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**From:** Haley, Nikki  
**Sent:** Monday, October 3, 2016 4:54 PM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Cc:** Glaccum, David; Patel, Swati  
**Subject:** Re: Morning Clips – Friday, September 30, 2016

And job numbers

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 3, 2016, at 4:50 PM, Smith, Austin <[AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov](mailto:AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov)> wrote:

Heard back from the Research Director at Commerce this afternoon. They use the same data as the White House to track income, so I asked them to look at wages for jobs awarded Job Development Credits to see how our economic development efforts are having a positive influence on income levels. They are researching that, as well as industry specific or state comparisons that may be helpful. They also noted that wages go further in South Carolina, given the latest cost comparison data:

- The median home price in SC is 17% lower than the national average
- Rents average 24.6% lower
- Gas prices in September are 8% lower
- Overall Goods are 3.4% lower
- Overall other services are 6.2% lower

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**From:** Glaccum, David  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2016 5:08 PM  
**To:** Smith, Austin  
**Cc:** Haley, Nikki; Patel, Swati  
**Subject:** RE: Morning Clips – Friday, September 30, 2016

Still researching job growth, but as to median household income:

- The numbers cited in the article, and used by the Whitehouse, are US Census data derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS).
- The CPS Source and Accuracy statement recommends the American Community Survey (ACS) data as the preferred source for income and poverty state data in years 2006 to the present.
- Using the US Census American Community Survey (ACS) data, real median household income for South Carolinians grew by 4.42%, the equivalent of \$2,000 in income. Using the same ACS data, the national figure was \$2,118, or 3.95% per household.
- According to US Census, ACS average sample size is about 3 million per year whereas the CPS sample size is only about 100,000 addresses annually.
- Further, the margin of error on the ACS is lower than for the CPS.

Interested to see what Commerce research finds as well.

Will report back after further looking into job growth data.

**From:** Smith, Austin  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2016 2:08 PM  
**To:** Glaccum, David  
**Cc:** Haley, Nikki; Patel, Swati  
**Subject:** Re: Morning Clips – Friday, September 30, 2016

I've also asked Commerce research director for any helpful context or counter information they may have.

On Sep 30, 2016, at 1:16 PM, Glaccum, David <[DavidGlaccum@gov.sc.gov](mailto:DavidGlaccum@gov.sc.gov)> wrote:

Reading the Census Reports now.

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**From:** Haley, Nikki  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2016 1:16 PM  
**To:** Patel, Swati; Smith, Austin; Glaccum, David  
**Subject:** Fwd: Morning Clips – Friday, September 30, 2016

Pls look at McClatchy about income growth and job growth in SC. Compare that to what we have on record and where the discrepancies are?

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Moore, Camlin" <[CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov](mailto:CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov)>  
**Date:** September 30, 2016 at 6:05:26 AM PDT  
**Subject:** Morning Clips – Friday, September 30, 2016

**Morning Clips – Friday, September 30, 2016**

**Townville, SC Shooting:**

**Associated Press:** Haley asks state to pray for shooting victims

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?content\\_guid=2bsou4mj](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?content_guid=2bsou4mj)

SC State Wire

Gov. Nikki Haley is asking South Carolinians to keep the Townville community in their prayers following a school shooting that injured three. Haley spokeswoman Chaney Adams said Thursday the governor will continue to communicate through the weekend with the families of the two students and teacher shot

Wednesday at Townville Elementary in rural Anderson County. Six-year-old Jacob Hall remains in critical condition at a Greenville hospital. He was hit in a main artery in his thigh. A student shot in the foot and a teacher shot in the shoulder were released from a hospital Wednesday. Haley's office says she visited with Jacob's family at the hospital Wednesday night and called the teacher and other student's mother. Authorities say a teen killed his father before driving to the school and opening fire.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Family: Wounded 6-year-old boy on life support

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6gmRKWJI](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=6gmRKWJI)

SC State Wire

A 6-year-old boy wounded in a school shooting in South Carolina is clinging to life. The Greenville News (<http://grnol.co/2dJQVut>) reports that relatives of Townville Elementary School student Jacob Hall released a statement late Thursday saying the boy is on life support in a hospital. The family says the child sustained a major brain injury due to the amount of blood he lost after being shot in the leg. Older brother Gerald Gambrell tells the paper the family is "hoping for a miracle." Authorities say the boy, another student and a teacher were wounded when a teen gunman showed up at the rural school and began shooting on Wednesday. The suspect is due in court Friday for an initial hearing.

