said he plans to retire from Disney in 2019. "This time I mean it," he said.

Many people suspect he might be looking for a post-Disney career in politics.

Bilton asked the audience at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts if they would support an Iger campaign. The crowd applauded.

"That sounds tepid -- so maybe that's a sign," Iger said. "And my wife is out there somewhere and I can guarantee that she's not cheering.... I will figure it out when I have to figure it out."

—

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Social networks; Political campaigns; Chief executive officers; Shootings; Racism; Mass murders; Employees
<b>Location:</b>	United States--US Las Vegas Nevada
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: National Football League--NFL; NAICS: 711211, 813990; Name: Walt Disney Co; NAICS: 512110, 515120, 711211, 713110
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	IGER, ROBERT WALT DISNEY CO EMPLOYEES LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS CRIME VICTIMS POLITICAL ACTIVISM
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Interactive, LLC
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; On guns, Nevada's not Wild West; State had been warming to new limits before Sunday's attack. Now what?

Vives, Ruben; Lee, Kurtis . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: A.8.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

As Linda Green stood behind police tape and gazed at the Mandalay Bay hotel, she thought about the months ahead – the sadness, the healing, the push for gun control legislation.

"This event will change everything," said the 72-year-old retiree and longtime resident of Las Vegas. "Once everything settles, I think we will revisit this gun control thing."

Even before a gunman opened fire from the 32nd floor of the hotel onto an outdoor country music festival, killing at least 58 people and leaving nearly 500 injured, Nevadans were accustomed to political battles over gun control. The state allows open carrying of firearms and honors concealed weapon permits from nearly two dozen states. But in recent years, as proposed gun restrictions have fizzled in Congress, residents here have been receptive to state legislation imposing certain limitations. This sets Nevada apart from some of its Western neighbors – including Arizona, Utah, Idaho – where 2nd Amendment rights are rarely challenged.

Tick Segerblom, a 69-year-old Democratic state senator and third-generation Nevadan, attributes this to an influx of Latino and college-educated voters that has pushed the electorate to the left. Nevada voted Democratic in the last three presidential elections, and last year voted to legalize marijuana.

"The state has always been kind of bipolar – a mix of California blue and Utah red," said Segerblom, whose district spans portions of Las Vegas. "When it comes to gun control, the state is moving more to the left, but there are still plenty of concerns from some, mostly conservatives."

The state entered the crosshairs of the debate over gun control last year with a ballot initiative known as Question 1, which sought to do what federal law has not: require background checks for people buying guns from private

sellers.

The initiative passed 50.4% to 49.5%, despite a multimillion-dollar campaign by the National Rifle Assn. to defeat it. But the law, which was to take effect Jan. 1 of this year, hit a roadblock.

The law called for buyers to be screened through the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System. But in December, the FBI said it would not conduct the checks and that Nevada could not tell the federal government how to use its resources.

Two weeks after Nevada was informed of the decision, state Atty. Gen. Adam Laxalt said the measure could not take effect without federal cooperation.

"Citizens may not be prosecuted for their inability to comply with the act unless and until the FBI changes its public position and agrees to conduct the background checks consistent with the act," the Republican wrote. Last week, supporters of the law said they planned to file a lawsuit on Oct. 9 aimed at forcing Nevada to begin implementing the law.

The push for gun control in Nevada mirrors similar efforts in Colorado, Connecticut and California, which in the wake of failed federal legislation have passed laws placing limits on the size of ammunition magazines and beefed-up background checks.

"As these shootings happen, more and more states will be forced to act," said Segerblom, who supported Question 1. "This shooting should wake up politicians here who are opposed to stronger laws."

The gunman in Sunday's shooting at the Mandalay Bay, 64-year-old Stephen Paddock, bought the guns he used legally, passing the required background checks, according to law enforcement officials.

In interviews in Las Vegas on Tuesday, several people said that expanding background checks wouldn't hurt, but it wouldn't help either.

"You can only do so much," said Ryan Taylor, 21, outside the American Shooters gun range, a 15-minute drive from Mandalay Bay. "It's not about gun control. At the end of the day a person is going to do what they're going to do." He added: "It's the people that don't follow the rules and events like the recent one that give guns and gun owners a bad name."

Back on the Strip, where dozens of TV reporters were doing live shots, Michael Ooley, 64, who has lived in Las Vegas for 27 years, seemed resigned to the idea that more shootings were inevitable. He pointed to Chicago as an example of a place where strict gun laws have failed to curb violence.

"It's an example of more regulation and more regulation and nothing gets accomplished," he said.

Even Green, who voted for Question 1 and believes the timing is right for more legislation, expressed ambiguity about whether laws could stop the killing.

"I know some cultures removed guns and people use knives or machetes," she said. "If someone is going to kill somebody, they're going to do it."

"There's just no clear answer," she said.

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Caption: PHOTO: A MEMORIAL for shooting victims in Las Vegas. Nevada last year passed an initiative requiring background checks for people buying guns from private sellers. The National Rifle Assn. spent millions trying to defeat it.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Background checks; Drug legalization; Legislation; Firearm laws & regulations; Firearms; Marijuana

<b>Location:</b>	California Idaho Nevada Arizona Utah
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Congress; NAICS: 921120; Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation–FBI; NAICS: 922120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	NEVADA GUN CONTROL POLITICS LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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<b>Section:</b>	Main News; Part A; National Desk
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# NHL; Kings' employee victim of shooting

Zupke, Curtis . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: D.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The Kings will honor employee Christiana Duarte, one of the victims of the mass shooting in Las Vegas, when they open their season Thursday night at Staples Center.

Duarte, a fan service associate in her first year with the team, was killed in the shooting Sunday, the Kings said. She was 22.

"Our organization is overwhelmed with grief over the loss of our colleague Chrissy," Kings President Luc Robitaille said in a statement. "We would like to thank everyone for their outreach, love and support. In just a brief period of time, Chrissy had an immeasurable impact on all of us. We want to make every effort to ensure that everyone knows how special she was and the impact she already had made on so many people."

There will be a pregame ceremony and a moment of silence. Kings players will wear a heart-shaped "CD" sticker on their helmets, and team personnel will wear a pin in her honor.

The Kings also will hold a raffle, with proceeds going toward the Las Vegas Victims' Fund. The team also is asking for contributions to her GoFundMe page, LAKings.com/Chrissy.

"Our hearts go out to Chrissy's family and loved ones and everyone else associated with this horrible act," Kings captain Anze Kopitar said in a release. "As a team it was important for us to contribute in any way possible."

The Kings were touched by tragedy during the Sept. 11 attacks, when a hijacked flight carrying director of pro scouting Garnet "Ace" Bailey and scout Mark Bavis was deliberately crashed into the World Trade Center in New York.

—

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Mass murders
<b>Location:</b>	New York
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: World Trade Center-New York City NY; NAICS: 813910; Name: Staples Center; NAICS: 711310
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LOS ANGELES KINGS (HOCKEY TEAM) EMPLOYEES LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	D.3

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<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1946890990?accountid=7285">http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1946890990?accountid=7285</a>
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 5, 2017
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<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# FIRST PERSON; Life as a 'Dreamer' grows uncertain; For a Times journalist brought here at age 2, a once-distant threat becomes real again

de los Santos, Brian . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: B.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

My parents don't remember exactly when they told me. But I do.

I was 8 or 9 years old. My teacher gave me a pamphlet about a school trip to Washington, D.C.

At dinner that night in my family's Mid-City apartment, I told my parents I really wanted to go and experience my nation's capital. At first, my mother danced around the request, focusing on how much it would cost. But eventually, she grew more serious.

"No tienes un ID para viajar, mijo."

"You don't have an ID to travel, son."

I knew something was off, but I wasn't exactly sure what.

I considered myself American, just like any other kid in my class. I learned U.S. history, bopped along to Snoop Dogg – and, of course, adored a Happy Meal. My parents had often told me I was born in Veracruz, Mexico. But until that night, I'd never given much thought to what that meant.

Knowing that I was in this country without permission from the government changed the way I lived my life – but I have tried not to let it limit me. At times, it has made me cautious and reserved; at other times, brave and ambitious. It's a basic fact, a part of who I am.

The last few years have been marked by highs and lows – when President Obama gave me and other "Dreamers" work permits, when President Trump vowed to take them away and crack down on illegal immigration. What in recent years seemed like a distant threat – losing my job, being sent back to a country I left when I was a toddler – suddenly feels all too real again.

My dad left Mexico first, heading north in hopes of providing a better life for my family. Months later, when I was 2, my mom and I followed. We were reunited around Christmas in 1992.

That night almost 20 years ago when I brought up the class trip, my parents were forced to have the talk with me – the "no tienes papeles" talk.

They told me to stay away from trouble, always obey authorities, be extra careful around police and officials. I wouldn't be able to get a driver's license, might not get a job after high school, couldn't go visit Mexico, couldn't take that school trip.

"Echale ganas en la escuela y Dios provera," my mother said.

"Work hard in school and God will provide."

That was my takeaway from the conversation. And I ran with it.

::

In 2012, I graduated from Cal State Northridge.

Using my Mexican passport, I got on a plane and headed at long last to Washington.

I was there for a journalism fellowship program, reporting on national politics that affected Latinos.

One morning that June, I woke up to a flurry of news and messages about a possible announcement that could change things for immigrants like me.

I had still been in college in 2010, when the Dream Act almost passed the Senate but didn't. I had often felt like people were playing politics with my future.

But not on that day, a day I'll never forget.

That day in the Rose Garden, President Obama spoke about people like me.

"They are Americans in their heart, in their minds, in every single way but one: on paper," he said.

The Department of Homeland Security, he said, would immediately take steps to "lift the shadow of deportation from these young people." We would be able to get work permits and driver's licenses.

I would finally have a shot at a better future here.

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, meant I could continue to pursue journalism, to keep telling stories about those like me: immigrant, Latino and LGBTQ.

Since obtaining my work permit I've worked at NPR, Marketplace, local radio stations and now my hometown paper, the Los Angeles Times. This brown kid from Mexico always dreamed of working at The Times, the paper I

picked up to brush up on the news and complete my middle school current-events assignments.

Now, I am the one helping prepare that news: the San Bernardino terrorist attack, the latest Trump coverage, this week's mass shooting in Las Vegas.

DACA has allowed me to do this.

::

This September, another flurry of tweets and news alerts told me the Trump administration had announced it was ending DACA. I had known it was coming, just not when and how.

It left me as scared, confused and anxious as I had been all those years ago, when my parents broke the news at the dinner table.

Friends and colleagues texted me love letters and pledged their support that day. Some still continue to do so.

Many ask one thing: What are you going to do? I tell them honestly, I don't know.

Thursday is the last day the Department of Homeland Security will accept applications for two-year DACA renewals, unless the president changes his mind or Congress acts to extend the program. I am one of 800,000 people -- nurses, students, journalists -- who benefit from the program.

My paperwork's been filed. For now, I wait and watch -- and follow the old advice that has served me well:

"Echale ganas y Dios provera."

--

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Caption: PHOTO: PROTESTERS march to Echo Park last month in support of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. The Trump administration's move to end the program means Thursday is the last day to submit DACA renewals.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Francine Orr Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Parents &parenting; Presidents; National security; REAL ID Act 2005-US
<b>Location:</b>	Mexico United States--US Washington DC
<b>People:</b>	Snoop Dogg (Calvin Broadus) Obama, Barack
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Department of Homeland Security; NAICS: 922120; Name: Los Angeles Times; NAICS: 511110
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (GOVERNMENT PROGRAM)
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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<b>Section:</b>	California; Part B; Metro Desk
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## LINKS

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# Tillerson says he has no plans to step down

Wilkinson, Tracy . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: A.13.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

In an unusual statement, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson forcefully denied persistent reports Wednesday that he planned to resign over foreign policy differences with President Trump, and instead pledged strong support for the president.

"I have never considered leaving this post," Tillerson told a hastily called news conference at the State Department.

"My commitment to the success of our president and our country is as strong as it was the day I accepted his offer to serve as secretary of State," Tillerson said. "There is much to be done and we're just getting started."

He offered gushing praise for Trump, saying the president "loves his country. He puts Americans and America first. He's smart."

Tillerson has clashed with the White House over climate change and other foreign policy priorities, and his tenure has never appeared secure. Trump publicly undermined him Sunday, tweeting that Tillerson was "wasting his time"

by seeking a diplomatic solution to the standoff with nuclear-armed North Korea.

Speaking at a Las Vegas hospital after visiting survivors of Sunday night's mass shooting, Trump told reporters he was honored by Tillerson's comments. He said: "Total confidence in Rex. I have total confidence."

Tillerson, a former chief executive of Exxon Mobil, said news reports about his differences with Trump were the work of people trying to sow dissension.

Asked about an NBC News report that said Tillerson had called Trump a "moron" at a Pentagon meeting this summer, Tillerson dismissed the question, but did not deny it.

"I mean, this is what I don't understand about Washington," said Tillerson, who is from Texas. "Again, I'm not from this place, but the places I come from, we don't deal with that kind of petty nonsense. And it is intended to do nothing but divide people."

Tillerson did deny part of the same NBC News report that said Vice President Mike Pence had to persuade him not to quit after Trump delivered a partisan political speech to the Boy Scouts Jamboree in July. Tillerson served as national president of the Boy Scouts from 2010 to 2012.

"The vice president has never had to persuade me to remain the secretary of State because I have never considered leaving this post," Tillerson said.

Trump put a positive face on the comments, tweeting shortly after Tillerson finished speaking: "The @NBCNews story has just been totally refuted by Sec. Tillerson and @VP Pence. It is #FakeNews. They should issue an apology to AMERICA!"

Later, State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert denied explicitly that Tillerson had described Trump as a moron. "He does not use that kind of language," she said.

Tillerson, 65, read his statement in the ornate Treaty Room of the State Department and then answered several questions. He listed what he described as successes under the Trump administration, including the gradual defeat of Islamic State and the isolation of North Korea.

It is not the first time Tillerson has had to comment on speculation that he was on his way out over policy differences with Trump.

He opposed Trump's decision to withdraw from the historic Paris climate accord in which countries agreed to goals to reduce global warming carbon emissions. He also opposed Trump's decision to abandon the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement.

He has said Iran is in "technical compliance" with the 2015 nuclear disarmament accord that Trump has called a national embarrassment. Tillerson refused to say Wednesday what he would advise Trump, who faces an Oct. 15 deadline to tell Congress if the deal remains in the U.S. national security interest.

In Beijing on Saturday, Tillerson revealed that the United States had "direct" channels of communication with North Korea. Tillerson had barely landed in Washington early Sunday before Trump undercut him on Twitter.

"I told Rex Tillerson, our wonderful Secretary of State, that he is wasting his time trying to negotiate with Little Rocket Man," Trump tweeted, using his nickname for North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. "Save your energy, Rex. We'll do what has to be done!" Trump added.

Many in the foreign policy community reacted with chagrin to Tillerson's statement Wednesday.

"Like others before him, Tillerson has now given the big boss what he wants: subservience & adoration. Even commented on his intelligence," Michael McFaul, who served as U.S. ambassador to Russia from 2012 to 2014, wrote in a tweet.

Richard Haass, president of the nonpartisan Council on Foreign Relations, tweeted: "Rex Tillerson has been dealt a bad hand by [Trump] & has played it badly. For both reasons he cannot be effective SecState & should resign."

Sen. Bob Corker (R-Tenn.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told reporters that he strongly supported Tillerson, but worried that he "is in an incredibly frustrating place."

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	International relations; Presidents; Nuclear weapons; Climate change; Diplomatic & consular services; Foreign policy
<b>Location:</b>	North Korea Texas United States--US Las Vegas Nevada
<b>People:</b>	Pence, Mike
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Exxon Mobil Corp; NAICS: 211111, 447110; Name: NBC News Channel; NAICS: 515120
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	TILLERSON, REX SECRETARY OF STATE (U.S.) RESIGNATIONS RUMORS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
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<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1946891388?accountid=7285">http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1946891388?accountid=7285</a>
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 5, 2017
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; A frantic but focused rush to save lives; ER crews had seconds to decide which victims might be saved

Hamilton, Matt . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The chatter from a police radio instantly caught the attention of Kevin Menes, the senior doctor on duty Sunday night at one of the busiest emergency rooms in Las Vegas.

"Automatic fire." "Look for the shooter."

As more information came in -- country music concert, Mandalay Bay on the Strip -- his mind started spinning. Menes had rehearsed this scenario in his head.

Four ER doctors and one trauma surgeon were on duty that night at Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center. Menes needed more anesthesiologists, more trauma surgeons, more technicians, more nurses.

He needed more gauze, more chest tubes, more operating rooms left open, more gurneys and wheelchairs lined up in the concrete bay where ambulances would soon be arriving.

He ordered everything he could. It was about 10:30 p.m.

With a nurse at his side, Menes waited outside for the deluge of the fallen, ferried by cars, ambulances, taxis, Ubers and pickups.

He had only seconds to assess each patient. The walking wounded got a green tag. Those seriously injured but who could be stabilized got yellow. Those on the brink of death -- pale complexion, thready pulse -- got red.

In 40 minutes, Menes saw about 150 patients. Maybe 50 of them had red tags.

Menes was needed inside. He turned to the nurse next to him.

"You saw what I've been doing, right?" he said. "I want you to take over and do exactly what I was doing."

::

Paramedic Amber Ratto and her partner were parked in their ambulance outside Southern Hills Hospital when they heard the call.

This can't be happening, 26-year-old Ratto thought.

The pair sped to Russell Road and Las Vegas Boulevard, one of the staging areas for the wounded.

"Can you take a gunshot wound to the abdomen?" a firefighter asked.

Blood streamed from the torso of a 51-year-old man. Ratto opened the ambulance doors, and the man walked in and laid on the gurney.

"Can you take more?" the firefighter asked, pointing to a woman with a gunshot wound to her head.

"Give her to me," Ratto replied, and strapped the woman to a seat.

