

Loved ones remember attack victims

Students, parents among 15 killed in New Orleans

N'dea Yancey-Bragg

USA TODAY

Loved ones have begun to identify some of the 15 people killed early Wednesday when an armed man drove a speeding truck into a crowd celebrating New Year's Eve in New Orleans' French Quarter in what the FBI is investigating as a terrorist act.

Law enforcement and officials in New Orleans have not publicly identified any of the victims. About 30 people were injured, including two police officers who were shot and are now in stable condition.

The crash came hours before the city was expected to host the Sugar Bowl college football game between the University of Georgia and Notre Dame. A University of Georgia student was critically injured in the assault, university President Jere Morehead said in a statement.

Two 19-year-old students – Elle Eisele, University of Georgia, and Steele Idelson, San Diego State University – were both critically injured, according to a statement from The Canterbury School in Fort Myers, Florida.

Two Israeli citizens were also hurt, and a consulate representative is traveling to New Orleans, Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated in a post on X. The Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs posted on X that two Mexicans were injured but are reportedly in stable condition.

Here's what we know about some of the victims.

Nikyra Cheyenne Dedeaux

Nikyra Cheyenne Dedeaux, a recent graduate of Harrison Central High School, was among those killed in the truck attack, her mother, Melissa Dedeaux, told USA TODAY.

Melissa Dedeaux said her daughter, who was one of six siblings, likely wanted to have some fun before starting a nursing program in January. She said her 18-year-old daughter was outgoing and very smart.

"She was a sweet person. She was a people person," Melissa Dedeaux said.

Nikyra Dedeaux's friend, 18-year-old Zion Parsons, told The Times-Picayune newspaper the teens were leaving Voodoo Chicken and Daquiris on Bourbon Street near Bienville Street when he heard a commotion. Dedeaux darted into the street and into the path of the barreling truck.

Parsons said Dedeaux went by the nickname "Biscuit" and always had a positive attitude.

Martin 'Tiger' Bech

Former Princeton University football player Martin "Tiger" Bech was killed in the New Orleans truck attack, his brother, Jack Bech, confirmed on social media. Tiger Bech, 28, was an All-Ivy League performer, spending three seasons at Princeton from 2016-18.

"Love you always brother," Jack Bech, a Texas Christian University standout, wrote on X.

Martin Bech's death was first announced by Kim Broussard, the athletic director at St. Thomas More Catholic High School in Lafayette, Louisiana. Broussard told local news station KLFY that Bech died late Wednesday morning after being placed on life support until his family could arrive.

Bech, who worked in finance in New York, was in town for the holidays, according to Marty Cannon, the principal at Bech's high school, who described him as an uncommon intellect and athlete.

Nearly \$80,000 has been raised through a GoFundMe launched to raise funds for Bech's funeral and the medical expenses of his close friend Ryan Quigley, who was injured in the attack.

Reggie Hunter

Shirell Jackson told The Times-Picayune and ABC News that her cousin Reggie Hunter, a warehouse manager and father of two from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and another cousin were both hit by the truck that barreled down Bourbon Street early Wednesday. Hunter, who leaves behind a 12-year-old and 18-month-old son, loved working out and fashion and recently celebrated Christmas with his loved ones, she said.

Hunter, 37, died from his injuries, and his cousin suffered extensive internal injuries, Jackson told the Times-Picayune. Jackson and other family members did not immediately respond to a request for comment from USA TODAY.

Nicole Perez

The death of Nicole Perez, 27, was confirmed to Reuters by her employer Kimberly Usher, who said Perez had just gotten a promotion.

Perez would occasionally bring her 4-year-old son to work and play spelling games with him, said Usher, who owns a New Orleans-area deli. She said Perez was a hardworking mother and dedicated employee.

"She was just getting a new apartment, so her and her son were about to start their new life," Usher said.

Usher set up a GoFundMe page for burial expenses "and to help her son with expenses he will need to transition into a new living situation." GoFundMe told USA TODAY the organization is in the process of verifying the fundraiser.

Kareem Badawi

Kareem Badawi, a University of Alabama student who graduated from the Episcopal School of Baton Rouge last year, died as a result of the attack, according to a statement released by the school. The school could not confirm Badawi's age.



Edward Bruski hugs New Orleans police officer Zachary Stevens on Wednesday on Canal Street near the scene of a deadly truck attack in New Orleans. OCTAVIO JONES/REUTERS

Another recent graduate, Parker Vidrine, was hospitalized after being critically injured, the school said. The school announced on social media it will hold a prayer service for the community Thursday evening. Belal Badawi said on Facebook that his son died "as a result of a tragic accident in New Orleans."

Hubert Gauthreaux

Archbishop Shaw High School in Marrero, Louisi-

ana, announced Wednesday night that 21-year-old alumnus Hubert Gauthreaux died in the attack. Gauthreaux graduated in 2021.

"We are asking the entire Archbishop Shaw family to pray for the repose of Hubert's soul, his family and friends during this difficult time, and all those affected by this tragedy," the school said in a statement.