**Associated Press:** Hearing set for teen held in South Carolina school shooting

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=UYsReDLb](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=UYsReDLb)

SC State Wire

A judge will decide whether authorities can continue holding a teenager arrested after a school shooting that left two students and a teacher wounded and a tiny South Carolina community coping with the aftermath. The juvenile who authorities say is also suspected of fatally shooting his father before the violence at Townville Elementary School was due in court Friday morning for an initial hearing. Anderson County Solicitor Chrissy T. Adams said

the public wouldn't be allowed in because the suspect is a juvenile and prosecutors won't provide additional details about the shooting, which occurred Wednesday."While I realize there are many unanswered questions, the investigation into this tragedy is in a critical stage, and is ongoing," she said in a statement.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Superintendent: Training saved students' lives

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2bsou4mj](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2bsou4mj)

SC State Wire

The superintendent of a South Carolina elementary school where a shooter opened fire says the staff and principal saved lives by flawlessly putting training into practice. Anderson County 4 Superintendent Joanne Avery said Thursday that all the district's schools conducted active-shooter drills in August and Townville Elementary did another one just last week after a carjacking nearby. Avery says the training kicked in as the gunman fired at a school door as a class left for recess and struck a first-grade teacher and two students. The injured teacher "was with-it enough" to close the door, lock it and get the students to safety. Avery says the shooter then fired toward students on the playground but missed. A teacher who heard the first gunshot was able to get the students inside. The superintendent says staff "put their fear to the side because they put those children first." Authorities have not named the suspect or given his age other than to say that he is a teenager. But Avery says he attended Townville Elementary until fifth grade before transferring to a nearby district.

**Associated Press:** More than another call: Chief talks about school shooting

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=CPOKa65x](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=CPOKa65x)

SC State Wire

When two firefighters rolled up to an elementary school shooting, they said they found only a wrecked black pickup truck at the playground. There was no gunman, and no one inside the

truck. Within minutes, though, they performed actions that led to them being hailed as heroes: One went inside to help treat the wounded and the other searched for the shooter. "This was more than just another call to us. This incident occurred in the school where our children and the children of the community attend," Townville Fire Chief Billy McAdams said Thursday during a news conference, pausing to collect himself as he recalled the harrowing events of the day before. Authorities say the teen shot his father at their home before driving the pickup a couple of miles to Townville Elementary School and shooting at a door as it was opened for recess. Bullets struck two students and a teacher and the school was immediately placed on lock down.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Shooter fired at door as class exited for recess

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?content\\_guid=2bsou4mj](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?content_guid=2bsou4mj)

SC State Wire

The superintendent of a South Carolina elementary school where a teen opened fire says a teacher and two students were shot as they left the building for recess. Anderson County District 4 Superintendent Joanne Avery posted online that the shooter never entered Townville Elementary. Authorities say the shooter opened fire Wednesday afternoon after crashing a pickup truck into the playground fence. Avery says on the district's website the teen shot at a door being opened for a class exiting for recess. Teachers then led the students to safety inside. She says the school was immediately put on lockdown as per district procedures. Authorities say volunteer firefighter Jamie Brock tackled the shooter and kept him on the ground until officers arrived and arrested him. Brock says the teachers and principal should be called heroes, not him.

**Greenville News:** Family: Jacob Hall on life support after Townville Elementary shooting

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2016/09/29/student-shot-school-revived-twice-after-shooting-remains-critical-condition/91260116/>

Nathaniel Cary

As 6-year-old Jacob Hall clung to life Thursday on life support in the intensive care unit at Greenville Memorial Hospital, family and friends gathered to pray for the boy his brother described as a happy, intelligent, God-fearing child who would pray every night for others. The family said late Thursday that Hall had sustained a major brain injury due to the amount of blood he'd lost. He has been placed on life support, the family said in a statement to The Greenville News. Hall was shot in the leg Wednesday afternoon by a gunman who opened fire at first-grade students as they played on the playground outside Townville Elementary School in Anderson County. He remained in critical condition late Thursday afternoon, according to a statement released by the hospital, while family members begged the community to continue to pray.