They left within less than a minute, dodging abandoned cars and fleeing concertgoers as they weaved through

traffic on the six-mile drive to Sunrise.

In the back, Ratto surveyed her patients, a married couple. The man's vitals were declining fast. He was pale, cold and sweaty, and as the seconds passed, increasingly sluggish.

She pressed bandages to his side and taped his wound as hard as she could. His heart slowed, so she put in an IV. Despite the gunshot to the head, the woman was alert and chatty, but possibly inebriated and not listening. Ratto grabbed the woman's face and said: "Stop. Do exactly what I say. Listen to me. I'm trying to stop him from dying."

The ambulance pulled into Sunrise.

"What do you have?" a nurse asked Ratto.

"He needs to go now," she replied. "He's red. He's red."

Ratto and a firefighter who rode in the ambulance with her wheeled the man to the trauma unit.

"He's critical," she told the surgeon.

"I want him now," he replied.

He asked Ratto if she had intubation equipment in her ambulance. She raced outside to retrieve it, then helped intubate the patient.

Next to them was a man who had been shot in the neck. Another bed held a dead body, already covered in a sheet.

Ratto helped the surgeon wheel her patient to the operating room. Her work ended at the operating room door.

Her gurney was returned empty seconds later. Ratto ripped off her bloody gloves and pushed it back to her ambulance. She cleaned the blood off her arms while her partner drove back to pick up more victims.

::

Emergency room protocol generally calls for at least one nurse for every two to four patients.

Now each nurse was monitoring eight patients at a time, sometimes more. From their station, the nurses would look for those who were fading.

"The second they start crashing, I need to know," Menes told them.

Some of the victims wailed. Blood pooled on the floor. Debris from bandages piled up. Housekeeping could not clear the floor fast enough.

With rooms overflowing, Menes and his staff began resuscitating patients in the hallways.

There was no time to order X-rays or conduct other procedures normally used for patients with possible collapsed lungs, which are common in people with gunshot wounds to the chest.

Menes focused on finding bullet holes. That was all that mattered. It barely registered whether the patient was young or old, a man or a woman.

He'd finish with a patient and look up to scan the room.

"Who was critical? Who was crashing?" he'd think.

He knew that the flow of patients was the most important thing. He worried that one might accidentally be overlooked and wind up under a desk and die.

::

It fell to Dr. David MacIntyre and other surgeons to decide who went into an operating room first.

Belly wounds took priority. A bullet to the chest could be stabilized to buy some time. Gunshot wounds to the head sometimes had to wait before getting attention from a neurosurgeon.

All 20 or so beds outside the operating rooms were being used.

Dr. Stephanie Davidson, an anesthesiologist, kept a list of open surgical pods on her hand, conducting traffic.

"A1, D3, B2," she called out. "You can go to B2."

Not everyone who needed surgery made it into an operating room.

The dead went to the makeshift morgue, a gastrointestinal lab adjacent to the suite of operating rooms. FBI staff and forensics agents worked inside, trying to identify the victims by their fingerprints. The doctors would make the phone calls to family.

Several Las Vegas police stood outside the morgue in the hallway, one holding an American flag folded in a

triangle.

One of their colleagues was among the dead.

MacIntyre had to pass the morgue each time he took a new patient to surgery.

At 4 a.m., he grabbed a Coke from the soda machine in the trauma bay, guzzled it and took a minute to breathe. He feared another wave of patients was coming.

::

By daybreak Monday, more than 100 doctors and nurse practitioners at Sunrise had tended to roughly 200 patients, nearly all with gunshot wounds. By Tuesday, 16 had died. Dozens remain in critical condition.

Menes left the hospital around 6 a.m. and stopped by the Las Vegas police command post to see whether any help was needed there. Sleep would come later.

Amid the carnage, 39-year-old Paola Bautista found comfort and levity, despite a gunshot wound to the arm.

"You are alive. You are safe," nurses reminded her and the others. It was a refrain that she could not hear enough.

From her bed, Bautista turned to the man next to her, who was in a wheelchair. He'd had a bullet pierce the back of his skull.

"I don't know how I'm alive," he told her.

—

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Caption: PHOTO: DR. KEVIN MENES was in charge of keeping the ER at Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center running smoothly as victims of Sunday night's mass shooting of concertgoers began pouring in by the dozens.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

PHOTO: SURVIVOR Paola Bautista, 39, of Fontana took comfort the night of the shooting in the regular reassurances of nurses at Sunrise: "You are alive. You are safe."

PHOTOGRAPHER: Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Hospitals; Patients; Emergency medical care; Firefighters; Mass murders; Nurses; Physicians
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Southern Hills Hospital & Medical Center; NAICS: 622110
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# THE DAY IN SPORTS; Jagr, 45, signs with the Flames

Baxter, Kevin . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: D.8.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Jaromir Jagr has signed with the Calgary Flames.

The 45-year-old Jagr agreed to a one-year deal Wednesday for his 24th NHL season -- and first with a Canadian team.

"I already said in a Czech newspaper it's 99.9% that his will be my last season, so I want to get the experience to one day say I played for a Canadian team," Jagr said.

The five-time NHL scoring champion is second behind Wayne Gretzky in NHL history with 1,914 points (765 goals, 1,149 assists).

Jagr has played 1,711 NHL games with Pittsburgh, Washington, New York Rangers, Philadelphia, Dallas, Boston,

New Jersey and Florida and is 57 games from passing Gordie Howe for the most NHL games played (1,767).

Flames assistant general manager Craig Conroy said "everyone was on board" with the signing.

Jagr started his career with Pittsburgh in the 1990-91 season and helped the Penguins win back-to-back Stanley Cups in 1991 and 1992. The Czech star won the Hart Trophy as the NHL's most valuable player in 1999.

Last season, Jagr had 16 goals and 30 assists in 82 games with Florida.

"Everyone compared to my age is a young guy," Jagr said. "Last 20 years I've played with young guys. But the last two years in Florida I played with [Jonathan] Huberdeau and [Aleksander] Barkov and combined their age is still younger than me. It was great for me and hopefully they can say the same thing."

—

In the wake of the deadly shooting in Las Vegas, players for the NHL's fledgling Golden Knights have visited the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department headquarters, United Blood Services and the Las Vegas Convention Center, where a family assistance center has been set up. The team will also acknowledge the victims of the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history and their families at the inaugural home opener, though the franchise is still finalizing details.

"Sports are a great thing, it can help take people's minds off of things," defenseman Nate Schmidt said. "As much as the city has embraced us, we're a part of Las Vegas."

—

ETC.

L.A. stays in the running to be a host for the 2026 World Cup

Los Angeles was among 25 U.S. cities selected as possible host sites for the 2026 World Cup.

The soccer federations of the U.S., Mexico and Canada have joined forces to present a united bid to stage soccer's world championship in the three North American countries, the first time a three-nation bid has been considered by FIFA, the world governing body for international soccer.

Morocco is the only other country to have submitted a rival bid. The winner is expected to be announced in June 2018.

Southern California sites that have received consideration include the Rose Bowl, where the 1994 World Cup final was played; the Coliseum, which has played host to two Olympics; and the football stadium under construction in Inglewood where the Rams and Chargers will play.

— Kevin Baxter

—

An Oklahoma man has been charged with manslaughter almost a year after a collision killed former NFL player Dennis Byrd.

Rogers County court records indicate the charge was filed Wednesday against 18-year-old Zachary Reed of Claremore. The records show a warrant was issued for Reed's arrest but don't indicate whether he is represented by an attorney.

Byrd was 50 when he died Oct. 15 after a two-vehicle crash north of Claremore, a Tulsa suburb. Byrd played for the University of Tulsa and later was a defensive lineman for the New York Jets. A neck injury ended his career in 1992.

—

Justin Thomas was named PGA Tour player of the year after he won a tour-best five victories, his first major at the PGA Championship, set the tour's 72-hole scoring record and captured the FedEx Cup.

—

Legendary runner Joan Benoit Samuelson has withdrawn from the Chicago Marathon because of a knee injury, a race representative said.

Samuelson planned to run Sunday's race in an attempt to become the first woman at least 60 years old to break three hours.

—

Alex Morgan has apologized on social media for an incident at Disney World over the weekend. Morgan, 28, a star for the World Cup-winning U.S. national team who also plays for the Orlando Pride, was among three soccer players kicked out of an Epcot Center restaurant Sunday. Authorities say the players were verbally aggressive with park security and other guests.

"I want to apologize for my actions that occurred over the weekend. I will learn from this [and] make sure it does not happen again," Morgan posted, adding the hashtag "liveandlearn."

Credit: Staff and Wire Reports

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Tournaments & championships; Mass murders; Professional golf; Manslaughter; Soccer; Sports injuries; Professional hockey
<b>Location:</b>	Mexico Pittsburgh Pennsylvania United States--US Canada Southern California New Jersey Florida Las Vegas Nevada Morocco
<b>People:</b>	Howe, Gordie Gretzky, Wayne Conroy, Craig
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Las Vegas Convention Center; NAICS: 531120; Name: New York Rangers; NAICS: 711211; Name: Federation Internationale de Football Association--FIFA; NAICS: 813990; Name: Calgary Flames; NAICS: 711211
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## LINKS

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Girlfriend denies she knew intent of gunman; In her first remarks since the Las Vegas massacre, she recalls Stephen Paddock as 'kind, caring, quiet.'

Pearce, Matt; Vives, Ruben; Winton, Richard . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]05 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The girlfriend of the gunman who killed 58 people at a country music festival in Las Vegas broke her silence Wednesday and denied advance knowledge of the attack, saying that she knew Stephen Paddock as a "kind, caring, quiet" man and that she was devastated by the violence.

As President Trump and the first lady visited victims and first responders in Las Vegas, federal investigators interviewed Marilou Danley in Los Angeles, hoping Paddock's live-in girlfriend might be able to help solve the mystery of why Paddock, 64, opened fire on the festival crowd on Sunday and then killed himself.

But Danley, who was out of the country at the time of the attack, said Wednesday that she was just as clueless. "He never said anything to me, or took any action I was aware of, that I ever understood to be a warning that something horrible like this was going to happen," Danley said, according to a statement read by her attorney, Matthew Lombard. She added: "I loved him and hoped for a quiet future together with him."

The special agent in charge of the FBI in Las Vegas, Aaron Rouse, said the bureau had deployed more than 100 agents and other investigators across the country to help Las Vegas authorities answer questions about Paddock's motive and whether he had help.

"We have multiple leads all across the United States and all across the world," Rouse said. But he added: "We must focus on facts. We cannot give in to conjecture. And we cannot respond to every little Twitter feed that may indicate a theory.... You expect us to be right, and we want to be right."

In the last year, Paddock, a retired real estate investor and former IRS agent, had used his apparently extensive financial resources to fund his plans for the attack while also bankrolling his longtime passion for gambling. Since October 2016, Paddock bought 33 guns, mostly rifles, according to a law enforcement source, a haul that

could have cost him tens of thousands of dollars, a spending spree that has led investigators to wonder whether something changed in Paddock's life, and whether he was really acting alone.

"He had to have some help at some point," Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo told reporters Wednesday. "Maybe he's a super-guy ... maybe he's super-yahoo, was working out all this on his own, but it would be hard for me to believe that."

Investigators also confirmed that Paddock had rented an Airbnb room in a condo building in Las Vegas in September overlooking an even larger music event, the Life Is Beautiful festival, featuring Gorillaz, Lorde, Chance the Rapper and other artists.

"Was he doing pre-surveillance? We don't know yet," Lombardo said.

On the night before Sunday's attack – which left nearly 500 people injured in addition to those killed – Paddock reportedly went on an eight-hour gambling binge in a special video poker room at the Mandalay Bay's casino, according to ABC News.

Investigators found thousands of rounds of ammunition in Paddock's Mandalay Bay hotel room, plus more in his car, in addition to Tannerite, an explosive substance. Some of his guns had jammed during the shooting, Lombardo said.

Paddock had gambled with more than \$100,000 in recent months at Nevada casinos, a law enforcement official said.

The shooting shocked Paddock's brother Eric. But not the spending.

"We're wealthy people – \$100,000 isn't that much money," Eric Paddock said in a televised interview from Florida on Wednesday. "He gambled that much through a machine in hours."

"Steve is a – was a – highly intelligent, highly successful person. He could have done anything he wanted to do," Eric Paddock continued. "And he did. He made himself wealthy. He made us wealthy. He was a very successful person. He gambled for 20-plus years, successfully. It's like a job to him. He did it mathematically."

It was also revealed Wednesday that Danley had been out of the country during the time of the attack because Paddock had bought her a "cheap" ticket to her home country of the Philippines in mid-September, according to her statement.

While she was there, he wired her money to buy a house for her family there, she said.

"Like all Filipinos abroad, I was excited to go home and see family and friends," Danley said in a statement read by her lawyer, which came after federal agents had greeted her at Los Angeles International Airport and taken her to FBI offices for questioning.

"I was grateful [for the money to buy a house], but honestly I was worried that first the unexpected trip home, and then the money, was a way of breaking up with me," she said in her statement. "It never occurred to me in any way whatsoever that he was planning violence against anyone."

In a visit with victims and first responders in Las Vegas, Trump praised those who rushed into action during the massacre, and he told family members of the victims: "You are not alone. We will never leave your side."

"We know that your sorrow feels endless," he said. "We stand beside you to help carry your pain."

Praising the work of police and other first responders, the president said: "Words cannot describe the bravery the whole world witnessed on Sunday night. Americans defied death and hatred with love and with courage. When the worst of humanity strikes, and strike it did, the best of humanity responds. Americans dashed into a hail of bullets to rescue total strangers."

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Vives reported from Las Vegas and Pearce and Winton from Los Angeles. Times staff writer Laura J. Nelson in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: AIR FORCE ONE arrives at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas, with the Mandalay Bay

hotel, from where the gunman staged his attack, in the background. President Trump and the first lady visited victims and first responders.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Robyn Beck AFP/Getty Images

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Shootings; Law enforcement; First ladies; Festivals
<b>Location:</b>	Los Angeles California United States--US
<b>People:</b>	Rouse, Aaron
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Airbnb; NAICS: 561599; Name: Internal Revenue Service--IRS; NAICS: 921130; Name: Federal Bureau of Investigation--FBI; NAICS: 922120
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## LINKS

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; His fiancée encounters a mass shooting -- again; Two years after San Bernardino, she was in Las Vegas

Montero, David . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: A.10.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

He was running, lungs burning, across the casino floor of the Luxor – leaving his friends behind in a mad, desperate sprint toward the massacre.

It's happening again, he thought.

J.C. Monticone had just gotten a text message from his fiancée Sunday night. It was the same two words he'd heard from her on Dec. 2, 2015, when Melissa Castruita was working in San Bernardino at the Inland Regional Center.

"Active shooter," the text read.

He ran past people gambling and drinking as if the world were normal. It contradicted everything he knew in his head at that moment. Life and death were happening outside. How could these two worlds exist simultaneously?

Castruita was crouched down in the VIP area near the stage across the street from Luxor when she texted Monticone. She, her aunt and her cousin had been singing along with country star Jason Aldean when bullets came pouring down from the 32nd floor of Mandalay Bay some 500 yards away.

"I'm so scared!! Do you hear that? They took Jason Aldean's off stage," she texted to Monticone.

Castruita used to tell her family that after her work site was shot up by two people in the San Bernardino attack nearly two years ago, she was the safest person to be around because, well, nobody encounters a second mass shooting.

Her phone rang. It was Monticone. Over the phone he heard more gunshots. Screaming. He reached the doors of the Luxor and realized he could hear gunfire on his own.

"I'm coming to you," he told her.

"No, go up to the room and barricade yourself in," she said.

Monticone saw the tinted glass door open and a man and woman came toward him as he spoke to Castruita.

"They're just rubber bullets," the man told Monticone in a rote, dazed voice.

Blood stained the young man's shirt and pants. Monticone thought some shrapnel had hit him, but wasn't sure.

The woman said that he was her son and that his friend had been shot next to him. The friend was probably dead.

Monticone, a 36-year-old paramedic with the South Pasadena Fire Department, carried the young man to a bench with his friend, who had caught up with him after his sprint.

He handed the phone to his friend and tried to help the man. He also needed to get to Castruita. He struggled with what to do. "The hardest decision I've ever had to make in my life," he said.

He told Castruita that he was helping someone and that he would find her. Don't lose your phone, he told her. I will find you.

Then he went to work.

Castruita had been celebrating her 34th birthday, and this was the second Route 91 Harvest festival she attended. She'd seen her favorite country act, Sam Hunt, Saturday night and was excited to see Aldean's set.

The tickets were VIP, but after a late night of partying Saturday, they had arrived later than planned and missed out on nabbing seats in the outdoor arena. Her aunt and cousin moved off to the left of the stage and even considered going to the pit area.

It was crowded, though, and ever since her experience with the San Bernardino shooting, Castruita had been skittish in large crowds.

That day in 2015 hung over her and haunted her. She remembered driving to the Inland Regional Center on Dec. 2 after the gunfire had started.

She remembered the terror of knowing people had been shot and killed at the site where she worked. Helicopters buzzed overhead. Police in tactical gear were everywhere.

A week after that shooting, nobody could go back into the building, so Castruita and Monticone decided to go to Disneyland. The crowds spooked her, however, and they left.

She was a runner and liked to hit the streets early in the morning, but Castruita remembered that not long after the San Bernardino shooting she was out running and saw a man with a hand in his pocket. Did he have a gun? She panicked.

But for this year's Route 91 Harvest festival, she felt OK and had settled into feeling more at ease. Then came the shots. The police in tactical gear. The helicopters.

She had confidence that Monticone would stay safe. But she knew he would be worried about her – just like he was on Dec. 2 when he drove 95 mph on the freeway from Santa Clarita to get her in San Bernardino after she told him there had been a shooting and the killers were still on the loose.

Castruita wondered whether the killers were still on the loose in Las Vegas.