Contributing: Lici Beveridge, Mississippi Clarion-Ledger; Austin Curtright, USA TODAY NETWORK; Dave Osborn, Fort Myers News-Press; Reuters

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Martin County Local Planning Agency and the Board of County Commissioners will conduct public hearings on the following item:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA AMENDINGSECTION 12.5.04, TABLES-5, DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS IN HOBE SOUND SUBDISTRICTS, DIVISION 5, ARTICLE 12, COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT CODE, LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, MARTIN COUNTY CODE, REGARDING MAXIMUM HEIGHT FOR INSTITUTIONAL USE GYMNASIUMS IN THE GENERAL SUBDISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; SEVERABILITY; APPLICABILITY; FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE; EFFECTIVE DATE; AND CODIFICATION.

Subject: This is a request by Architects Design Collaborative, LLC, on behalf of Boys & Girls Club of Martin County, for approval of an amendment to the Martin County Land Development Regulations, Division 5, Hobe Sound, Article 12, Community Redevelopment Code, to change the maximum allowable height for certain structures within the General Subdistrict. The applicant proposes a maximum allowable height of 35 feet specifically for gymnasiums associated with an institutional use. The current maximum allowable height within the General Subdistrict is 30 feet.

Public Hearing: Local Planning Agency
Date: Thursday, January 16, 2025
Time: 7 PM or as soon thereafter as the item may be heard.

Public Hearing: Board of County Commissioners
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025
Time: 9 AM or as soon thereafter as the item may be heard.

Place: Marin County Administrative Center,
2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding are entitled, at no cost, to the provision of certain assistance. This does not include transportation to and from the meeting. Please contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator at (772) 320-3131, or the Office of the County Administrator at (772) 288-5400, or in writing to 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL, 34996, no later than three days before the hearing date. Persons using a TTY device, please call 711 Florida Relay Services.

If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at the meetings or hearings of any board, committee, agency, council, or advisory group, that person will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record should include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

For further information, including copies of the original application documents or agenda item materials, please call the Growth Management Department at (772) 288-5495. Prior to the public hearings, written comments should be sent to Paul Schilling, Growth Management Director, pschilli@martin.fl.us or 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996.

TR-4096548

ST. LUCIE COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

January 16, 2025

NOTICE OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS

The St. Lucie County Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled to review and provide a recommendation on the following proposal for adoption by Resolution:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS FOR A +/- 1.69 ACRE PARCEL OWNED BY DVT SHUTTERS INC. AND LOCATED AT 3100 NORTH KINGS HIGHWAY FROM THE CG (COMMERCIAL, GENERAL) ZONING DISTRICT TO THE IL (INDUSTRIAL, LIGHT) ZONING DISTRICT.

Petition Applicant: DVT Hurricane Shutters Inc.
Petition File Numbers: RZ-2409-000037.

Parcel Number: 1325-322-0002-000-4

Location: 3100 N Kings Highway, East side of N. Kings Highway, approximately ½ mile north of St. Lucie Boulevard (see map below).

Purpose: This amendment to the Official Zoning Atlas for a parcel totaling +/-1.69 acres to the Industrial, Light (IL) zoning designation, from the Commercial, General (CG) zoning designation.



The Planning and Zoning Commission's **PUBLIC HEARING** to review the proposed Rezoning will be held in the Commission Chambers, Roger Poltras Annex, 3rd Floor, St. Lucie County Administration Building, 2300 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, Florida on **Thursday, January 16, 2025**, beginning at **6:00 pm** or as soon thereafter as possible.

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard. Written comments received in advance of the public hearing will also be considered. Written comments to the Planning and Zoning Commission should be received by the Planning and Development Services Department - Planning Division at least 3 days prior to the scheduled hearing. The petition file is available for review at the Planning and Development Services Department offices located at 2300 Virginia Avenue, 2nd Floor, Fort Pierce, Florida, during regular business hours. Please call (772) 462-2822 or TDD (772) 462-1428 if you have any questions or require additional information about this petition.

The Planning and Zoning Commission has the power to review and make a recommendation of approval or disapproval to the Board of County Commissioners on all matters within its jurisdiction.

The proceedings are electronically recorded. **PURSUANT TO SECTION 286.0105, FLORIDA STATUTES.** If a person decides to appeal any final decision made with respect to a matter considered for approval at a meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings. For such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Upon the request of any party to the proceeding, individuals testifying during a hearing will be sworn in. Any party to the proceeding will be granted an opportunity to cross-examine any individual testifying during a hearing upon request. If it becomes necessary, a public hearing may be continued to a date certain.

Anyone with a disability requiring accommodation to attend this meeting should contact the St. Lucie County Risk Manager at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting at (772) 462-1546 or T.D.D. (772) 462-1428.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA
/S/ED LOUNDS, CHAIR
PUBLISH DATE: Friday, January 3, 2025

TR-4096548