**NOTE:** Hall's parents, Rodger and Renae, have remained by his side at the hospital, Gambrell said. Wednesday night, Gov. Nikki Haley flew to Greenville to meet with the family and visited with them for an extended time. She called the mother of the other student who had been shot in the foot and released from the hospital earlier in the day. She also spoke by phone with the students' teacher, Meghan Hollingsworth, who had been shot in the shoulder as she raced to get students inside the school during the shooting.

**NOTE:** "The governor is keeping all of those impacted in her prayers and asks everyone in South Carolina to do the same," Haley's press secretary Chaney Adams, said in a statement Thursday afternoon. "She will continue to communicate with Jacob's family and the families of those two who were released throughout the weekend."

**Greenville News:** Student shot at school was revived twice after shooting, remains in critical condition

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/crime/2016/09/29/student-shot-school-revived-twice-after-shooting-remains-critical-condition/91260116/>

Nathaniel Cary

Jacob Hall, a 6-year-old Townville Elementary School student, remained in critical condition late Thursday afternoon at Greenville Memorial Hospital after being shot in the leg while on a playground Wednesday afternoon, according to a statement released by the hospital. The hospital said it would provide another update at 11 a.m. on Friday. Hall was revived twice in the

moments after the shooting, according to State Rep. Alan Clemmons, who said he is a friend on the family. In a widely shared post on Facebook, Clemmons said Hall had been shot in the femoral artery. "He died twice, and was revived, during medical transport and again during surgery," Clemmons said. "He's in ICU now where a team of doctors are working to stabilize him. Once stabilized, he will face yet another surgery. PLEASE join me in fervent prayer for little Jacob's recovery. Thank you!!!" Clemmons said Hall is the nephew of close friends and former neighbors of his in Myrtle Beach.

**Greenville News:** Sen. Graham shares his own Townville story

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/29/sen-graham-shares-his-own-townville-story/91275454/>

Elizabeth LaFleur

A chance encounter on a later flight home from Washington, D.C. had Sen. Lindsey Graham changing his tune on an earlier cancellation. The Senator shared a story about the experience on Facebook Thursday afternoon. Graham said he ended up catching a Thursday morning flight on which he was seated next to Army Capt. D.J. Fredericks, who happens to be the son of the principal at Townville Elementary School. Sen. Graham says Fredericks was flying home to be with his mother during the difficult time following Wednesday's shooting. He said he even had the opportunity to speak with Fredericks' mom before taking off. "She was full of praise for her teachers, the school nurse who acted heroically in helping those who were shot, and how awesome volunteer firefighter Jamie Brock was. She constantly stressed how proud she was of her teachers, students, and how much she was praying for their recovery."

**Greenville News:** Osborne family speaks after Townville Elementary shooting

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/education/2016/09/29/osborne-family-responds-after-townville-elementary-shooting/91260840/>

Nathaniel Cary

The Osborne family released a statement Thursday following the shooting at Townville Elementary School. "Our entire family is absolutely shocked and saddened by the senseless actions of our son and grandson. We are praying and will continue to do so for the two precious children who were wounded, and for their courageous teacher who was wounded while rescuing the children. We cannot express the devastation we feel at the loss of our beloved Jeff. We are thankful to have friends who have expressed their sympathy and support 2 Tiffney that the loss of her husband. Please pray for our family that the Lord will help us as we face this unimaginable ordeal."