Along with her aunt and cousin, Castruita had helped other concertgoers rip down an aluminum wall of the VIP section to escape toward the Tropicana.

Her phone rang. Monticone was still OK. So was she, she said. He was near the Tropicana, too. They could try to meet at the MGM Grand.

She heard him say he had to go. Another person needed help. They hung up.

Castruita kept moving toward the MGM.

Monticone helped carry a woman with a gunshot wound in her leg to a triage center already set up on Las Vegas Boulevard. He was a paramedic, Monticone said, and got her an IV before seeing ambulances arriving one after the other.

"I needed to get to Melissa," he recalled saying as he left the woman with paramedics.

He rushed past some police, into the MGM and started down an escalator. He wondered how hard it would be to find her. He called her again. She said she was near an escalator at the MGM.

Then she saw him coming down the escalator. They hugged just like they had when he raced from his parents' home in Santa Clarita in 2015.

Monticone's clothes, arms and hands were covered with blood. He ducked into the restroom to quickly wash it off when he heard what he thought were gunshots. Castruita had heard them too and instinctively began to run with her aunt and cousin. But then she stopped and looked for Monticone.

He bolted out of the restroom and saw her. And they escaped.

Together again.

—

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Caption: PHOTO: PARAMEDIC J.C. Monticone was in Las Vegas when he got this message from his fiancée: "Active shooter."

PHOTOGRAPHER:Irfan Khan Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Shootings; Mass murders; Elevators & escalators
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## LINKS

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# FOOTBALL; A football dinosaur who's far from extinct; San Diego State has run its way into the Top 25, led by a coach from the old school.

Wharton, David . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: D.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

A real football dinosaur.

The kind of guy who believes in running between the tackles and playing tough defense.

The term "ball control" is music to his ears and he doesn't much cotton to newfangled rules that protect a scrambling quarterback.

"I really dislike when quarterbacks slide," he says. "I think quarterbacks are football players, they shouldn't be baseball players sliding into second base."

If you suggest to Rocky Long that time has passed him by, he nods and smiles and says you might be right. But in this era of spread offenses and video-game scoring, the San Diego State coach has found a way to make his traditional views pay off.

His Aztecs have quietly strung together six winning seasons, becoming one of the top programs in the middle-tier conferences known as the Group of Five. This week, San Diego State travels to Nevada Las Vegas with an undefeated record and No. 19 ranking in the Associated Press media poll.

That puts them in contention to join the big boys at a New Year's Day bowl game.

"When you go into a situation, you find out where you have the best chance to recruit good players," Long said. "So many people are going to the spread and that type of philosophy now, you have find something that's different or unusual."

Heading into this season, San Diego State was supposed to be in rebuilding mode.

Eligibility ran out on a team that concluded 2016 by defeating Houston in the Las Vegas Bowl and finishing No. 25 in the polls.

Gone was running back Donnel Pumphrey, who set an NCAA record with 6,405 yards rushing in his career. Gone was most of a veteran offensive line and the core of a defense that ranked No. 11 in the nation.

Looking at the young players who remained, Long said: "They're going to be good eventually. They just have to be good faster than they probably should be."

So the last month or so has been a surprise, the team winning its first five games, including consecutive victories over Arizona State and then-No. 19 Stanford.

"This is a really good football team," Stanford Coach David Shaw said.

It helps that San Diego State still has the dependable Christian Chapman at quarterback and another star running back in Rashaad Penny, who surpassed 1,000 yards as Pumphrey's understudy in 2016.

"The players last year were so good," Penny said. "All you had to do was watch those guys and learn from them." But the Aztecs needed something else to mature quickly – the work ethic and smash-mouth mentality on which Long had based the program.

The 67-year-old Southern California native first tested this particular brand of football during a stint at New Mexico. The Lobos had some good seasons, some not-so-good.

Taking over at San Diego State in 2011, Long stuck with an approach that focused on a versatile, aggressive 3-3-5 defense and lots of running out of the I formation.

This scheme might not attract big, active quarterbacks or fleet receivers, but that's not the target audience.

"Good tailbacks want to be seven yards deep; they want a fullback in front of them," Long said. "Even though you design a hole for them, they can break it where they want to."

Pumphrey came to San Diego from Las Vegas and Penny from Norwalk. The current backup, Juwan Washington, hails from Texas.

"It doesn't mean we're getting four- or five-star guys," Long said. "But the only other Division I school in California that tries to do this is Stanford, so it gives us a chance to get some good players."

The tricky part is getting the right kind .

There isn't a lot of glamor in pounding away from both sides of the ball. Off-season workouts can be brutal and the coaching staff encourages veterans to speak frankly with visiting recruits.

Think of it as an unofficial screening process.

"The older guys told me it wasn't going to be easy," senior safety Trey Lomax recalled. "You're not going to get treated like a superstar like I'm sure some freshmen are at certain programs. You've got to be a blue-collar guy if you expect to play."

Patience is another requirement. Though Lomax started as a freshman because the defense needed him, Long prefers to keep young players on the bench.

Penny stood in line three seasons behind Pumphrey. Washington, a sophomore, is playing second-fiddle.

"Some of those tailbacks would love to be in our system, but they're impatient in this day and age," Long said. "In reality, it's good for them to come in and not play right away – they don't start getting beat up as 180-pound freshmen. They wait until their third year and now they're 205 pounds."

If anything encourages players to stick around, it's the winning.

The Aztecs went 8-5 in Long's first season, earning one of the trophies that now line the football office lobby, commemorating six consecutive postseason appearances during his tenure.

The New Orleans Bowl, the Poinsettia Bowl, the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl and the Hawaii Bowl ... not exactly New Year's Day stuff, but enough to make Long the winningest coach in Mountain West Conference history.

"They've done a great job of building a program, building a physical brand over there," said Tony Sanchez, coach at conference-rival UNLV.

The Aztecs – with that inexperienced offensive line – insist they have yet to play their best football. Their victories over Stanford and Air Force were close, and it took a goal-line interception to secure last week's win against Northern Illinois.

But the toughest stretch is behind them as they enter the heart of a Mountain West schedule that includes Hawaii, San Jose State and Nevada.

With perennial conference leader Boise State struggling at 2-2, there has been speculation about San Diego State running the table.

Long doesn't care to look ahead, though he knows that only the highest-ranked team from the Group of Five conferences will be invited to join the Power Five elite in the New Year's Day bowl games. No. 18 South Florida and No. 25 Central Florida are also undefeated and in the running for that berth.

"They only way our team has a chance to get there is by winning every game," Long said. "That is much more

difficult than people think it is."

The Aztecs have another incentive: The Chargers departure for Los Angeles has created an opening. So far, being the biggest football show in town has resulted in more reporters and cameras at weekly news conferences, but not much more attendance at SDCCU Stadium.

"Most of the NFL fans are in denial or in mourning," Long said. "I'm predicting it takes about three years until half of them switch over."

This week, San Diego State will focus on a difficult road trip to UNLV. Long has warned his players to expect an emotional Saturday, with tributes planned for victims of this week's mass shooting in Las Vegas.

"I'm sure there are a lot of things that are going to be different at the game," Long said. "But we always try to keep everything routine because if you keep everything routine, usually the results stay the same."

The coach likes to stay on course. It might sound old-fashioned, but it's the best way he knows to keep his team plugging away.

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(BEGIN TEXT OF INFOBOX)

Rushing leaders

The top rushers in NCAA Division I, through games of last week:

\*--\* Player School Att Yds Avg Long TD 1. Bryce Love Stanford 98 1,088 11.1 75 8 2. Rashaad Penny San Diego State 116 823 7.1 95 7 3. Jeffery Wilson North Texas 93 666 7.2 62 9 4. Josh Adams Notre Dame 73 658 9.0 73 4 5. Zach Abey Navy 117 656 5.6 54 7 \*--\*

Caption: PHOTO: SAN DIEGO STATE coach Rocky Long runs an offense that is the opposite of what's in vogue.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Joe Scarnici Getty Images

PHOTO:RUNNING BACK Rashaad Penny said he learned a lot as a backup from the starters on last year's team.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Sean M. Haffey Getty Images

## DETAILS

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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# THE NATION; NRA open to limits on gun device; Some Republican lawmakers join call to restrict 'bump stocks.'

Mascaro, Lisa . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: A.6.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The Las Vegas massacre has breached Republicans' solid opposition to additional gun restrictions, prompting party leaders as well as the National Rifle Assn. to say they will consider limiting so-called bump stocks, which can turn assault rifles into virtual machine guns.

The White House signaled a willingness Thursday to consider a ban, and the NRA, which has powerful sway among Republicans, said it could back a limit on bump stocks – but as a federal regulation, not law.

"The NRA believes that devices designed to allow semiautomatic rifles to function like fully automatic rifles should be subject to additional regulations," the group said.

The NRA's blessing probably will increase the number of Republicans willing to back restrictions.

The statement marked a rare concession by the powerful gun-rights organization. At the same time, however, the call for regulations from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives could provide a way to deflect pressure for congressional action – and tough votes – that might lead to broader gun restrictions.

During the Obama administration, the ATF authorized sale of the stocks, saying that they were not banned by existing federal gun laws.

Some Democrats quickly denounced the NRA's move as a dodge by the gun lobby to avoid new legislation.

Still, the shift was notable for Republicans who, under great pressure from the NRA and other gun rights groups, have resisted past efforts at gun control, even after devastating mass shootings.

At the White House, Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the administration was looking forward to congressional hearings and legislation to be considered.

"We certainly welcome that, would like to be part of that conversation," Sanders said. "We would like to see a clear understanding of the facts."

A day earlier, Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) introduced legislation to ban bump stocks by law, but only fellow Democrats joined her.

A short time later, top GOP leaders in the House and Senate, including House Speaker Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin and Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn of Texas, had signaled their interest in working on the issue.

"Clearly that's something we need to look into," Ryan told MSNBC host Hugh Hewitt in an interview scheduled to air this weekend.

Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-Fla.) said he was planning to draft legislation limiting access to bump stocks, and Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-Ill.) sent a letter to federal officials asking them to reconsider how they regulate the devices.

"This is definitely an area where we're going to look and be able to act on," House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield) said on Fox News.

A number of lawmakers, including Ryan, who describes himself as an avid hunter, said they were unfamiliar with bump stocks before the Las Vegas shooting Sunday night. The gunman appears to have used the devices for rapid shooting.

Lawmakers appeared concerned that the device offers a way to get around the ban on new, fully automatic weapons, which have been outlawed for years in most cases other than for military use.

Senators on Thursday morning privately discussed ways they could tackle the issue as they met for routine business.

Even Rep. Mark Meadows (R-N.C.), chairman of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, told reporters earlier in the week he'd be willing to consider banning bump stocks if the Senate passes a bill and sends it to the House.

"I will tell you that the unique aspect of the bump stock and how you would literally transform a semiautomatic weapon into an automatic weapon is something that I think bears looking into," Cornyn told Texas reporters Wednesday on a conference call.

He said he had asked Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles E. Grassley (R-Iowa) to convene a hearing "and look into it." By Thursday, though, Cornyn's office clarified that he was not talking about legislation.

One key Republican, Sen. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania, who cosponsored an unsuccessful bipartisan effort after the 2012 Newtown, Conn., school shooting to broaden the requirement for background checks before gun purchases, was noncommittal Thursday. He said he was just learning about bump stocks, and needed more information.

Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) told reporters it was too soon to consider legislation, as the investigation in Las Vegas was just underway.

"Once we have the facts and understand the situation, we can proceed forward," Cruz said.

The willingness to consider some restrictions, coming after the Las Vegas shooting, which left 58 dead and hundreds wounded in what authorities said is the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history, may indicate limits on the gun lobby's reach into politics and policy.

Polls show Americans overwhelmingly want measures to curb gun violence. Pressure has mounted as cultural figures, including late-night host Jimmy Kimmel, have delivered heart-wrenching criticisms of congressional inaction.

Democrats, who at times have splintered on firearms issues, with lawmakers from conservative states joining Republicans to defeat gun bills, welcomed the changed outlook.

They have called on President Trump to cross partisan lines and push Congress toward legislation to reduce gun violence that polls show most Americans would support.

"Will the president stand up?" said Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.). "The president has a choice."

Many Democrats, however, will not want to limit action to bump stocks.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco said bump stock legislation was one approach, but no substitute for a background check bill that she said would have bipartisan support in the House if Ryan would allow a vote.

"It really is all up to the speaker," she said. "Is he going to bring the bill to the floor?"

At the same time, lawmakers were skeptical that initial interest in limited bipartisan legislation would translate into enough actual votes to write the restriction into law.

Even when a gunman opened fire on Republican lawmakers practicing for a charity baseball game earlier this year, critically injuring GOP House whip Steve Scalise of Louisiana, it did not motivate Congress to act on gun laws.

In an interview airing Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press," Scalise defended moving slowly on the issue: "To think that we're now all experts and know how to write some, you know, panacea law, it's fallacy. Let's focus on the facts. Let's get the facts and let's go focus on some of the problems."

Such remarks frustrate Sen. Christopher S. Murphy (D-Conn.). "We need to move Republicans from being open to the idea to being willing to actually work on it," he said.

—

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Caption: PHOTO: SEN. DIANNE FEINSTEIN, with fellow Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal, has written a bill to ban "bump stocks," which turn rifles into automatic weapons.

PHOTOGRAPHER: European Pressphoto Agency

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Bills; Legislators; Military weapons; Federal legislation; Federal regulation; Reporters; Restrictions; Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations; Leadership; Firearms
<b>Location:</b>	Texas Wisconsin Las Vegas Nevada
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<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Republican Party; NAICS: 813940; Name: MSNBC; NAICS: 511140, 515210
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; 'I stayed as far away from front door as possible'

Vives, Ruben . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: A.10.

## FULL TEXT

Scott Burns, a 41-year-old event planner from Berkeley, was with his colleagues in the lobby of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino late Sunday when four police officers ran by.

"We didn't think anything of it," recalled Burns, who was there to help put on an annual tech conference scheduled to start the next morning.

He figured there might have been a fight somewhere in the casino. "It's Vegas."

After hugging everyone goodnight, he headed toward his room on the 10th floor.

Just out of the elevator, he ran into another colleague, who asked whether he wanted to join him for a quick nightcap. Burns agreed.

He ran to his room, dropped off his things and texted his wife.

But when Burns and his colleague got into the elevator, it remained stuck on the floor.

Then his phone vibrated with a text message: "Active shooter. Go to your room."

It was from a friend who was learning about the shooting at the Route 91 Harvest, a three-day country music festival across the street from the luxury hotel and casino.

More texts followed. Burns also checked Facebook and Twitter.

"I was getting a ton of misinformation about what was going down," Burns said.

"The first wave of bad info was that there was a shooting at the country concert and that the shooter had ran into Mandalay Bay. Then it was two shooters and one shooter ran into the Aria Resort and Casino. Then there was a report of shots fired at the Aria and shots confirmed at New York, New York.... There was a brief time when there was a bomb threat at the Luxor."

Not knowing what was happening, Burns went to his room. He locked the door, turned off the lights and sat in a corner with a can of Pringles and his phone plugged in to keep it charged.

"I stayed as far away from the front door as possible," he said. "If someone was to enter my room, I want them to think there's nobody in there. I want them to think this is a waste of my time."

He called his wife in California and his mom in Michigan to tell them he was OK and that he loved them.

In a room on the 32nd floor, in a different wing of the building, the lone gunman, 64-year-old Stephen Paddock, was firing round after round on the crowd of concertgoers below.

At some point, a colleague also staying on the 32nd floor began to relay information to Burns and the others.

"SWAT is here, I just felt the concussion blast of when they opened the door," she said in group text.

Burns was grateful for the accurate information.

"It helped ease a lot of the confusion, because at one point you start to worry about multiple shooters and multiple scenes," he said. "You start to think it's a coordinated attack on a city. You think about it – and I know I did – in a state that has pretty lax gun laws, I figured you can drive down the street and start shooting, you can do it."

He said his colleague on the shooter's floor was eventually evacuated to the basement and then the theater, where she and other guests spent most of the night.

It was 3:30 a.m. when 15 SWAT officers knocked on Burns' door. They told him to come out with his hands raised.

"They went in, swept the room with guns out, thanked me and moved on down the hall," Burns said. "They did this with every room. I thought they were for sure going to ask us to leave, but we just stayed locked in."

On Monday morning, he and his colleagues met downstairs in the lobby.

"It was a crime scene, and ... it was somber," he said. "They were giving out free coffee and breakfast. I feel fortunate."

The tech conference, NetApp Insight, began Tuesday morning – one day late.

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Health facilities; Firearm laws & regulations; Casinos
<b>Location:</b>	New York Michigan
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## LINKS

# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Alaskans' adventure in Vegas ends in grief; He talked his pal into going, only to die in his arms

Mozingo, Joe . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

He strolled into a western-wear store with money to spend, fresh off a record season fishing sockeye salmon on his friend's purse seiner.

The Alaskan gray and drizzle was setting in and Adrian Murfitt couldn't wait for his trip to see some country music in the desert.

He needed just the right hat.

He was surprised to find his long-lost friend Donny Millions tending the cash register. As Murfitt shopped, they chatted for over an hour about old times playing hockey and football in the street.

Murfitt picked black \$275 Tony Lama boots with stacked leather soles, a belt with a big silver buckle, a Wrangler shirt and a black buffalo-skin Stetson hat.

They swapped numbers and planned to get together when Murfitt got back. Murfitt left with a laugh and the vaguely goofy grin his friends loved.

They hadn't seen him this happy in years. He had finally worked through a long, painful breakup. He had lost 30 pounds on the fishing boat. He was lean and looking good, ready to see his favorite singer, Jason Aldean, in Vegas. ::

Avonna Murfitt worried about her son. When he split with his girlfriend of seven years, Christina Hoglin, the couple had to sell their house and divide up their four dogs. Adrian was broke and devastated. He could not find solace in snowboarding or rebuilding cars like he used to.

He trudged through spring, working at a friend's refrigeration repair company, drinking too much beer, putting on weight.