**Greenville News:** Funds and support pouring in for Townville victims

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/29/funds-and-support-pouring-townville-victims/91270720/>

Elizabeth LaFleur

Fundraising efforts and messages of support are growing for the victims in the Townville Elementary School shooting. A GoFundMe page was set up by a family friend of a 6-year-old victim. Jacob Hall was airlifted to Greenville Memorial Hospital Wednesday after authorities say a 14-year-old gunman opened fire on a playground at the school. Another student and a teacher were injured. Authorities say the gunman also killed his father before going to the nearby school. The GoFundMe goal is \$50,000. More than \$19,000 had been raised by lunchtime Thursday. Townville Elementary School is in Anderson School District 4 along with three other elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. Students and faculty from those schools are also sending support. LaFrance Elementary is holding a voluntary hat day on Friday. Students, teachers and staff can wear hats to school if they donate a dollar for the victims of the shooting.

**Greenville News:** Townville fire chief: Teachers, community also heroes

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/09/29/townville-fire-chief-teachers-community-also-heroes/91279668/>

Ron Barnett

While Fire Chief Billy McAdams was inside Townville Elementary School giving CPR to kindergartener Jacob Hall, volunteer firefighter Jamie Brock was on a solitary mission to find the gunman who had just shot two students and a teacher outside the school Wednesday, McAdams said. "As Brock made his way to the rear corner of the building, he observed the shooter a short distance away in the grass," the chief said in a firehouse news conference Thursday. "Feeling it was imperative to the safety of students, teachers and responders already inside, he immediately confronted and subdued the shooter." McAdams isn't denying that Brock, and other first responders were heroes in the way they helped the injured and secured the scene so no one else was hurt. But he said heroism was all around the school that afternoon. "We also believe the teachers and staff at Townville Elementary who protected the children in the moments following the gunshots are heroes as well," he said. "We also believe the entire Townville community are heroes for the support they have shown to everyone involved during the toughest time imaginable."

**Independent Mail:** In wake of shooting, prayers, concern

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/09/29/counselors-district-4-schools-after-shooting/91264760/>

Kirk Brown

Shaken by news of a school shooting in Townville, Mary Lee kept close to her 7-year-daughter Wednesday night. "I couldn't help but just sit there and hold her," said Lee as she waited Thursday afternoon to pick up her child at Pendleton Elementary School. Lee had trouble sleeping after watching TV coverage of the shooting just a few miles away at Townville Elementary School. "Too close for comfort," she said. She said she talked to her daughter about hiding under a desk or lying on the ground if a someone with a gun ever comes to her school. "I never thought about having that conversation with her before yesterday," she said. Sharonda Greer also was thinking about the school shooting as she waited in the car line at Pendleton Elementary for her four children, ages 4 to 11. "Just all kinds of stuff goes through your mind," she said. "You just feel the pain as a parent." Greer said her 8-year-old son suggested that their family pray Wednesday night for the teacher and two students who were shot by a teen gunman near the playground at Townville Elementary.

**NOTE:** Chaney Adams, a spokeswoman for Gov. Nikki Haley, issued a statement on the shooting Thursday afternoon. "The governor is keeping all of those impacted in her prayers and asks everyone in South Carolina to do the same," Adams said.

**NOTE:** Haley rearranged her schedule Wednesday afternoon to travel to the Upstate in the wake of the shooting. She visited with Jacob's family for an extended period on Wednesday night. Haley also called the mother of the other student who was shot, as well as injured teacher Meghan Hollingsworth. Hollingsworth and the other student were both treated and released Wednesday at AnMed Health Medical Center in Anderson.

**Independent Mail:** Counselors to help students, parents, teachers cope

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/09/29/counselors-help-students-parents-teachers-cope/91280434/>

Frances Parrish

With Townville teachers, parents and students reeling in the wake of Wednesday's shooting, counselors say three things are critical: Talk, express and reassure. "Kids look to people who they trust the most," said Roger Williams, with the South Carolina Department of Mental Health who was at Townville speaking with teachers Thursday. "Kids want to feel secure." Counselors urge parents to talk to their children about what happened and gauge their understanding of the situation. Some things may trigger memories or thoughts about the shooting, and children may talk about the incident sporadically. They also encourage parents to listen to their child's concerns and worries and answer their questions as honestly as they can, given their age. "It's already on their mind," said Patrice Penney, a University of South Carolina professor of social work who has spent 30 years working with children who have been affected by traumatic events. "Talking about it says it's OK to talk about it."

**Independent Mail:** Townville shooting suspect to appear in court Friday

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/crime/2016/09/29/suspect-school-shooting/91269266/>

Nikie Mayo

One night this week, before life in rural Townville changed for so many, the teen accused of opening fire on an elementary school told his father goodnight and said he loved him. That ordinary detail seems extraordinary now, as the same 14-year-old boy prepares to face a judge Friday in the Anderson County Courthouse. He is accused of killing his father, stealing his truck, then shooting two children and a teacher at Townville Elementary School. "The great question is: 'Why?'" said James South, a cousin of the teen and a Liberty minister. "Everyone, including us, wants to know the answer to that question." In an interview with the Independent Mail, South painted a portrait of a boy who was a straight-A student and who went camping with his grandparents less than a month ago. "Nobody saw this coming," South said. "There were no huge, weird family circumstances. He wouldn't do his chores sometimes, but that's about it."

**Independent Mail:** 'Too close for comfort,' says Pendleton mother

<http://www.independentmail.com/story/news/local/2016/09/29/counselors-district-4-schools-after-shooting/91264760/>

Kirk Brown

Mary Lee had trouble sleeping Wednesday night. Lee, whose 7-year-old daughter attends Pendleton Elementary School, said she couldn't stop thinking about the shooting that had happened just a few miles away at Townville Elementary School. The shooting in Townville "was too close for comfort," she said. Lee said she and her daughter watched TV news coverage of the shooting. "I couldn't help but just sit there and hold her all night," she said while waiting in her car to pick up her daughter from school Thursday afternoon. Lee said she talked to her daughter about hiding under a desk or lying on the ground if a gunman ever comes to her school. "I never thought about having that conversation with her before yesterday," she said. "It isn't something that I would imagine happening at the age level." Sharonda Greer also was thinking about the school shooting as she waited in the car line at Pendleton Elementary to pick up her four children, ages 4 to 11. "Just all kinds of stuff goes through your mind," she said. "You just feel the pain as a parent." Greer said her 8-year-old son suggested that their family pray Wednesday night for the teacher and two students who were shot near the playground at Townville Elementary.

**Post and Courier:** Gov. Haley, S.C. senators visit Townville victims' families, first responders

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929313/gov-haley-sc-senators-visit-townville-victims-families-first-responders>

Emma Dumain and Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley visited with Jacob Hall's parents for an extended amount of time Wednesday at Greenville Health System Children's Hospital shortly after the school shooting that injured the 6-year-old. "The governor is keeping all of those impacted in her prayers and asks everyone in South Carolina to do the same," said press secretary Chaney Adams. "She will continue to communicate with Jacob's family and the families of those two who were released throughout the weekend." Hall remains in critical condition, a hospital spokeswoman said Thursday afternoon. Haley spoke with the mother of the other Townville Elementary School student who was wounded by a teenage gunman, and left a message with teacher Meghan Hollingsworth, who suffered a gunshot wound to her shoulder. Both were discharged from an Anderson County hospital hours after the Wednesday incident. U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., was on the ground in Anderson early Thursday morning to visit the local emergency operations center and fire department, where first responders helped in the aftermath of the shooting. From there he went to the school itself.

**Post and Courier:** Civilian training needed for active shooter situations

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929314/civilian-training-needed-for-active-shooter-situations>

Gregory Yee

For Shane Bowers, Wednesday's school shooting in Townville was a chilling reminder that violence can strike at any time. As investigators worked to piece together the shooting at Townville Elementary School that left two students and a teacher wounded, the deputy senior chaplain with the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy and others were participating in an active shooter training for civilians at the North Charleston Coliseum and Performing Arts Center. "We want to be proactive instead of reactive so that we

are prepared when an event happens,” he said. “This way each person and agency knows what their role is and we are not in each others way but are working together as a team for the best outcome.”The training session was organized by the North Charleston Police Department and was divided into a civilian training Wednesday afternoon, and an active shooter drill, involving several regional agencies, that night.