He spent the summer with his friend and captain, Sean Alexander, fishing off the capes of the Alaskan Peninsula. He thrived as deck boss, engineer, chef, the skiffman positioning the nets. The two fishermen had grown up in the same neighborhood and roomed together in college in Washington.

The three months at sea with Alexander seemed to wash all that gloom away.

Murfitt came home and was back to his old teasing self. He now had money and a plan.

He and Alexander were going to buy another seiner for Murfitt to captain.

His mother urged him to save some of the \$50,000 or so he had made. He promised he would.

But he had things to take care of first. He paid off a credit card that he and his mom owed money on. He bought car parts and fixed her Yukon and his truck, to give to his nephew. And he was planning his trip.

He rented a room at the Luxor and a BMW convertible to cruise the Strip. He just needed to get his friend Brian MacKinnon on board.

On Thursday, Sept. 24, six days before his Vegas trip, he went to Eddie's Sports Bar on Old Seward Highway. It was

line-dancing night.

Murfitt, 35, had a tight group of buddies from South Anchorage who, naturally, called him "Murf."

They were North Slope roughnecks, crab fishermen, mechanics and construction workers, all local boys. None of them were as enthusiastic about country music as he was. They ribbed him about his hats, but his enthusiasm – and his coy way of guilting them to join in – usually pulled them along.

"Don't make me go alone," he'd say with his smile.

So half a dozen of them came to line dance, drink beer and shoot pool.

Murfitt got the bug for country music from his mother, and it stuck hard. "He used to sing in the shower, and you could have made a record out of it," Avonna said. "He sounded like Alan Jackson."

On rap nights at another bar, he'd ask the DJ to play Jason Aldean to needle his friends.

At Eddie's that night, Murfitt buttonholed MacKinnon and made his pitch about Vegas.

"Don't make me go alone," he said.

"No, man, I can't swing it."

"Come on, I'll pay for it," Murfitt said. He pulled up his phone to look for tickets from Anchorage to Las Vegas.

MacKinnon excused himself to the bathroom.

Murfitt knew that MacKinnon, of all his friends, needed this trip. He drove dump trucks seasonally and was an inventor and founder of a company that sold tough aluminum personal watercraft for fishermen, hunters and rescuers to explore Alaskan wilds. He shared custody of his two girls, ages 6 and 8, whom Murfitt treated like nieces.

But in recent years, several of MacKinnon's friends had died of drug overdoses, suicide, alcohol poisoning.

MacKinnon was in the room when one of them passed.

"Bought 'em," Murf said when he came back.

MacKinnon laughed. Murfitt gave him a bear hug.

"We're going to Vegas."

::

Alexander met them in Las Vegas and the three played tourist, hitting bars and restaurants, cruising the Strip in the convertible, checking out the bands at the Route 91 Harvest Festival.

The first night they went to a Brazilian steakhouse and marveled at how much beef they could get for the price. They ate too much, went back to the room and passed out. They went back the next night, but kept their eating under control so they could stay out late.

MacKinnon and Murfitt, both tall and broad-shouldered, stood out in a crowd. Seeing Murfitt's hat, people stopped to pose next to him for selfies, as if he were a real Wild West cowboy.

Murfitt had a childlike way of complimenting a woman without being creepy.

"I like your glitter," he said to one sparkly cheeked woman standing next to him at the Eric Church concert.

She thanked him and offered him a shot of Tito's vodka she had smuggled in as water. As she later recounted on Facebook:

"He had lost his friends ... and I was hanging solo, so we buddied up for a bit ... and he was excited to be in Vegas for Route 91 and he liked my red hair. He was friendly and nice, and all smiles."

"At one point, Adrian placed his cowboy hat on my head, and I decided to take a Snapchat of the moment."

Murfitt called his mother Sunday afternoon, elated about the Eric Church concert.

"What do you want for your birthday, Mom?" she remembered Adrian asking.

She was turning 70 in a few weeks. She told him to save his money. She just wanted one of his "mechanic certificates" for free maintenance.

On the festival grounds, he stumbled into his ex-girlfriend Hoglin, among the thousands.

"How'd you find me?"

"Because you're my angel. I'll always be able to find you."

They talked, even brought up the idea of getting back together, according to Murfitt's mother, who heard about the

exchange from Hoglin.

As Aldean was ready to perform, MacKinnon pulled his friend away. Murfitt said they should push up to the front. Their size made it difficult, but they got near the right-center of the stage, Murfitt behind MacKinnon. Aldean was singing "When She Says Baby."

Murfitt wanted to take a selfie when what sounded like a string of firecrackers distracted them.

"That's one way to clear the crowd to get up front," someone joked.

When a second round of cracks hit, MacKinnon just wanted him to take the picture so he could watch the concert. Murfitt turned toward the cracking sound and fell, just as something ricocheting off the ground knocked MacKinnon's hat off his head.

He looked down at his friend and saw blood and a gaping hole in his throat.

"He's bleeding!" MacKinnon shouted. "He's bleeding in his neck!"

He crouched over him, in shock. Murfitt didn't speak. He just looked straight at him, MacKinnon said, with a confused expression.

MacKinnon looked around the crowd, figuring someone nearby was firing.

An off-duty firefighter started to help; he tried to open Murfitt's mouth to clear his airway.

Bullets kept snapping off the pavement, thudding into flesh. The constant report of a rifle in the Mandalay Bay tower slowly made the situation clear.

"I'm a doctor, I'm a doctor," a man said. The doctor and firefighter started to give Murfitt CPR.

Murfitt started turning blue in his face. He just kept looking up at MacKinnon.

"I got hit," the doctor said. A bullet had struck him in the leg. The crowd was screaming and running by now. He left with them.

The firefighter stayed a few more moments, then turned to MacKinnon.

"We gotta go, we gotta go," he said. "I've seen this. He's not coming back from this one."

He ran to help someone else. The people cleared around the two.

Murfitt took his last gulps of air, all the time looking at MacKinnon.

Then he stopped breathing.

Someone ran up, "He's gone, he's gone."

"No, he's not!" MacKinnon shouted.

Gunfire rained down close to him from the Mandalay, and he ran for cover not far away behind some railing.

He could see his friend lying alone out there. He couldn't take it. He was overcome with anger.

He ran back to Murfitt, sat cross-legged next to him, and picked up the Stetson and put it on himself. He rested his hand on his friend's chest and cried.

People were running around tending to the wounded -- police, firefighters, military, nurses carrying the injured out on pieces of gates as the gunfire continued.

They told MacKinnon he had to leave. "I'm not leaving!" he said.

A paramedic came up to him and said, "Do you have kids?"

He saw the faces of his girls, Miley and Carmen.

"Let me take you to your kids," she said.

He snapped out of his state of shock and walked with her. He got behind a barricade and waited until the shooting finally stopped. But no one would let him go back to see Murfitt.

"I can't see any more dead people," a cop told him.

MacKinnon walked over by the Tropicana, aimless. He got pushed into a scrum of people hiding in the basement.

They did not know what was happening. He was covered in blood. He kept himself from sobbing. He got to a bathroom and let his grief roll over him. He cried for five minutes.

He made his way back to the Luxor and charged his phone. Murfitt's bed looked like he had just climbed out of it.

His cologne was in the air. MacKinnon glanced at the box that had held the Stetson Murfitt had bought at the Silva Saddle.

When MacKinnon turned his phone on, he saw calls missed from Alaska. Dozens of people's lives were going to fall apart when he talked to them.

::

Murfitt's body eventually made it to the coroner.

His family in Anchorage has been trying to get it released. Alaska Airlines has offered to fly his remains home at no charge.

MacKinnon is waiting in the room Murfitt rented, grieving, unwilling to leave until he gets on the plane with his friend.

—

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Caption: PHOTO: BRIAN MacKINNON drives in Las Vegas on Tuesday for the first time since the Strip reopened after Sunday's shooting. Adrian Murfitt, who was killed that night, rented the BMW for their visit from Alaska.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

PHOTO: ADRIAN "MURF" MURFITT, right, and Brian MacKinnon enjoy the Route 91 Harvest music festival hours before Murfitt was shot to death.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Brian MacKinnon

PHOTO: FRIEND AND travel partner Brian MacKinnon is still in Vegas, trying to come to terms with seeing Adrian Murfitt die in his arms.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

PHOTO: AVONNA MURFITT takes her late son's dog for a walk outside her Anchorage office. Adrian called her Sunday afternoon to share his excitement and ask what she wanted for her birthday.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Ash Adams For The Times

PHOTO: DONNY MILLIONS grows emotional recounting his last interaction with Murfitt at the western-wear store Silva Saddle in Anchorage. He sold his old friend a Stetson and other western wear.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Ash Adams For The Times

PHOTO: A SUMMER of commercial fishing had been good for Adrian Murfitt, right -- but he was ready for a break in the desert.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Sean Alexander

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Drug overdose; Shootings; Grief; Photographers; Country music
<b>People:</b>	Aldean, Jason
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS ALASKA FRIENDSHIP GRIEF
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<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 6, 2017
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<b>Database:</b>	Global Newsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# HOCKEY; New faces led by an old reliable

Zupke, Curtis . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: D.7.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The Staples Center deejay played "Don't Do Me Like That" in an obvious tribute to Tom Petty. Organist Dieter Ruehle tickled out "Running Down A Dream."

The Kings also went with one of their greatest hits.

A lot of new faces were unveiled in their season opener, but goalie Jonathan Quick reminded everyone that he's still the Kings' lead singer. In a welcome contrast to last season's disastrous opener, Quick made 35 saves in a 2-0

win against the Philadelphia Flyers.

"He's unbelievable," Trevor Lewis said of Quick. "He made a couple of highlight reel saves there again. He does it every night. We see it every day in practice. It's almost like you kind of get used to it. It's nice to have him back." Lewis scored in the second period and Tyler Toffoli in the third as the Kings got the 2017-18 season off to a victorious start under new coach John Stevens.

They did it the hard way. Pinned in their end, the Kings were outshot 17-5 in the third period and killed two of the five Flyers power plays on the night. It was a year ago that Quick suffered a serious groin injury in San Jose to set in motion a drama-filled season that did not result in a playoff berth.

Better vibes marked this opener, after the Kings muddled through a start against a Philadelphia team that looked more organized following its season-opening win Wednesday in San Jose.

The Kings' breakthrough came from their fourth line. Kyle Clifford dropped a pass to Nick Shore and Shore spotted Lewis driving down center ice. Lewis one-timed Shore's pass and the announced crowd of 18,230 fans did their first goal celebration of the season.

Toffoli converted a two-on-one with Jeff Carter with 2:21 remaining. It was the icing on Quick's 45th career shutout.

"That's the way he plays every night," Toffoli said. "It was good that we could score a couple of goals for him."

Three Kings made their NHL debut in left wing Alex Iafallo and defensemen Kurtis MacDermid and Oscar Fantenberg, who were paired together.

Iafallo played on the top line with Anze Kopitar and Dustin Brown and made a pretty saucer pass over a defender's stick to set up Kopitar late in the first period.

MacDermid was inserted after the Kings took a surprise hit to their lineup before the game when defenseman Alec Martinez was put on injured reserve with a lower-body injury, the team announced. He must sit out at least one week retroactive to Oct. 3. Stevens said he did not think the injury was serious. Martinez participated in all of training camp and skated Wednesday.

"He's a big part of our team, no question," Stevens said of Martinez. "But I don't think it's going to be long term and we're going to need someone else step up in his absence."

Martinez is usually partnered with Jake Muzzin, and the Kings adjusted with Muzzin paired with Christian Folin. Fantenberg took Martinez's spot on the second-unit power play. Defenseman Paul LaDue was recalled from the Kings' Ontario affiliate.

The opening-night festivities struck a serious tone when, after the pregame player introductions and light show, there was a moment of silence for Kings employee Christiana Duarte, among the victims in the Las Vegas mass shooting. Pia Toscano wore a "Chrissy" No. 1 Kings jersey as she sang the national anthem. .

Then the puck dropped with the good spirits of a fresh season with Stevens.

"I think everyone's excited," Lewis said. "We know the past couple of years, we haven't been very good, so I think everyone's up for the challenge."

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Caption: PHOTO: KINGS defenseman Jake Muzzin scrambles for a loose puck in front of goalie Jonathan Quick, who had 35 saves in the opening-game win. "He made a couple of highlight reel saves there again," Trevor Lewis said.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Robert Gauthier Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

**Subject:** Mass murders; Professional hockey

<b>People:</b>	Petty, Tom Clifford, Kyle Muzzin, Jake
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Philadelphia Flyers; NAICS: 711211
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## LINKS

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**LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Vegas gunman studied other large concerts; The killer's research involved outdoor venues in big cities.**

## FULL TEXT

The gunman who fired on a country music festival in Las Vegas also researched outdoor performance areas in Boston and other large cities in recent months, a law enforcement official with knowledge of the investigation said Thursday.

But Stephen Paddock, 64, of Mesquite, Nev., doesn't appear to have traveled to most of those locations, said the source, who was not authorized to talk about the inquiry into Sunday's mass shooting, which killed 58 people and injured nearly 500.

Paddock also appears to have spent much of September in Las Vegas, where he was seen gambling in the weeks before the attack, according to casino representatives.

Officials have struggled to find a motive for why Paddock, a retired real estate investor who liked to gamble, took at least 10 suitcases' worth of firearms and ammunition to the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino and opened fire on a crowd of concertgoers gathered below.

But new details about Paddock's activities in recent months suggest that he may have had other targets in mind. In the first week of August, Paddock reserved rooms at an upscale hotel overlooking Chicago's Grant Park during Lollapalooza, one of the nation's largest outdoor music festivals, a law enforcement source said.

The event was headlined by major acts including Chance the Rapper, the Killers and Muse, and attendees included Sasha and Malia Obama, the daughters of former President Obama. It would have been a target similar to the one in Las Vegas – huge crowds packed into an outdoor space beneath tall buildings – but with far more people.

Paddock was ultimately a no-show for his reservations in Chicago. "We can confirm that there was no guest under that name who stayed at our hotel in August during the Lollapalooza music festival," said Blackstone hotel spokeswoman Emmy Carragher.

After paying for his girlfriend's trip to visit family in the Philippines, Paddock appears to have been in downtown Las Vegas from Sept. 14 to 28, according to records reviewed by representatives of the El Cortez Hotel and Casino, who spoke to The Times on condition of anonymity.

The representatives said Paddock did not spend the night there or make a reservation. But he was seen in the El Cortez on Sept. 16, and he obtained a player's card and played slots and blackjack on Sept. 17, buying in on the latter with \$40. Representatives said Paddock won about \$300.

"He only played one time," one of the representatives said. "Enough to get a meal."

The next week, Paddock returned to the El Cortez on Sept. 21 and 24. At some point, he ate two meals with his winnings. He cashed out his ticket on Sept. 24, his sole use of the casino's ATM machines.

The timeline overlaps with the three-day outdoor Life Is Beautiful concert, which ran from Sept. 22 to 24 and which featured similarly high-profile acts as Lollapalooza.

Paddock also booked an Airbnb in a condo building overlooking the Life Is Beautiful music festival in Las Vegas in late September, leading investigators to gather video from the building to learn more. "Was he doing pre-surveillance? We don't know yet," Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said Wednesday.

El Cortez representatives disputed reports that Paddock was kicked out of the property or that the hotel was sold out around the time of Life Is Beautiful. Casino representatives said he was not on the radar of management because he did not win or lose a substantial sum.

After Paddock was identified, a compliance officer for El Cortez entered his name into the system and determined he had a brief, limited interaction there, representatives said. The hotel leaders then contacted police to share the

findings.

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Hamilton reported from Las Vegas, and Pearce and Winton from Los Angeles. The Chicago Tribune contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: IN LAS VEGAS, Clark County Assistant Fire Chief Larry Haydu, right, hugs Metropolitan Police Sgt. Brandon Clarkson, whose brother was shot Sunday.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Fires; Law enforcement; Mass murders; Casinos; Hotels & motels; Music festivals
<b>Location:</b>	Chicago Illinois Philippines
<b>People:</b>	Chance the Rapper (Chancellor Bennett) Obama, Barack Obama, Malia
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
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## LINKS

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# BACK STORY; What we know about the Las Vegas attack; The biggest question remains a mystery: Why did the gunman do it?

Nelson, Laura J . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: A.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Investigators have painstakingly pieced together Las Vegas gunman Stephen Paddock's actions during his 10-minute attack on the Route 91 Harvest Festival in one of the deadliest mass shootings in U.S. history. But neither officials nor the gunman's relatives can shed light on the biggest question still unanswered: Why did he do it?

Here's what we know so far about the shooting and the ongoing investigation.

Who was Stephen Paddock?

"We grew up poor on the side of the freeway in the San Fernando Valley," his brother Eric Paddock told reporters Wednesday. "We were troublesome kids."

Paddock's father was a notorious bank robber. Benjamin Hoskins Paddock went by "Chromedome" and "Big Daddy." He robbed a Tucson bank in 1960, when Stephen Paddock was 7.

Paddock spent much of his life in Greater Los Angeles. He and his brothers moved to the area with their mother, who raised them on a secretary's salary. He graduated from Cal State Northridge with a degree in business administration in 1977.

From the 1970s to the early 2000s, he owned property in Panorama City, Cerritos and North Hollywood.

Paddock worked as a mailman in the 1970s and as an agent for the Internal Revenue Service from 1978 to 1984. Gambling was "like a job to him." Paddock, a retired real estate investor, played high-limit video poker and was a regular at several Las Vegas Strip hotels, his brother said. He sometimes gambled more than \$100,000 in a few hours.

In the last year, Paddock had made chip purchases in Nevada casinos in excess of \$10,000 a day, two law enforcement sources said.

## The gunman's girlfriend

Paddock met Marilou Danley, 62, at the Atlantis Casino Resort in Reno. She worked as a high-limit hostess, looking after big spenders from a loyalty club who received discounts on hotel rooms and meals.