**Post and Courier:** Townville fire chief on school shooting: ‘We’re going to feel this for a real long time’

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929351/townville-fire-chief-on-school-shooting-were-going-to-feel-this-for-a-real-long-time>

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley visited with Jacob Hall’s parents for an extended amount of time Wednesday evening at Greenville Health System Children’s Hospital shortly after the school shooting that injured the 6-year-old. “The governor is keeping all of those impacted in her prayers and asks everyone in South Carolina to do the same,” said press secretary Chaney Adams. “She will continue to communicate with Jacob’s family and the families of those two who were released throughout the weekend.” Hall remains in critical condition, a hospital spokeswoman said Thursday afternoon. Haley spoke with the mother of the other Townville Elementary School student who was wounded by a teenage gunman, as well as teacher Meghan Hollingsworth who sustained a gunshot wound to her shoulder. Both were discharged from an Anderson County hospital hours after the Wednesday incident.

**WSPA:** Deciding Whether Teens Tried as Minors or Adults

<http://wspa.com/2016/09/29/deciding-whether-teens-tried-as-minors-or-adults/>

Robert Kittle

Prosecutors have not released the name of the 14-year-old arrested for the shootings at Townville Elementary School because of his age, and they must still decide whether he will be tried as a juvenile or an adult. In South Carolina, a child under the age of 17 is automatically tried as a juvenile in Family Court, unless a prosecutor asks a judge to have him tried as an adult. Josh

Gupta-Kagan, a USC law professor who teaches juvenile justice, says, "That often involves its own very involved hearing, a lot of evaluations of the child to determine their developmental state, their mental health, their family background, anything which may play into the decision. The courts will usually look at the severity of the charges, the amount of premeditation, if any, that's alleged by the state. And also one of the phrases that's often used is whether the child is amenable to treatment. Can the rehabilitative model of the juvenile court serve this child, or does the interest of the public or the child require him to be waived up?" He says South Carolina law allows a child of any age who's charged with murder to be tried as an adult. For any other charge, a child has to be 14 or older to be tried as an adult, and that's only for serious felony charges. Carrying a weapon on school property is one of the charges that allows a 14-year-old to be tried as an adult.

**WSPA:** Organizations taking donations for Townville Elementary students

<http://wspa.com/2016/09/29/organizations-taking-donations-for-townville-elementary-students/>

Upstate organizations are taking donations, cards, and other things to support Townville Elementary School students. The United Way of Greenwood and Abbeville Counties is collecting donations, cards, letters, drawings, and notes of love for students at the school. Donations will be accepted at the United Center for Community Care in Greenwood and donations can be made on their website. They say people are also welcome to drop off cards of gratitude for firefighter Jamie Brock. A Facebook page set up for K-9 Hyco is also taking donations to provide students at the school with a stuffed K-9. "As Hyco did, all Anderson County Sheriff's K-9's do and every K-9 does, this K-9 will help protect you, comfort you and be your friend."

**WSPA:** Kids practiced for active shooter days before Townville Elem. shooting

<http://wspa.com/2016/09/29/kids-practiced-for-active-shooter-days-before-townville-elem-shooting/>

SC Senator Lindsey Graham says Townville Elementary School practiced for an active shooter days before it happened. He says the principal, Denise Fredericks, told him they practiced last

Friday. Deputy Chief Keith Smith says the incident happened on the playground behind the school and the shooter never entered the school. The sheriff says the 14-year-old suspect got out of his vehicle and started firing immediately. The teen is in custody. Deputies say there is no known relationship between the suspect and the victims. The suspect is home-schooled and is not a student at any school in the Anderson Co. School District. A family friend says he was expelled from his school last year for bringing a hatchet to school and attacking a child. Deputies say they were on-scene within seven minutes and the suspect was apprehended on the school grounds before 2:00pm. The initial apprehension was made by Firefighter Jamie Brock, a 30-year veteran of the Townville Volunteer Fire Department.

**WSPA:** Townville school shooting suspect in court Friday

<http://wspa.com/2016/09/29/townville-school-shooting-suspect-in-court-friday/>

The suspect in the shooting of two students and a teacher at Townville Elementary and the shooting death of his 47-year-old father will be in court Friday morning in Anderson County. The suspect will go before a judge at 10:45 a.m. Friday at the Anderson County Courthouse. 7News will have a crew at the hearing. Deputy Chief Keith Smith says the shooting happened on the playground behind the school and the shooter never entered the school. The sheriff says the suspect got out of his vehicle and started firing immediately. Anderson District 4 Superintendent Joanne Avery said a teen suspect is in custody and there is no longer an active threat. Deputies say there is no known relationship between the suspect and the victims. The suspect is home-schooled and is not a student at any school in the Anderson Co. School District.

**WSPA:** Anderson Co. to fly flag at half-staff after Townville shooting

<http://wspa.com/2016/09/29/anderson-co-to-fly-flag-at-half-staff-after-townville-shooting/>

All Anderson County buildings will fly the Anderson County flag at half-staff beginning Friday evening to honor the victims of the Townville Elementary shooting. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the teacher, the two 6 year old boys, their families and the

school faculty as they begin the road of healing; to the firefighter who selflessly gave his all for the safety of others; Anderson County law enforcement and paramedics, and all first responders and agencies who assisted during the tragic events of Wednesday, September 28th,” said the county’s spokesperson in a statement. The flags will be lowered through the next Wednesday.

**WYFF4:** Family, hospital release updates on child shot at Townville Elementary

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/update-expected-on-6yearold-shot-at-townville-elementary/41879826>

Family members and hospital officials continue to give updates on the condition of Jacob Hall, the 6-year-old shot at Townville Elementary. The Greenville Health System released the following statement late Thursday night: “Jacob was shot in the leg. The bullet hit his femoral artery, causing massive blood loss, which led to cardiopulmonary arrest. He has undergone surgery and a number of procedures to try to stabilize his condition. He remains in critical condition.” – Dr. Keith Webb, Greenville Health System’s Children’s Hospital  
Jacob’s family releases statement: As you all know, our nephew Jacob Hall was one of the victims in the senseless shooting at Townville Elementary Wednesday afternoon. The support and love that has been shown by the entire state has been overwhelming and very much appreciated. Jacob is a very sick little boy and is fighting for his life. Due to the massive blood loss, he has sustained a major brain injury. Jacob is in very critical condition, and we are hanging on every second. Please continue to pray for Jacob and the other victims of this horrible, senseless act. Thank you all for respecting our family as we prepare for the days ahead. We want to give special thanks to the doctors and nurses and to Travis Page for starting the GoFundMe page so Jacob’s family can spend every moment they can with him. We also want to thank Pastor David Blizzard and Associate Pastor Tim Marcengill with Oakdale Baptist Church. God Bless You All.

**WYFF4:** Gov. Haley releases statement on shooting

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/gov-haley-releases-statement-on-shooting/41886604>

Gov. Nikki Haley's press secretary Chaney Adams released a statement Thursday that said: "The governor is keeping all of those impacted in her prayers and asks everyone in South Carolina to do the same."She will continue to communicate with Jacob's family and the families of those two who were released throughout the weekend."

**WYFF4:** Sen. Tim Scott lays flowers at Townville Elementary

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/south-carolina-officials-call-for-townville-prayers-on-social-media/41869792>

U.S. Sen. Tim Scott stopped by Townville Elementary Thursday morning. Scott prayed, met with first responders, dispatchers and firefighters. He then went to Greenville to take flowers to the family of Jacob Hall. Jacob is a 6-year-old who was shot and remains at Greenville Memorial Hospital. On Wednesday Scott tweeted: " My heart is sick for Anderson & South Carolina. Praying initial reports of no loss of life remain true & for those injured and their families."Other South Carolina elected officials reacted to the school shooting in Townville through statements or social media.

**NOTE:** Gov. Nikki Haley released the following statement: "As we work together with law enforcement to make sure they have the support they need to investigate what happened in Townville, Michael and I ask that everyone across South Carolina join us in praying for the entire Townville Elementary School family and those touched by today's tragedy." He laid a bouquet of flowers next to the pole outside the crime scene tape.