Danley returned to the U.S. from the Philippines late Tuesday. She spoke with investigators willingly and was not a target of the inquiry, her attorney said.

On Wednesday, she released a statement, saying she had no idea Paddock was planning a mass shooting.

Danley left the country before the shooting. Two weeks before the attack, Paddock told Danley he had found a cheap plane ticket and sent her to visit her family in the Philippines, she said. Her sisters told Australian TV the gift was Paddock's strategy to keep her out of the way.

Then he sent money. Paddock wired a significant sum – some reports suggested \$100,000 – to Danley while she was abroad, telling her to buy a house for herself and her family, she said. She saw the gifts as Paddock's attempt to end the relationship, she said.

The couple lived in Reno and Mesquite, Nev. Paddock owned a tan-and-brown house with a porch swing, nestled against tawny hills in Reno's Sierra Canyon retirement community. Neighbors sometimes saw Danley weeding the garden. Near their stucco home on a cul-de-sac in a 55-plus community in Mesquite, neighbors said they rarely saw the couple.

Paddock verbally abused Danley in public. At a Starbucks in Mesquite, Danley sometimes asked to use Paddock's credit card, baristas told The Times. He would glare at her and say, "I'm paying for your drink, just like I'm paying for you." Danley would softly say, "OK," and step behind him, they said.

## How Paddock planned the attack

He stockpiled guns. In the last year, Paddock had used his apparently extensive financial resources to fund the attack and his passion for gambling.

Over the last 12 months, Paddock bought 33 guns, mostly rifles, according to a law enforcement source, a haul that could have cost tens of thousands of dollars. At least six were purchased at a Cabela's in Verdi, Nev. Several others were purchased at Discount Firearms and Ammo, a few blocks from the Las Vegas Strip.

Some had been modified. Paddock used more than 10 suitcases to bring at least 23 weapons, mostly rifles, into his Mandalay Bay hotel room. More than half had been legally modified with "bump stock" accessories, which allow a shooter to fire rounds at a rapid pace akin to automatic fire.

He had explosives. In his Mesquite home, police found 19 more firearms and several pounds of Tannerite, a chemical mix used to make explosive targets used in shooting practice. Police found handguns and shotguns in his Reno home, and ammonium nitrate, another compound used to make explosives, in his car.

He may have scouted the venue. Paddock rented an Airbnb room in a condo building in Las Vegas during the Life is Beautiful music festival in September, near the festival site.

"Was he doing pre-surveillance?" Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said. "We don't know yet."

He went on a gambling binge. On the night before Sunday's attack, Paddock gambled for eight hours in a special video poker room at the Mandalay Bay casino, according to ABC News.

## How did the shooting unfold?

The first shots were fired at 10:05 p.m. Sunday, Lombardo said. Paddock fired almost continually for 10 minutes.

The first moments: "We have an active shooter!" a Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officer said seconds after the shots began. "We have an active shooter inside the fairgrounds."

Officers ducked behind a cinder-block wall, looking for the source of the gunfire.

Zeroing in: "We're seeing multiple flashes in the middle of Mandalay Bay on the north side," one officer said over the gunfire. "It's one of the middle floors."

The manhunt: Seven minutes into the attack, two officers reached the floor below Paddock's room. "I'm inside the Mandalay Bay on the 31st floor," one said into his radio. "I can hear the automatic fire coming from one floor ahead."

Police officers working another event began to search the hotel.

Medics arrive: EMTs wearing helmets and body armor moved cautiously through the fairgrounds, flanked by armed officers. Volunteers with pickup trucks began carrying the wounded to hospitals.

Paddock shoots a security guard: As a security guard approached his suite, Paddock fired more than 200 rounds through the door and struck the guard in the leg.

By then, Paddock had stopped firing on the crowd. Officers decided he was no longer an active shooter, and opted not to enter the room immediately.

SWAT enters: Officers blew down Paddock's door at 11:20 p.m., 75 minutes after the shooting began, and found him dead inside.

Lombardo said officers found evidence that Paddock planned to escape the hotel, but did not elaborate.

Who are the Las Vegas victims?

Clark County officials said Wednesday that earlier figures released about the death toll were inaccurate, and now stood at 58, excluding Paddock.

The shooting also wounded 489 people -- a figure lowered Wednesday from a previous number of more than 500 -- of whom 317 have been discharged from hospitals.

The victims who died included teachers, nurses, parents, newlyweds.

Jack Beaton, 54, of Bakersfield: Sunday was Beaton's 23rd anniversary, and he took his wife, Laurie, to the festival to celebrate. When the shooting began, he tried to shield her. "Jack got on top of Laurie to protect her," said Jerry Cook, Laurie's father. "He laid on top of her and said, 'Laurie, I love you.' She said, 'I love you too,' and boom, he got hit."

Carrie Barnette, 34, of Riverside: Barnette had traveled to Las Vegas to celebrate a friend's 30th birthday. She died before she reached the hospital.

At 11:30 p.m., a friend called her mother, Mavis Barnette.

"She had told me she'd been shot," Barnette said. "I said, 'What are you talking about? ... Where? When? What?' And she told me she was shot in the chest."

Adrian Murfitt, 35, of Anchorage: Murfitt attended the festival with his childhood best friend, Brian MacKinnon. Murfitt died in MacKinnon's arms.

What we still don't know

Why did he do it? Lombardo said investigators so far do not understand Paddock's "trigger point."

His family is similarly struggling. In a televised interview with reporters Wednesday, Eric Paddock said the family had no inkling what his brother was planning.

"This is a horror, just a horror story in every possible way," Eric Paddock said.

Perhaps an autopsy would reveal that Stephen Paddock had a brain tumor, he said, or another illness.

"I'm praying for at least some data points," Eric Paddock said. "Because otherwise, the bug in 'Men in Black' put on a Steve suit and went and did this. There's no other rationalization.

"Maybe no one will ever understand Steve," he went on. "But this is what I'll carry for the rest of my life: Had I called him back instead of texting, would I have heard something in his voice? Would he have given up something? I don't know."

—

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Times staff writers David Montero, Kate Mather and Ruben Vives in Mesquite; Joel Rubin, Richard Winton, Matt Pearce, Harriet Ryan, Victoria Kim, Paul Pringle, Joe Serna, Benjamin Oreskes, Sonali Kohli, Melissa Etehad, Seema Mehta and Ben Poston in Los Angeles; Joe Tanfani in Washington; and Orlando Sentinel reporters David Harris and Michael Williams in Florida contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: LAS VEGAS POLICE stand guard outside the Route 91 Harvest country music festival during Sunday night's rampage. The gunman, officials said, fired almost continually on concertgoers for 10 minutes.

PHOTOGRAPHER:David Becker Getty Images

PHOTO:Stephen Paddock

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Marilou Danley

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Benjamin Hoskins Paddock in a 1960s FBI poster, left, and in 1977.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Wayne Eastburn Register-Guard

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Investigations; Photographers; Law enforcement; Hotels & motels; Reporters; Gambling; Mass murders; Guards; Music festivals; Firearms; Explosives
<b>Location:</b>	United States--US Philippines Las Vegas Nevada
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS CONCERTS INVESTIGATIONS
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## LINKS

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# THE WORLD; Niger ambush points up fight against terrorism; Deaths of three Green Berets training local forces underscore U.S. efforts in the region.

Dixon, Robyn . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: A.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The killing of three U.S. commandos in a remote West African desert has focused attention on one of the many places America has boots on the ground to push back against terrorism and train forces that are often worse equipped and trained than the extremists they confront.

The incident also underscores the extent to which Niger and several of its troubled neighbors, including Mali and Nigeria, remain a priority in U.S. counter-terrorism efforts, although President Trump offered lukewarm support for a French initiative in June to boost international forces in the region.

The three commandos were killed Wednesday in southwestern Niger, a region notorious for drug smuggling, human trafficking and myriad extremist militias, including allies of Al Qaeda and Islamic State.

The Green Berets were on a training operation with Nigerien forces when they were ambushed. Five Nigerien soldiers were killed and two U.S. commandos were injured.

The United States' Africa Command, based in Stuttgart, Germany, said the American forces are in Niger to provide training and security assistance to the Nigerien armed forces in their efforts against violent extremists.

Niger, an impoverished, arid country in Francophone West Africa, is one of the most strategic locations in U.S. counter-terrorism operations on the continent. To its south is Nigeria, where an Islamic State affiliate, Boko Haram, has been fighting to establish Islamic rule, and to the west is Mali, where multiple extremist militias are present.

The U.S. has been running Operation Flintlock, an annual counter-terrorism operation with African forces in the Sahel region, since 2005 and operates an air base near Niamey, Niger's capital, flying drone missions since 2014.

The Air Force is also developing a multimillion-dollar drone base south of Agadez, a historic town in central Niger, which will enable Reaper drones to fly sorties to address the threat posed by myriad extremists in the region. The U.S. has also provided aircraft and military hardware to Niger in recent years.

France and Germany also have bases in Niger, reflecting the nation's strategic importance in counter-terrorism efforts. The U.N. has a 13,000-strong peacekeeping force, known as MINUSMA, in Mali.

The Africa Command offered few details on Wednesday's attack about 125 miles north of Niamey near Mali's border. The incident is under investigation, but extremists allied with Al Qaeda or Islamic State are suspected, a spokeswoman said. After the attack, U.S. forces in Niamey responded and evacuated the casualties to the capital before they were flown to Germany.

Niger is the main highway on the human trafficking route used by African migrants desperate to reach Europe via Libya. France, the most active Western force in the region, intervened in Mali in January 2013 after several Islamist militias conquered half the country, armed with weapons stolen from the military of Libyan leader Moammar Kadafi when he fell.

France sent forces at the request of the Malian government and helped drive extremists, including Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, Ansar Dine, and the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa, out of the main towns. However, they remain active across the region, kidnapping foreigners and attacking hotels and restaurants popular with Westerners.

Another group, which emerged in 2013, the Al Qaeda-linked Al Mourabitoun, active in Niger, Mali and Libya, claimed responsibility for an attack that killed 20 people at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Bamako, the Malian capital, in 2015. The group and its ally, Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, also claimed responsibility for an attack on a hotel in Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso, last year that killed 30 people. The same groups are believed to have carried out an attack on a restaurant in Ouagadougou in August that killed 18 people.

France, which has seen a string of domestic attacks by Islamic State, is also concerned about the threat posed by militants in the Sahel region south of the Sahara desert, and the possibility they could use the migrant route through Libya to infiltrate Europe and mount attacks in France.

In June, French President Emmanuel Macron won international support for a United Nations-backed force of 5,000 regional troops from Niger, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Mauritania to combat terrorism, drug smuggling and human trafficking in the Sahel.

But the proposal met a cool response from Trump, who has called for the budget for U.N. peacekeeping operations to be slashed. The force gained U.N. Security Council backing in June but lacks funding. France provided \$9 million and 70 vehicles and the European Union offered \$57 million, but it is unclear where the remainder of the \$400-million annual budget will come from.

France maintains a base in Niger as part of 5,000 French troops deployed in the region under Operation Barkhane, its Sahel counter-terrorism force. Germany, which has about 575 troops in the U.N. mission in Mali, announced last year it would set up a military base in Niger near Mali's border.

The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali, or MINUSMA, which costs about \$1 billion annually, is the world body's deadliest mission, with more than 120 service members killed in the last four years.

The White House said Trump was notified about the attack in Niger on Wednesday night as he flew back to Washington after meeting with shooting victims in Las Vegas.

—  
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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Drug trafficking; Counterterrorism; Extremism; Drones; Militia groups; Armed forces; Human trafficking
<b>Location:</b>	United States--US Libya Nigeria Germany Mali France Sahel Burkina Faso Europe
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Al Qaeda; NAICS: 813940; Name: US Africa Command; NAICS: 928110
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	NIGER UNITED STATES GREEN BERETS CASUALTIES MILITARY ASSAULTS TERRORISM
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.

<b>Pages:</b>	A.3
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<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 6, 2017
<b>Last updated:</b>	2017-11-24
<b>Database:</b>	Global Ne wsstream

## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# UFC hopes it can be distraction; In wake of Las Vegas shooting, fighters seek to provide a brief respite for fans.

Pugmire, Lance . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]06 Oct 2017: D.2.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Kevin Lee attended a charity event Tuesday at the Luxor, next door to Mandalay Bay, and glanced up to the 32nd floor room where the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history was perpetrated.

"It's been heartbreaking, and it's taken my mind away from me for a long time this week," Lee said. "But now I've got a job to do."

Lee, 25, is fighting Costa Mesa's Tony Ferguson in Saturday night's UFC 216 main event at T-Mobile Arena, a card expected to draw more than 10,000 fans just a few blocks north from where Stephen Paddock opened fire on a crowd at the Route 91 country music festival.

"We're here in Las Vegas ... it's hard to stay focused with that [tragedy]," Ferguson told the UFC's Megan Olivi. "But we're here for a reason. We're here to fight. ... We don't just do this to fight and beat somebody up.

"We aim to inspire, to motivate, to get people to see the grit and determination. Hopefully, this might be a distraction for some people."

Should Ferguson (23-3) defeat Lee (16-2) for the UFC's interim lightweight belt, he'll be in position to land his richest fight yet with lightweight champion Conor McGregor, who likely made \$100 million in his Aug. 26 novelty boxing match against Floyd Mayweather Jr.

Though some Las Vegas shows have been postponed, Celine Dion and Jennifer Lopez are among those scheduled to perform this weekend.

The UFC plans a \$1-million donation to those affected by the tragedy.

"Growing up in Detroit, there was so much gun violence, that was the norm," Lee, 25, said. "And I'll speak honestly: When I was a kid, I carried a gun for no reason. It was just out of fear, because everyone else had them. When I grew up, I realized what's important in life. You put it down, walk away, fight another day."

Lee has lived in Las Vegas while riding a five-fight winning streak.

"I'm just like a lot of people here. We come from other places, but we all come together. That's what's beautiful about Vegas, walking around and seeing people from all different walks of life. ... We're all the same. I hope that resonates," Lee said.

"This is bigger than myself. It'd be easy to sit and feel sorry for yourself, but I'm willing to sacrifice my energy and put my body on the line to take people's minds off it. If I can give you 25 minutes of not thinking about something else, then it's worth it to me -- to fight and take the biggest risk I can take. That's what life is all about."

Lee and flyweight champion Demetrious Johnson agreed the tragedy makes the timing right to address the toll of guns on society. Johnson said he keeps two guns in his home for personal safety, "but I don't agree somebody should have so many guns. ... They should tighten up the gun laws."

Said Lee: "The more we can create a dialogue, the more that we can speak up for the people without a voice, that's what I'm trying to do now. My voice is going to be bigger. I've got to get that gold belt. Once I've got that gold belt around my waist, my voice will be even bigger and then I can really speak up."

Johnson seeks to break longtime middleweight champion Anderson Silva's record of 10 consecutive successful title defenses yet understands more is at stake.

"Things will go on. Vegas will bounce back," Johnson said. "It will take some time. I don't expect things to change overnight. But I'm pleased the UFC is going on with this event to help people get through this, and hopefully we can provide some good entertainment."

—

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## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations
<b>Location:</b>	Costa Mesa California United States--US Las Vegas Nevada Detroit Michigan
<b>People:</b>	McGregor, Conor Lopez, Jennifer Dion, Celine Paddock, Stephen
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<b>Pages:</b>	D.2
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING: THE DEAD; LIVES CUT SHORT; From a broad swath of society, they came together for music -- and were killed for no good reason by a sniper who didn't discriminate

Mozingo, Joe . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

A pipefitter from Riverside, a limo driver from Reno, a teacher from Lancaster, a hockey mom from Alaska, a nurse from Tennessee.

Fifty-eight people who came to dance and groove, bound only by a common love of country music, were killed by an unseen gun in the night, nearly a quarter-mile away.

The death toll from Sunday's massacre in Las Vegas cut through a cross-section of America. The fallen had come from 14 states and two Canadian provinces. More than half, 33, were from California.

They were young adults, middle-aged parents and seniors -- most of all, they were music lovers, drawn to the desert for three days of their favorite country artists.

Whatever the shooter's motive, his sniper attack didn't strike any particular ideology or ethnicity or religion or sexual orientation. His was an act of abhorrent cruelty leveled simply at humanity, at us all.

At husbands who would die protecting their wives. At strangers who would cradle the dead. At people who would fall alone.

They had no way of knowing someone was targeting them from the 32nd floor of a luxury hotel.

The bullets bit the pavement, sounding like firecrackers. They didn't signal anything bewildering as the music played in the glitter of a Vegas night. Only when the blood started to run and people fell helplessly did the terror announce itself.

Around the country and beyond, 10 minutes of gunfire shattered families and towns.

"Here's to 23 wonderful years and looking forward to 23 more," Laurie Beaton had just posted on Facebook, as she and her husband, Jack, celebrated their anniversary. They had come from Bakersfield.

Less than an hour later, Jack was suddenly shielding her from heavy gunfire, pulling her down and lying on top of her.

"Laurie, I love you," he said.

"I love you too," she said.

That was the last she would ever hear from him.

When Jordan McIlldoon, a 23-year-old Canadian and self-described "cowboy boot, tattoo-covered redneck" who loved the outdoors was hit, Heather Gooze stepped in to help. The bartender had never met him.

"I felt his fingers, like, tighten and then loosen," Gooze told the CBC.

When McIlldoon's phone rang in his pocket, she answered and learned his identity from the friend on the line.

Gooze wrote McIlldoon's name on his arm, then searched for his family on Facebook.

His mother soon called, and Gooze promised she would stay with her son. She did for five hours.

"We had only one child," Al and Angela McIlldoon said later in a statement from British Columbia. "We just don't know what to do."

Sent to follow the long trails of Sunday's massacre, I sat earlier this week with the mother of Adrian Murfitt in Anchorage as she held back tears and struggled to understand why this stranger had killed her son, and how he

could be equipped to cause such mass casualties.

"I cannot believe when I found out about the guns and the way he altered those to be like machine guns," she said, "how that can be legal to any kind of private citizen."

In the senselessness of such murder, journalists strain to find meaning. We didn't want to just show the horror wrought by the gunman. We wanted to pay tribute to those who died for no good reason.

So we turned to the victims and the lives they lived.

Eleven reporters set out to learn about these waitresses, financial advisors and hairstylists, about these sisters, fathers and grandmothers.

In the last seven years, I have written about mass shootings in Tucson; Seal Beach; Aurora, Colo.; Newtown, Conn.; Killeen, Texas; Roseburg, Ore.; San Bernardino; Orlando; and now Las Vegas.

In a nation so divided over guns, the sickening truth is that we're just waiting for the next one.

—

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—

(BEGIN TEXT OF INFOBOX)

—

Two of the victims had survived serving in combat

Three were engaged to be married

Three died trying to save others

Thirty-six were women

The youngest was 20 years old

Caption: PHOTO: Hannah Ahlers

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Heather Alvarado

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Dorene Anderson

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Carrie Barnette

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Jack Beaton

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Steve Berger

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Candace Bowers

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Denise Burditus

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Sandy Casey

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Andrea Castilla

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Denise Cohen

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Austin Davis

PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Thomas Day Jr.

PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Christiana Duarte  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Stacee Etcheber  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Brian Fraser  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Keri Galvan  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Dana Gardner  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Angela Gomez  
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PHOTO:Charleston Hartfield  
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PHOTO:Chris Hazencomb  
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PHOTO:Jennifer Topaz Irvine  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Teresa Nicol Kimura  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Jessica Klymchuk  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Carly Kreibaum  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Rhonda LeRocque  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Victor Link  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Jordan McIlldoon  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Kelsey Breanne Meadows  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Calla Medig  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Sonny Melton  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Patricia Mestas  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Austin Meyer  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Adrian Murfitt  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Rachael Parker  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Jennifer Parks  
PHOTOGRAPHER:

PHOTO:Carrie Parsons  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Lisa Patterson  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:John Phippen  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Melissa Ramirez  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Jordyn Rivera  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Quinton Robbins  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Cameron Robinson  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Rocio Guillen Rocha  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Tara Roe  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Lisa Romero  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Christopher Roybal  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Brett Schwanbeck  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Bailey Schweitzer  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Laura Shipp  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Erick Silva  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Susan Smith  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Brennan Stewart  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Derrick "Bo" Taylor  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Neysa Tonks  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Michelle Vo  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Kurt Von Tillow  
PHOTOGRAPHER:  
PHOTO:Bill Wolfe Jr.  
PHOTOGRAPHER:

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Music; Photographers; Mass murders
<b>Location:</b>	Tennessee California Alaska Bakersfield California
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<b>Document URL:</b>	<a href="http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1947732366?accountid=7285">http://libproxy.csun.edu/login?url=https://search.proquest.com/docview/1947732366?accountid=7285</a>
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright Los Angeles Times Oct 7, 2017
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# Thwarting sniper attack a challenge; The Las Vegas massacre of 58 people will force a shift in

# policing outdoor events, experts believe

Winton, Richard; Mohan, Geoffrey; Parvini, Sarah; Knoll, Corina . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Oct 2017: B.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

He was a quarter of a mile away and a few hundred feet high -- the smallest of specks in a boisterous landscape. They were 22,000 targets in an open field, dodging gunfire on a night when music turned to madness.

Some staked their lives on the shelter of a beer cart, a food truck, a cooler. Those who ran had little sense of direction. Were they racing toward the shots? Would a car, a restaurant, a hotel closet, become refuge or a trap? The mass shooting Sunday at the Route 91 Harvest Festival would leave 58 dead and hundreds more injured. It would also highlight the vulnerability of those in the focus of a sniper as well as the chilling limitations of responding officers.

Authorities have long discussed the threat of terrorism by a sniper in a crowded area and the reality that there are relatively few tools to prevent or quickly stop such an attack.

Los Angeles police have tried different tactics, including placing sharpshooters on rooftops during the Academy Awards. Earlier this year and for the first time, the LAPD had an officer in a helicopter shoot a suspect who was firing from the top of a hill.

But replicating those tactics more commonly at open-air events would be costly and in some cases impractical. Stephen Paddock's position on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino gave him "commanding terrain," said Charles Heal, a retired Los Angeles County sheriff's commander and special weapons leader.

"There were so many people in his line of fire, he didn't need to target anyone," Heal said. He said the complexity of a high-rise hotel created a maze for police attempting to track Paddock.

"If you don't find cover, given his position, he is likely to hit you."

The scene was sustained by what could be called the trigonometry of terror.

Retired Army Lt. Col. Arthur B. Alphin said Paddock was a patient, well-trained gunner who did not pick and choose his targets, but held to a steady kill zone centered in the middle of thousands of concertgoers.

"He had a huge area of three, four or five football fields with people standing shoulder to shoulder," said Alphin, who has a mechanical engineering degree and specialized in ballistics.

"He was not aiming at any individual person. He was just throwing bullets in a huge 'beaten zone.'"

"Beaten zone" is an infantry term dating to World War I. Shaped like the area a searchlight casts across a flat surface, it refers to where bullets can strike. It can move substantially with tiny changes in the tilt of the gun.

From his perch, Paddock was firing down the hypotenuse of a right triangle and would have to adjust his aim for the arc of the bullet -- a skill that would require training.

At least one of the 23 weapons found in his hotel room had a bipod stand to hold it steady, authorities said.

Officers on the ground would be virtually ineffective when combating a sniper so far away, said San Marino Police Chief John Incontro, a former LAPD SWAT captain.

"Even if you see the muzzle flash, we are talking officers with pistols," Incontro said. "Even with rifles, you have a prospect of missing and harming others."

Experts believe the Las Vegas massacre will force a shift in the paradigm for policing outdoor events. Locations will be vetted for quick escape routes for large crowds. Event organizers might be asked to have materials on hand that could become a makeshift fence. Tactical plans could be drawn up for areas such as L.A. Live where skyscrapers loom.

Los Angeles police currently station counter-snipers at open-air events, but the tactic is used sparingly and only for major affairs, such as award shows. A counter-sniper would have to be positioned higher than the shooter.

On May 8, after a five-hour standoff with a gunman in Sunland, Los Angeles police were ordered to fire from a helicopter. The man was at the top of a hill in a house and had been difficult for responding officers to reach. Chief Charlie Beck said the decision to employ the tactic was made at the highest levels of the department.

It's not clear whether that approach would have been effective in a situation like the Las Vegas killings.

"You have to get pretty close for that shot," said Incontro, adding that a sniper could also shoot at the helicopter, possibly forcing it into the ground.

Paddock's plan of attack was similar to that of Charles Whitman, a former Marine sharpshooter who opened fire from a tower at the University of Texas at Austin in 1966.

Whitman, who lost his scholarship to the school a few years earlier, had taken an elevator to the 27th floor, where he hauled rifles up two flights of stairs to the observation deck. Sixteen people were killed.

Paddock was even higher up and armed with weapons modified to rapidly fire when he began his relentless attack on the crowd below.

He was able to create a setting similar to that of a battlefield, said James Allen Fox, a Northeastern University criminologist who researches mass killings.

Those watching country singer Jason Aldean perform that night dismissed the initial gunshots as firecrackers. Then bodies began to drop.

"We've got to go!" Jared Birnbaum heard his girlfriend say before she disappeared in the chaos.

He scrambled to an exit only to be stopped by a police officer redirecting the mob. Birnbaum then dove under nearby bleachers, joining hundreds of others.

By then, Birnbaum was covered in blood – most of it from other people – and hearing talk of multiple shooters. He feared being taken hostage in what felt like a fishbowl of raining bullets.

"All you could do is duck and put your hands behind your head," he said, "and hope you're not one of the ones to go."

–

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Times staff writer Kate Mather contributed to this report from Las Vegas.

Caption: PHOTO: DEBRIS litters the grounds in Las Vegas where hundreds of concertgoers were shot Sunday. Authorities have long discussed the threat of a sniper in a crowded area and that there are few countertools.

PHOTOGRAPHER:John Locher Associated Press

PHOTO:A POLICE OFFICER takes cover during what would turn out to be the massacre of 58 people at the Route 91 Harvest Festival.

PHOTOGRAPHER:John Locher Associated Press

PHOTO:THE KILLER'S position on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort gave him "commanding terrain," said Charles Heal, a retired L.A. County sheriff's commander and special weapons leader. "There were so many people in his line of fire, he didn't need to target anyone."

PHOTOGRAPHER:John Locher Associated Press

PHOTO:THE ATTACK was similar to that of the 1966 killer who shot from a University of Texas at Austin tower.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Molly Hennessy-Fiske Los Angeles Times

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Photographers; Mass murders; Massacres; Hotels & motels
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING: THE DEAD; 58 STORIES OF LIFE, LOVE AND DEATH

## FULL TEXT

Hannah Ahlers

Murrieta

Ahlers, 35, enjoyed simple pleasures such as spending time outdoors with friends and family. "She was possibly one of the most beautiful women I have ever seen, with a heart to match," her friend Sunni Almond said.

Heather Alvarado

Cedar City, Utah

Alvarado, 35, was a mother of three who enjoyed vacations and time outdoors with her husband, a firefighter. "She spent her whole life serving others in her family and community," said her husband, Albert Alvarado.

Dorene Anderson

Anchorage

Anderson, 49, was a hockey booster in Anchorage and a self-described "stay-at-home wife and mother." She had traveled to Las Vegas with her husband, John, and two daughters, who all survived the shooting.

Carrie Barnette

Riverside

Barnette, 34, loved her Disneyland job and time with her nieces and nephews, and honored her grandparents with a tattoo of their favorite bird -- a hummingbird. "She was always generous and helping everybody in every way," said her mother, Mavis Barnette.

Jack Beaton

Bakersfield

Beaton, 54, died on his 23rd wedding anniversary shielding his wife, Laurie, with his body. Earlier that day she posted: "Here's to 23 wonderful years and looking forward to 23 more."

Steve Berger

Shorewood, Minn.

Tall, handsome, gregarious -- and a basketball stand-out in as a young man -- Berger was a single father of three. He went to Las Vegas to celebrate his 44th birthday last Saturday, and was killed the following day.

Candace Bowers

Garden Grove

Candace Bowers, 40, overcame many challenges in her life, including as a young girl when her mother died. She raised two children as a single mother and adopted a relative's 2-year-old child earlier this year.

Denise Burditus

Martinsburg, W.V.

Burditus, 50, died in her husband's arms Sunday, not long after posting a photo on Facebook of the couple grinning big at the festival, with the Mandalay Bay hotel in the background.

Sandy Casey

Manhattan Beach

Casey, 34, was a special education teacher at Manhattan Beach Middle School for nine years. "She has made a tremendous difference in the lives of her students and their families," the Manhattan Beach Unified School District said in a statement.

Andrea Castilla

Huntington Beach

Castilla's boyfriend, Derek Miller, was planning to propose to the 28-year-old makeup artist the weekend of the Route 91 Harvest Festival. "I had waited for her my whole life," he said.

Denise Cohen

Santa Barbara

Cohen, 58, was never without a smile. "Even when she was having a bad day she'd be trying to cheer everybody up," said her sister, Kristal Vogel. Her boyfriend, Derrick "Bo" Taylor, also was killed at the concert.

Austin Davis

Riverside

A proud union man, Davis, 29, had just become a journeyman pipefitter. A Facebook friend celebrated his promotion: "Congratulations to you my good man!"

Thomas Day Jr.

Riverside

A home builder, the 54-year-old Day had his four children -- all in their 20s and 30s -- with him at the concert. "He was the best dad. That's why the kids were with him," Day's father said.

Christiana Duarte

Redondo Beach

Duarte, 22, had dreamed of following her family into sports -- not on the field, but in the front office. Relatives have played pro baseball. She started her first full-time job in September as a fan services associate with the Los Angeles Kings.

Stacee Etcheber

Novato, Calif.

Etcheber, 50, was as likely to be seen cheering at her kids' sports games as starting a fire on their school camping trips, or helping someone change the oil in their car. She attended the concert with her husband, San Francisco Police Officer Vinnie Etcheber.

Brian Fraser

La Palma

Fraser, 39, had become ordained as a minister so he could officiate at his stepson's wedding in July. A loan officer, Fraser leaves behind his wife, stepson and three young children.

Keri Galvan

Thousand Oaks

Galvan, 31, cherished her three young children. Her sister said her "days started and ended with doing everything in her power to be a wonderful mother."

Dana Gardner

Grand Terrace

As deputy recorder-county clerk for San Bernardino County, Gardner, 52, was a consummate professional. Her boss Bob Dutton said: "If you needed advice or questions came up, she had the answer."

Angela Gomez

Riverside

Friends of Gomez, 20, remember her for her love of the stage and her dedication to becoming a nurse. "Angie was a fun-loving, sweet young lady with a great sense of humor," said her former cheer coach, Lupe Avila.

Charleston Hartfield

Las Vegas

Off-duty at the time of the concert, Hartfield, 34, was an officer with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department after serving in the Army during the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Chris Hazencomb

Camarillo

Colleagues and relatives described Hazencomb, 44, as a kind and selfless man, a friend and co-worker who loved talking sports. At 6-foot-5 he would help his aunt reach the top shelves in the grocery store. He died shielding a friend from bullets.

Jennifer Topaz Irvine

San Diego

The 42-year-old was a hard-charging family-law attorney who enjoyed yoga, snowboarding and taekwondo in her free time.

Teresa Nicol Kimura

Placentia

Among a close-knit group of friends who dubbed themselves the "family," Kimura, 38, was known for her energy and radiance. "Route 91 was her favorite weekend of the year," said friend Chad Elliott, who tried to shield her from the bullets.

Jessica Klymchuk

Valleyview, Alberta, Canada

Klymchuk, 34, was a librarian and bus driver who was raising four children on her own. She was engaged to Brent Irla and died by his side.

Carly Kreibaum

Sutherland, Iowa

Kreibaum, 33, lived in a small town with her husband and two children. She was "well-loved by everyone and a fabulous mother," said Sutherland City Clerk Natosha Pettitt.

Rhonda LeRocque

Tewksbury, Mass.

LeRocque, 42, was a designer who was remembered by friends for her work as a Jehovah's Witness and for helping rebuild homes in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina.

Victor Link

Aliso Viejo

Music was part of Victor Link's life ever since his days as a young boy in rural Shafter, Calif. The 55-year-old's fiancée, Lynne Gonzalez, shared his love of music, and the couple regularly traveled to concerts.

Jordan McIlldoon

Maple Ridge, British Columbia, Canada

McIlldoon's parents remember the 23-year-old as a "self-described cowboy boot, tattoo-covered redneck who loved the outdoors."

Kelsey Breanne Meadows

Taft, Calif.

Meadows, 28, stayed close to home, growing up to become a substitute teacher at her alma mater, Taft Union High School. "She had a sweet spirit and a love for children," Principal Mary Alice Finn said.

Calla Medig

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Medig, who was about to become manager of the restaurant where she worked, had attended the Route 91 Harvest Festival for three straight years. She and a friend decided to go again before she started her new position.

Sonny Melton

Big Sandy, Tenn.

Melton, 29, was a nurse who shielded his wife, Heather, from the gunfire. "You know how when you meet someone and you just know that they're good and kind? That was Sonny," said Christy Davis, an assistant nursing professor at Union University.

Patricia Mestas

Corona

Pati Mestas' love of music, particularly country, led her to many concerts and festivals. Mestas, 67, had recently retired as deli manager at a convenience store.

Austin Meyer

Reno

Meyer, 24, was in Las Vegas with his fiancée, who surprised him with tickets to the concert. A limo driver who had gone back to school, he hoped to open an auto repair shop after graduation.

Adrian Murfitt

Anchorage

Murfitt, 35, was a commercial fisherman, an animal lover and bit of a goofball. "He made me laugh. He was like an Alaskan cowboy, but when he saw a dog he'd turn into a 10-year-old kid," said his friend Brian MacKinnon, who survived the shooting.

Rachael Parker

Long Beach

Parker, 33, was a records technician at the Manhattan Beach Police Department. A coworker remembered her as "always happy."

Jennifer Parks

Lancaster

Parks, 35, a kindergarten teacher, was the "the kind of teacher everybody wants their children to have," said Westside Union School District Supt. Regina Rossall.

Carrie Parsons

Seattle

Parsons, 31, grew up across Puget Sound on Bainbridge Island and had interests that varied from country music to culinary arts. A huge fan of singer Eric Church, she took a selfie near the stage as he played Sunday night.

Lisa Patterson

Lomita

Patterson, 46, attended the concert with three friends. The last time her husband, Robert, heard from her was a text sent around 8 p.m. Sunday. It was a gif of a girl alone on a seesaw, with the message, "miss you."

John Phippen

Santa Clarita

Phippen, 56, was dancing next to his son, Travis, at the show when he was hit in the lower back by a bullet. Travis, an emergency medical technician, carried his father to a car that took them to a hospital, where John died from his injuries.

Melissa Ramirez

Littlerock, Calif.

Ramirez, 26, was an avid Philadelphia Eagles fan. In her memory, her work colleagues at AAA wore green ribbons – the team color. "I and everybody else will be Eagle fans today and, more importantly, a Melissa fan for life. God bless you and your family," Christopher Sandoval wrote on social media.

Jordyn Rivera

La Verne

Rivera, 21, was months into her fourth year as a healthcare management student at Cal State San Bernardino. "We will remember and treasure her for her warmth, optimism, energy, and kindness," university President Tomas D. Morales wrote to the campus community.

Quinton Robbins

Henderson, Nev.

Robbins, 20, loved playing sports and teaching them to others. He ran recreational adult sports leagues for his hometown and volunteered coaching kids, including his younger brother's flag football team.

Cameron Robinson

St. George, Utah

Robinson, 28, was known for being spontaneous, smart and the life of any space he entered. He would call and say, "We're going hiking in the mountains," said friend and boss Brad Jerbic. And they would.

Rocio Guillen Rocha

Eastvale

With two teenagers, a 1 1/2-year-old and a baby boy born seven weeks ago -- Rocha, 40, would have wanted to be remembered as a supermom. "She did whatever she could not to miss out on her children's lives," said friend Shannon Dahl.

Tara Roe

Okotoks, Alberta, Canada

Roe, 34, was vacationing with her husband in Las Vegas. She was the mother of two sons and worked as a school assistant and a model.

Lisa Romero

Gallup, N.M.

Romero, 48, worked as a secretary for Gallup-McKinley County Schools. Students remember her as a loving woman who went out of her way to give them advice.

Christopher Roybal

Denver

Roybal, 28, enlisted in the Navy in 2007 and served five years. During that time he earned a Combat Action Ribbon, Afghanistan Campaign Medal and a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. He was at the festival with his mother, Debbie Allen.

Brett Schwanbeck

Bullhead City, Ariz.

Schwanbeck, 61, was an avid outdoorsman, remembered by family as the reliable one, whether he was helping a niece fix a taillight or warning the new boyfriend of a great-niece to treat her well. He attended at the concert with his fiancée, Anna Corozco, who survived.

Bailey Schweitzer

Bakersfield

Schweitzer, 20, had only been working seven months as a receptionist at Infinity Communications and Consulting but made a lasting impression. "No one could possibly have a bad day when Bailey was around." said Chief Executive Fred Brakeman.

Laura Shipp

Las Vegas

Shipp, 50, was a single mother who had raised her son, Corey, alone. "It was just the two of them," said her brother, Steve Shipp. "He looked out for her and she looked out for him." They had been hoping to buy a house.

Erick Silva

Las Vegas

Silva, 22, was the type of guy who bought hamburgers for elderly people who found themselves homeless and without supper last Christmas. A security guard at the concert, he lifted concertgoers over a barricade and to safety before he was killed.

Susan Smith

Simi Valley

Smith, 53, with crystal blue eyes and a broad smile, was the first face a parent or student would see when walking into Vista Fundamental Elementary School. "She was the hub of the school.... Everyone who came through those doors, she knew," said Jake Finch, a school district spokeswoman.

Brennan Stewart

Las Vegas

The chiseled 30-year-old Stewart had posted a video online of himself playing guitar and singing "You Should Be Here" by Cole Swindell. The song is about loss, with haunting lyrics. More than 200,000 people have shared the video.

Derrick "Bo" Taylor

Oxnard

Taylor's career as a corrections officer spanned 29 years. "There are no words to express the feeling of loss and sadness regarding Bo's passing," wrote Warden Joel Martinez. Taylor's girlfriend, Denise Cohen, also was killed at the concert.

Neysa Tonks

Las Vegas

Known to a niece as "Aunt Ne-Ne," the 46-year-old Tonks had shared dozens of photos of her three sons on Facebook, showing them sledding down snowy hills, beaming at Boy Scout ceremonies, and – years later, and feet taller – standing with their mother at the beach.

Michelle Vo

Los Angeles

The 32-year-old Vo's day job as an insurance agent belied her sparkling and adventurous personality. "She spread joy and laughter everywhere she went.... She loved people. She loved sports and will try anything," sister Diane Vo Hawkins said.

Kurt Von Tillow

Cameron Park, Calif.

His friends said that whenever Von Tillow, 55, laughed, it brought smiles to the faces of people around him. "I will always remember him for his big belly laughs and smiles and tremendous friendship," Mark Baca said on Facebook. "Everyone was his friend."

Bill Wolfe Jr.

Shippensburg, Pa.

Wolfe, 42, was a father of two who coached Little League baseball and youth wrestling. "The world has lost another good man, good father and husband," said his friend Wanda Neil Davenport.

Times staff writers Esmeralda Bermudez, Cindy Carcamo, Thomas Curwen, W.J. Hennigan, Laura J. Nelson, Benjamin Oreskes and Ben Poston contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: HUNDREDS SHINE their cellphone lights on the Manhattan Beach Pier during a memorial Wednesday for two city employees who were among those killed Sunday.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Wally Skalij Los Angeles Times

PHOTO:KAILI BERDGE of Scottsdale, Ariz., tends to the candles Wednesday at a memorial near the scene of Sunday's mass shooting at a music festival off the Vegas Strip.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

PHOTO:VEGAS RESIDENT Carol-Ann Seitzinger runs her hand over each of the homemade crosses bearing the names of the 58 victims of the attack. Greg Zanis of Illinois drove all night to deliver the crosses as a tribute.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Gina Ferazzi Los Angeles Times

P: GRAPHIC: MAP: Where the victims were from

CREDIT:Los Angeles Times

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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# NRA receptive to gun control measure

Lee, Kurtis . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Oct 2017: A.12.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

The NRA does not budge in its opposition to stricter gun controls.

Not after 32 students and faculty were killed on the campus of Virginia Tech. Not after 12 people were killed in a movie theater in Aurora, Colo. And not after 20 first-graders and six staffers were shot to death at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

But now, days after a gunman killed at least 58 people at an outdoor country music festival on the Las Vegas Strip, the National Rifle Assn. has budged -- at least a little.

NRA leaders issued a statement Thursday calling for regulation of "bump stocks," a device that authorities said was used in the Las Vegas massacre to make semiautomatic firearms behave like fully automatic ones.

The group said it "believes that devices designed to allow semiautomatic rifles to function like fully automatic rifles should be subject to additional regulations," while calling on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which currently authorizes the sale of bump stocks, to implement tougher rules.

The statement also called on Congress to pass a law that would force states to honor concealed weapons permits issued in other states -- suggesting to some gun control advocates that bump stocks were an easy place for the NRA to give up ground as it fights more significant battles over gun laws.

"This does not impact guns or manufacturers," said Mark Rosenberg, a gun violence expert who has headed the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. "These devices are accessories to firearms. Most mass murders don't use these devices ... most gun owners also don't use them." The NRA's position may also be an acknowledgment that it might be difficult to defend a court challenge to bump stocks. Federal law bans automatic weapons.

Still, Rosenberg said the statement was significant because it marked clear movement from the group. In 2002, NRA leader Wayne LaPierre, laying out the group's philosophical views on the 2nd Amendment, said "we must declare that there are no shades of gray in American freedom. It's black and white, all or nothing."

"These recent comments from the NRA are not black and white at all," Rosenberg said. "They believe more regulation is needed. That's promising."

For Tom Sullivan, who became an avid gun control advocate after his son, Alex, was killed on his 27th birthday on July 20, 2012, in the Aurora movie theater, the NRA's announcement came too late but was still welcome.

"Where has this been all along? Why not speak out against bump stocks before this happens," he said. "It's incremental, but it's movement."

For years, the NRA has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to defeat candidates -- Democrats and Republicans alike -- who support tougher gun laws. Last year, the NRA spent nearly \$50 million in the presidential race and six competitive Senate contests, according to the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics, which tracks campaign spending. The group helped a majority of those candidates win their contests.

In 2012, following a string of high-profile mass shootings, President Obama and Democrats in Congress pushed for legislation to expand background checks. At no point did the NRA waver in its opposition, and the effort failed as nearly all congressional Republicans opposed the effort.

This week, House Speaker Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin and other Republicans expressed a willingness to regulate bump stocks.

Rep. Dina Titus, a Democrat from Nevada whose district spans the Strip, announced legislation this week to do just that. It would ban possession of bump stocks.

Titus said she was also exploring the regulation of other devices that can effectively turn a semiautomatic weapon into an automatic one, such as a glove that turns one pull of the trigger into multiple, rapid shots.

"The NRA is suddenly realizing they're going to have to do something," Titus said, noting that some Republicans are supportive of her bill. "I think opposition to them -- not in Congress, but in the community -- is building and it has built over time."

"Maybe it's just the cumulative effect" of mass shootings, she said.

--

kurtis.lee@latimes.com

Times staff writer Seema Mehta contributed to this report.

Caption: PHOTO: "BUMP STOCKS" allow a semiautomatic rifle to increase its firing speed. A move is afoot to ban them.

PHOTOGRAPHER:George Frey Getty Images

## DETAILS

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# Get mad, not sad

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## FULL TEXT

Re "Don't pray for Vegas. That's not how we do things," Opinion, Oct. 4

The deadly toll of mass murders will continue to rise until citizens get more mad than sad. The repeated national emphasis on sadness that follows these attacks evokes the emotion of empathy and our shared humanity. That is fine, but it does not evoke much action outward. This emotion is cultivated by leaders who do not want us to get angry, unless terrorists, who we are encouraged to fear, are involved. Then it seems to be OK for people get mad and want to do something.

Polls suggest that people don't fear guns in the hands of Americans, but they do fear terrorists, and this fear underlies most anger. The problem is that we're not fearful of the more than 300 million guns and especially the millions of assault-type weapons, which can often be transformed into automatic weapons.

The anger must start by changing our mass mediated messages about fear: It is our fellow Americans, often armed to the teeth, who provide the largest threat to our lives. We need to focus on the arms industry, on the lobbyists and on Congress. This cabal has no qualms about providing numerous assault rifles to virtually anyone who wants one, and that is scary.

Let's mourn the slain, but then let's get mad at what we should fear.

David Altheide, Solana Beach

The writer, a professor at the Arizona State University School of Social Transformation, is the author of the book "Terrorism and the Politics of Fear."

::

Years before District of Columbia vs. Heller was decided in 2008, the late Chief Justice Warren Burger correctly called the reasoning underpinning it – that the 2nd Amendment guarantees an individual right to own guns – a "fraud."

I made a film on the American Revolution, so I studied colonial society for years. Any good historian of that period can tell you that the meaning of the amendment is not what Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in the Heller decision. If you understand colonial society, it is clear that this language pertains not to individuals but to the state militias. This does not mean that the founders intended individuals not to have guns; it means that the Constitution does not address the issue of individuals owning arms. Furthermore, the framers could not have imagined today's assault weapons any more than they could have imagined iPhones.

Steven Schechter



Thousand Oaks

::

One need only to look at the high homicide rate in Chicago to see that gun control does not prevent murder. Chicago has tough gun laws, and yet it has more homicides than any other U.S. city.

It is supremely more relevant to look at the closing of mental health institutions in California and elsewhere. Currently, there are not enough services for our fellow citizens with mental illnesses, contributing directly to incidents of mass murder.

Spending our resources on helping people suffering from delusions, paranoia, depression and other afflictions is a far better use of that money than trying to defeat the National Rifle Assn. or change the 2nd Amendment.

Catherine Wirtz

Westlake Village

::

I was raised in a family of hunters and recreational shooters, and my grandfather was a competitive trapshooter. As no stranger to gun culture, I say this: The NRA is no longer a sportsmen's club.

Today it's possible to legally purchase weapons and accessories capable of injuring or killing more than 500 people in a short period of time. Until this week, Congress was considering rolling back restrictions on silencers, and legislation was moving to require concealed carry reciprocity among the states.

These laws don't solve problems, they are problems.

If the Mandalay Bay hotel pool had chemically burned 500 people, we would regulate pool chemicals. We can and should pass common-sense gun laws. For example, AB 424, a bill to keep guns out of K-12 schools, is sitting on Gov. Jerry Brown's desk.

No more thoughts and prayers. It's time for action.

Darby Saxbe

Los Angeles

::

When you purchase and drive a car, you have to be licensed and you need to register the car and pay for insurance; occasionally, one must attend traffic school.

We need to tie gun ownership to the civic duty implicit in the 2nd Amendment phrase "well regulated militia." The surest path to this is waving the possibility of shiny new revenue streams at our state governments and the insurance industry.

Make gun owners pay in these ways: certifications, registration and licensing that must be renewed; liability insurance; and required public service in the National Guard or local emergency management services.

Freedom isn't free, as the saying goes, so make gun owners pay for it.

Elisabeth Eliassen

Alameda

::

While pondering why people are obsessed with getting as many automatic-like accessories as can be found, the words of an old song about World War I veterans comes to mind: "How ya gonna keep 'em down on the farm after they've seen Paris?"

Are limitless quantities of revolvers and semi-automatic rifles not satisfying enough for gun enthusiasts? Perhaps the intoxicating power of releasing automatic fire is addictive.

Is there a recovery program for that?

Barbara Jackson

Cerritos

--

'Dirty John' is a cautionary tale

Re "Dirty John," parts 1-4, Oct. 1-5

I imagine you got many letters chastising you for putting the "Dirty John" series -- about an Orange County family's attempt to free itself of a dangerous manipulator -- on the front page when there is so much more important news to report.

But I want to thank you for possibly saving many more women from these kinds of predators. We have all been lied to at some point in our lives, and usually it does nothing more than break our hearts. Sociopaths abound in today's world, and so many women fall for these guys.

I hope with all my heart that this story will be a wake-up call to many women and save much anguish, heartbreak and, more important, lives.

Barbara Busch  
Santa Barbara

::

When I first saw the huge "Dirty John" headline in Sunday's print edition, I assumed it was one of those faux front-page ads. I was disgusted when I realized that you had actually used this on the front page of what I had always considered a responsible, serious, dignified publication.

Are you now putting our newspaper in the league with the National Enquirer? It is an attention-getting story, but it belongs inside the paper.

With all the heartbreaking, unsettling, challenging news stories that might warrant the front page, this certainly isn't one of them.

Leslie Geffen  
Encino

::

In Part 3, we learn that "Dirty John" Meehan picked up the nickname from his law school classmates because of his manipulative, deceptive, cunning nature.

Had he graduated from that law school, those devious qualities would have earned him the more commonly accepted appellation for this type of person: "lawyer."

John Farley  
San Juan Capistrano

-

(BEGIN TEXT OF INFOBOX)

Numbers and letters

A quick breakdown of the mail we received from readers this week

869

Printable letters to the editor were received between last Friday and this Friday.

327

Letters were written about the massacre in Las Vegas, the week's most-discussed topic.

78

Readers discussed the Trump administration's response to the crisis in Puerto Rico.

57

Readers reacted to The Times' "Dirty John" series, the third-most discussed topic.

Caption: PHOTO: PERSONAL ITEMS OF victims and survivors of Sunday's mass shooting in Las Vegas lie at the scene.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Marcus Yam Los Angeles Times

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# LAS VEGAS SHOOTING; Vegas gunman is remembered as a 'goofball'; Former employee says Paddock was 'stable' and 'even-keeled.'

Elmahrek, Adam; Pearce, Matt; Mehta, Seema . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Oct 2017: A.8.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Stephen Paddock, the former IRS agent and professional gambler whose shooting rampage in Las Vegas left 58 victims dead, was a laid-back "goofball" who didn't have a "serious bone in his body," a longtime employee of the gunman said Friday.

"He was the most stable, even-keeled personality," said Lisa Crawford, who worked as a property manager in Texas for Paddock from 2006 to 2012. "He never even got frustrated."

Crawford said she knew Paddock "better than a wife would," and had an "emotional breakdown" after Paddock was identified as the gunman in the attack on the Route 91 Harvest Festival outside the Mandalay Bay hotel that also injured nearly 500 people.

"I just pray that they can solve the problem -- that he had an alternate personality, or had a brain tumor," Crawford said.

Investigators revealed Friday that they also remain confused by the assault, which came after Paddock apparently spent the late summer gambling in Las Vegas and scouting outdoor concerts in Chicago and Boston, possibly as alternate targets.

"We do not still have a clear motive or reason why," Clark County Undersheriff Kevin McMahill said at a news conference. "We have looked at everything, literally, to the suspect's personal life, any political affiliation, his social behaviors, economic situation and any potential radicalization that so many have claimed."

But officials seem sure about one thing: "We're very confident that there was not another shooter in that room," said McMahill, and while investigators continue to gather all the clues they can, "We have not located any other person that we believe to be a suspect at this point."

The congresswoman who represents the Las Vegas Strip and has been briefed on the investigation said authorities were combing through all the video footage from inside Mandalay Bay as they try to discern a motive.

"I'm not sure we'll ever know it, but they're going through every shred of evidence they can find for some kind of explanation," said Rep. Dina Titus (D-Nev.). She said learning Paddock's motivation remained the most crucial part of the investigation.

"So far, with the interview with the girlfriend, looking at his computer, looking at the cameras, going through all of his internet history, so far nothing gives us an idea of what his motive was," Titus said.

Paddock's girlfriend, Marilou Danley, and one of his brothers, Eric Paddock, have publicly said they knew Stephen Paddock as a caring man who showed no signs of planning an attack.

Paddock's former property manager, Crawford, had similarly little explanation for Paddock's turn to murder.

"It doesn't make sense. He didn't want attention. He just wanted to blend in with the crowd, with the concrete,"

Crawford said Friday. "In my opinion, he would have stepped in front of any harm that would have been coming toward me. He would have interfered in a heartbeat."

Before Paddock lived with his girlfriend, Danley, in a retirement community in Mesquite, Nev., he lived near his mother in Mesquite, Texas, a suburban working-class town outside Dallas.

Property records show he bought the home he lived in -- in a placid neighborhood of red-brick, single-family homes -- in 1998, and sold it in 2010. It's unclear how long he actually lived there, but neighbors recalled seeing him regularly.

A source familiar with the transaction said Paddock bought an apartment complex in the city in 2004 for close to \$8 million and sold it in 2012, with not much, if any, profit on the sale.

Crawford, 54, still lives in the Dallas area, and she managed the Central Park Apartment complex in a somewhat newly developed part of Mesquite. She bonded quickly with Paddock when he bought the property -- not romantically, but as friends.

"From the night he came to the door when he bought the property, to the very end, our personalities just clicked," Crawford said.

"He was above the normal in a good way, in a beautiful way, for lack of a better term," she added. "You wanted to be around him because he was cool. He was cool to hang out with; he made you laugh."

Paddock had a mind like a world-class chess player, thinking ahead and anticipating tenants' concerns and problems with his property. "He didn't have to think about it, he was just smart," Crawford said. "It was natural, like a gift."

She said he was relaxed, not intense. "He'd sit back in the chair and just talk," Crawford said. He'd watch comedies and romantic movies on Crawford's Netflix account. "We didn't talk politics, we didn't talk religion," Crawford said. "Did he believe in the Lord? I think he probably did."

Paddock had guns, as far as she knew, though he didn't show them to Crawford. "Maybe if he was bored, he'd maybe go to the gun shop and do something with his time till I was available so he could harass me," said Crawford, chuckling.

For Texas, she said, that was not out of the ordinary.

Paddock always carried a pistol around in his fanny pack with his money, Crawford said. "He never told me it was there," Crawford said. "I knew it was there, because we would talk about guns and everything, and I said, 'Do you carry yours around all the time?' He said, 'That's for me to know and you to find out.' "

The most distressed Crawford ever saw Paddock was when he got a kidney stone, but even then, Crawford couldn't help but laugh with him at his condition. Crawford's mother took Paddock to the emergency room.

When Paddock slipped and fell in a casino, Crawford likewise teased him about his hurt leg. "I had to carry [his] suitcase because his leg was hurting," Crawford said. "I'm like, 'You big wuss, you big weenie.' We just loved each other that way."

Crawford stopped working for Paddock in 2012 and hadn't seen him for years. The last time she talked to him was an email she sent during Hurricane Irma as it headed for Florida in early September, where some of Paddock's family lived. "In the subject line, I wrote, 'Dead or alive?' " The pair talked about the storms and about Hurricane Harvey, which hit Texas.

When Hurricane Irma did not hit Florida as hard as expected, Paddock wrote Crawford a joking email "that said something like, 'Newsflash, Irma took a different direction, 8.5 million people wanting their money back' " from storm-preparation purchases at Home Depot, Crawford said.

"What I would love for everyone to know about him, he was a good person when I knew him, and face to face, he was a good person," said Crawford, choking up as she talked. She said she hadn't slept since Monday, when she learned about the attack, leaving her bottled up with emotion.

Of Paddock's motive, Crawford said: "I just think there's more to it, personally. I just think there's more out there that needs to be found."

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Elmahrek reported from Texas, Pearce and Mehta from Los Angeles.

Caption: PHOTO: A MEMBER of the FBI walks among piles of personal items at the scene of Sunday's mass shooting in Las Vegas. "We do not still have a clear motive or reason why," Clark County Undersheriff Kevin McMahon said

PHOTOGRAPHER:John Locher Associated Press

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Shootings; Criminal investigations; Mass murders
<b>Location:</b>	Chicago Illinois Texas
<b>People:</b>	Danley, Marilou
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Internal Revenue Service–IRS; NAICS: 921130
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	LAS VEGAS (NV) MASS MURDERS SHOOTINGS
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	A.8
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
<b>Publication date:</b>	Oct 7, 2017
<b>Dateline:</b>	MESQUITE, TEXAS
<b>Section:</b>	Main News; Part A; National Desk
<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Interactive, LLC
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# CITY & STATE; Coldplay performs at Rose Bowl with boosted security; In wake of Las Vegas massacre, authorities take extra precaution for crowd of 60,000.

Easter, Makeda . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Oct 2017: B.3.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Pasadena authorities Friday stepped up security for a Coldplay concert at the Rose Bowl in the wake of Sunday's mass killing at a Las Vegas country music festival.

About 60,000 people attended the show at the outdoor stadium.

"After Sunday's events, we evaluated our operational plans and looked at our staffing levels, and we're ready and prepared for the concert," Pasadena Police Lt. Art Chute said.

According to Chute, additional bomb-sniffing dogs and special response teams were assigned to the venue.

Fifty-eight people were killed and more than 500 injured after a gunman fired at a crowd of 22,000 concertgoers Sunday night.

"In light of recent events, there are no specific, credible threats related to the Coldplay concert at the Rose Bowl Stadium," said Pasadena Police Chief Phillip L. Sanchez said in a statement. "The Pasadena Police Department will continue to work closely with our law enforcement partners from state and federal agencies to evaluate threat levels and ensure the safety of everyone in attendance."

By 5:30 p.m., two lines filled with hundreds of concertgoers waiting to go through security. A video instructing attendees how to get smoothly through security and into the Rose Bowl played on repeat.

Standing in line, Harley Elegino, 44, said he wasn't worried about attending the show. "I believe that as Americans, we should ignore what the terrorists want us to feel," he said.

Isti Halim, 42, acknowledged that the massacre was on her mind. She recalled her friends' advice to stand to the side instead of in the middle. And her daughter, 6 years old, had something to tell her, too: "She said: 'Be safe,

Mommy. I pray there's no people shooting.' "

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## DETAILS

<b>Location:</b>	Las Vegas Nevada
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Coldplay; NAICS: 711130
<b>Identifier / keyword:</b>	COLDPLAY (MUSIC GROUP) ROSE BOWL (STADIUM) CONCERTS SECURITY
<b>Publication title:</b>	Los Angeles Times; Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>Pages:</b>	B.3
<b>Publication year:</b>	2017
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<b>Section:</b>	California; Part B; Metro Desk
<b>Publisher:</b>	Tribune Interactive, LLC
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

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# LAKERS REPORT; Hearts are heavy for trip

Ganguli, Tania . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Oct 2017: D.6.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Around 10:30 p.m. on Oct. 1, Stephen Zimmerman, a reserve center on the Lakers' training camp roster, checked in with his friends from back home to make sure everyone was OK.

Zimmerman spent his formative years in Las Vegas, from ages 10 to 20. He went to bed that night, like so many did, not expecting the historic tragedy that unfolded later when a gunman killed 58 people from windows in a 32nd floor suite at Mandalay Bay and injured more than 500 others during a music festival.

"That's something that's going to affect Las Vegas forever," Zimmerman said.

On Saturday the Lakers will travel to Las Vegas for their Sunday game against the Sacramento Kings. The Lakers, Kings, T-Mobile Arena, and AEG and MGM Resorts International, which own and operate T-Mobile Arena, will donate the proceeds of the game to benefit victims of the shooting, their families and first responders.

Zimmerman's family will be there, but he'll make this trip with a heavier heart after what his hometown has been through.

"It hurts," Zimmerman said. "It feels way more personal. It's one of those things that's like, you never know how it feels until it happens to you and it feels like it happened to me. It's kind of hard to describe."

Zimmerman was lucky. Although he had some friends who did attend the concert, they were safe. He watched their videos on social media and felt the fear they experienced.

One close friend's parents and aunts and uncles were there, but they left before the horror began.

In the few spare moments he had after waking up and before going to practice, Zimmerman and his girlfriend, who was born and raised in Las Vegas, talked about what happened. They talked about how they could help. He was pleased to hear the Lakers' commitment of the game's proceeds.

"Anything I can help [with]," Zimmerman said. "Luckily, Las Vegas was helpful. We had three-hour lines for blood drives and a whole bunch of stuff going on. Just seeing what I can do."

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### Ball limited

Point guard Lonzo Ball was limited in practice on Friday with a sprained ankle. The team has listed him as questionable for Sunday's game against the Kings.

"It's getting better every day, still day-to-day, got out there today, tried to practice a little bit, but I was limited," Ball said.

"But try to take positives, and like I said, just try to get better every day."

Ball suffered the left ankle sprain that the Lakers called mild during Monday's preseason game at Staples Center. He missed Wednesday's game in Ontario, the closest Lakers game of the season to his hometown of Chino Hills.

As practice closed on Friday, Ball was sitting on the side of the practice court with his foot elevated as he received treatment for the injury.

"We would love to have him out there obviously," Coach Luke Walton said. "But ... if he is not ready to go then he

won't play."

Forward Brandon Ingram took on some of the point guard duties in Ball's absence. Ingram, who missed Wednesday's game with a head contusion, is probable for Sunday.

Center Andrew Bogut is questionable with a groin injury.

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New analytics boss

The Lakers hired Jason Rosenfeld, previously with the NBA, as their director of basketball analytics.

Rosenfeld helped develop new statistics to track player production while working in the league office.

Rosenfeld has also been the Charlotte Hornets director of basketball analytics and he worked in the front office of the Shanghai Sharks, owned by Yao Ming, from 2009 to 2010.

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Caption: PHOTO: WITH THE TEAM heading to Las Vegas for a game, Lonzo Ball has been limited by a sprained ankle. "It's getting better every day, still day-to-day," Ball said.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Sean M. Haffey Getty Images

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Ankle; Stadiums; Professional basketball; Sports injuries
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<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: MGM Resorts International; NAICS: 721120; Name: Staples Center; NAICS: 711310
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## LINKS

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# FROM THE ARCHIVES; A killer-making culture?

**Publication info:** Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Oct 2017: A.13.

[ProQuest document link](#)

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## FULL TEXT

Since Sunday's mass shooting in Las Vegas, we have received more than 300 letters to the editor on the massacre. All but a small handful of those letters focus on gun control, the preponderance of which favor more regulation. Sadly, our readers have extensive experience commenting on mass shootings, and their letters haven't always been almost exclusively focused on guns. In the days after Colorado's Columbine High School massacre in April 1999 -- in which 15 people were killed, including the two perpetrators -- several of the letters published in the Los Angeles Times discussed what the writers viewed as the moral rot that may have inspired the killers, in addition to the majority that discussed gun control.

Here are some of those letters from 1999.

– Paul Thornton, letters editor

Published on April 22, 1999:

With our present culture in violent television, violent movies and violent video games under the guise of entertainment, we continue to blunder along hoping there will be no others. Well, it won't be at this juncture. How many student body counts and injuries are we to look forward to? Are we going to be serious about this? What ... is it going to take to end this slaughter?

Wayne E. Scott

Camarillo

Published on April 23, 1999:

When our hearts break for the parents, students and staff, neighbors and community ... we naturally ask what can we do? There is much that we can do. We can pray. We can change the culture we support. We can stop attending violent movies, watching violent TV shows, buying violent video games, guns and war toys for our children and glorifying violence in sports.

We can support organizations working to reduce domestic violence. We can insist that more of our civil budgets, whether on a local or international scale, go into conflict resolution, negotiating skills and peacekeeping. Of course, there is much more that can be done, but let us start doing today. No one, and especially children, should have to experience what the students of Columbine High did Tuesday. We need to change.

Herb Huebsch

San Juan Capistrano

::

As Americans we come from Puritan stock with a healthy dose of the Wild West. We hate sex and we love guns. In the era of AIDS, sex kills while guns are our salvation. In films, open portrayals of sexuality get NC-17 ratings while celebrations of violence have to work to get an R.

When did it all get so backward?

David Dodson

La Canada Flintridge

Published on April 26, 1999:

I am so tired of reading our society's denial of the problems causing incidents like Littleton. No, it is not the media, guns or rock music. It's the lack of involvement, control and guidance of our children at home by parents and families. And, unfortunately, the problem of a few uncontrollable bad seeds out there.

Quite often, the hate of others that children act out was sparked by comments in the home.

Daryl Smith

Chatsworth

Caption: PHOTO: COLUMBINE HIGH students on May 3, 1999, as the Colorado state and U.S. flags are flown at half staff.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Michael S. Green Associated Press

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Computer & video games; Domestic violence; Mass murders; Firearm laws & regulations; Letters
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<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: Los Angeles Times; NAICS: 511110
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## LINKS

[Linking Service](#)

# Trump stares down barrel of guns; He has a mixed record on firearms. After the Las Vegas shooting, activists on both sides have expectations.

Bierman, Noah . Los Angeles Times ; Los Angeles, Calif. [Los Angeles, Calif]07 Oct 2017: A.1.

[ProQuest document link](#)

## FULL TEXT

The pro-gun community had reason to be suspicious of Donald Trump. He wrote in favor of an assault weapons ban and a "slightly longer" waiting period before gun purchases in a 2000 book, and accused Republicans of walking "the NRA line." And even as he rebranded himself a "2nd Amendment maven" in 2013, he sounded conflicted, suggesting he favored expanded background checks. No one on either side of the gun debate seems to know exactly when or why Trump shifted. But they agree that the mogul from Manhattan has become one of the most forceful pro-gun presidents in decades. Now, after the worst mass shooting in American history, Trump faces a gut-check moment on guns. He could not have imagined that within his first year as president he would come under pressure, even from within his typically pro-gun party, to support legislation restricting gun use, however limited – in this case, a ban on so-called bump-

fire stocks like the Las Vegas shooter used, which turn semiautomatic weapons into virtual machine guns.

White House officials, both privately and publicly, insist he is not likely to endorse fundamental change, that is, broader gun controls. Meanwhile, the gun lobby is watching.

"When a crisis happens you can really tell who your friends are," said Dudley Brown, president of the National Assn. for Gun Rights, which advertises itself as more hard-line on gun rights than the National Rifle Assn.

For decades, as he flirted with presidential runs, Trump tried to stake a position between what he called, in 2000, "the extremes of the two existing major parties."

In his book that year, "The America We Deserve," Trump accused Democrats of trying to confiscate all guns and Republicans of refusing even limited restrictions because of the NRA's hold on the party.

In a brief, four-paragraph section on guns, between multi-page sections on "prisons" and "capital punishment," Trump wrote that he supported President Clinton's assault-weapons ban along with a brief waiting period for gun buyers.

Eleven years earlier, in a 1989 interview on MSNBC, Trump seemed even more ambivalent about gun rights.

Saying he owned "a couple of guns," he added: "Now, I hate the concept of guns. I'm not in favor of it, except for one thing: the bad guys are going to have them." He would be "all for" a total ban – if "you could take the guns away from the bad guys."

Trump had not renounced those positions as late as 2013, when he told radio host Howard Stern that the focus should be on gun purchasers' medical problems and past records. "It's a very, very difficult subject, but you need guns for protection," he told Stern.

That ambivalence vanished when Trump ran for president and tried to distinguish himself in a crowded Republican primary. He boasted in a 2015 debate of carrying weapons "on occasion – sometimes a lot."

"Opponents of gun rights try to come up with scary-sounding phrases like 'assault weapons,' 'military-style weapons' and 'high-capacity magazines' to confuse people," Trump said in a campaign position paper. "Law-abiding people should be allowed to own the firearm of their choice. The government has no business dictating what types of firearms good, honest people are allowed to own."

The NRA helped to elect Trump, spending more than \$30 million and endorsing him at a point in the campaign when many Republicans were still reluctant to support him, even as he closed in on enough delegates to get the party's nomination.

Trump returned the favor with some of the strongest pro-gun rhetoric ever delivered by a presidential candidate.

He told an NRA audience that Democratic rival Hillary Clinton wanted to destroy the 2nd Amendment and that terrorist attacks in Paris and San Bernardino would have been stopped if more victims were armed.

He said of the Paris attackers in the November 2015 incident: "They just stood there and shot everybody."

"If you would have had guns on the other side," he added, "I promise there wouldn't have been 130 people killed and hundreds of people lying in the hospital to this day."

Trump has sought to fortify his gun-loving credentials by association with his sons, Eric and Donald Jr., who have been photographed hunting exotic animals in Africa. "They have so many rifles and so many guns, even I get concerned," Trump joked at the NRA conference.

He endorsed a national right to carry, regardless of local laws that are restrictive, and promised, on his first day in office, to eliminate restrictions on bringing guns within 1,000 feet of primary and secondary schools.

Trump failed to overturn the federal gun-free-zone law, an action that requires Congress to pass repeal legislation. Yet he has generally pleased the gun lobby since taking office.

In February, the president signed into law a measure overturning an Obama administration rule that would have denied gun access to about 75,000 Social Security beneficiaries per year who had been declared both incapable of handling their own affairs and mentally incompetent.

Trump's Justice Department narrowed the definition of fugitive under federal gun laws, clearing the way for thousands of people to buy guns, according to the Trace, a news site supported by advocates of gun limits. And his Interior secretary, Ryan Zinke, overturned a ban on using lead ammunition on wildlife refuges.

Gun groups are hoping for more, including measures in Congress that would make it easier to buy silencers and for veterans deemed mentally incompetent to carry a firearm. A separate measure would allow people who have permits under state law to carry guns anywhere in the country, regardless of local laws.

Now it is Trump who is owned by the NRA, gun control groups say.

Speaking of NRA members, Kris Brown, co-president of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, said, "I suppose they're betting people, and having put all of their money into candidate Trump, they're expecting that he's bought and paid for."

Yet Brown and others on her side are hoping Trump will shift again. "He has a real moment here," Brown said, adding, "I'm not Pollyannaish about things."

After Sunday's Las Vegas attack, Trump echoed rhetoric that the NRA and its supporters often use following mass shootings, saying it was too soon to talk about gun policy. But he and his administration dropped hints that he might be open to discussion in time.

"We'll talk about gun laws as time goes by," Trump said on Tuesday, ahead of a visit to Las Vegas.

By Thursday, after the NRA said there should be restrictions on bump stocks -- but through regulation, not a new law -- White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the administration was eager to have that conversation. But she added that Trump is "a strong supporter of the 2nd Amendment. That hasn't changed."

Another White House official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that Trump was most likely to back narrow measures.

The NRA, which is often silent after mass shootings, did not respond to several requests for comment.

At the National Assn. for Gun Rights, Dudley Brown said he is fighting to make sure Trump doesn't act. But he's not especially worried.

"There certainly was some question about his history, especially when you're not an elected official in any manner," he said. But, Brown added, "This administration has done much better than we thought."

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Caption: PHOTO: PRESIDENT TRUMP addresses the National Rifle Assn. in Atlanta in April. The NRA helped to elect Trump, spending more than \$30 million.

PHOTOGRAPHER:Scott Olson Getty Images

## DETAILS

<b>Subject:</b>	Primaries &caucuses; Political campaigns; Mass murders; Firearm laws &regulations; Firearms; Bill of Rights-US
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<b>People:</b>	Trump, Donald J
<b>Company / organization:</b>	Name: MSNBC; NAICS: 511140, 515210
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