**WYFF4:** Fire chief gives first-person account of shooting at Townville school

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/fire-chief-gives-firstperson-account-of-shooting-at-townville-school/41885318>

A day after a 14-year-old was accused of killing his father and opening fire at an elementary school, wounding a teacher and two students, the fire chief shared new details of how the events unfolded. First-grade teacher Meghan Hollingsworth and a 6-year-old boy were wounded in the shooting at Townville Elementary School and were treated and released from the hospital. Jacob Hall, 6, was seriously injured and remains in critical condition after

surgery. (Previous story on shooting | Full story on Jacob)Jesse Osborne is believed to have killed his father, 47-year-old Jeffrey Osborne, shortly before he went to the school. Officials said Jesse Osborne was outside the classroom when he encountered Hollingsworth as she was about to take the children out to the playground, and he fired as they retreated back in the door.Jesse Osborne is in custody and charges are pending.Chief Billy McAdams read a statement at a news conference Thursday afternoon that said: "Yesterday our community experienced a devastating and life-changing event. We're going to feel this for a real long time.

**WYFF4:** 6-year-old shot at Townville Elementary still in critical condition

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/update-expected-on-6yearold-shot-at-townville-elementary/41879826>

The 6-year-old shot at Townville Elementary remains in critical condition as of Thursday morning, according to a Greenville Health System spokesperson. Jacob Hall was shot, along with another student and a teacher, shortly before 2 p.m.Wednesday at Townville Elementary School.Hall was airlifted to Greenville Memorial Hospital where he underwent surgeryWednesday afternoon, according to officials. A GoFundMe page has been set up for Jacob. The page says it was started by a friend of Jacob's family. The friend said the page was set up to help to parents due to the fact they will miss work. An update on Jacob's condition was posted on the page around 8 a.m. Thursday. It said "Just wanted to give an update. Over the night, there have been no changes in his condition. He is due to have surgery on his other main artery as soon as hes stable enough to do so. Thank yall so very much for all your donations and continue to spread the word and most importantly, PRAY for this little boy. I will continue to keep this open as long as ppl will donate because he has a long road to recovery. Thanks again and God Bless!!"

### **SC Quadruple Slaying:**

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Defendant appears in court in quadruple slaying

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=fzoCq9Qx](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=fzoCq9Qx)

SC State Wire

A man charged in a quadruple slaying in South Carolina says he's not a murderer and would never hurt anyone. Robert Lee Bailey appeared before an Orangeburg County magistrate late Thursday. Authorities say he's one of three men charged in the July 2015 killings of four people outside the community of Holly Hill. The other two were arrested this week in Alabama and should be returned to South Carolina in the next few days. The 37-year-old Bailey, charged with murder and other counts, appeared before Magistrate Don West in an orange prison jumpsuit and with his hands shackled. The judge said he couldn't set bond on a murder charge and that a circuit judge would have to set bond. He also gave Bailey a form to request a public defender.

**Associated Press:** The Latest: 3 charged in South Carolina quadruple slaying

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=54iDnZ77](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=54iDnZ77)

SC State Wire

A South Carolina sheriff says that after more than a year and thousands of hours of investigation, three people face charges in the July, 2015 slayings of four people at a home in rural South Carolina. Orangeburg County Sheriff Leroy Ravenell told reporters Thursday that two suspects were arrested this week in Baldwin County, Alabama, and the third was arrested in Orangeburg County, about 35 miles south of Columbia. All are from the Holly Hill area where the slayings occurred. The sheriff said all three face murder and other charges. He said 27-year-old Derrick Warren Coleman and 35-year-old Anthony Jermaine Scott were arrested in Alabama where Coleman is originally from. Ravenell said the two are expected to be brought back to South Carolina in the next few days. The third man arrested, 30-year-old Robert Lee Bailey, was to have a bond hearing later Thursday in Orangeburg.

**Associated Press:** Sheriff to discuss 2015 quadruple slaying in South Carolina

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?content\\_guid=w4rBkORq](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?content_guid=w4rBkORq)

SC State Wire

A South Carolina sheriff plans a news conference to discuss developments in an unsolved case in which four people, including two teenagers, were shot and killed in July 2015. A task force of local, state and federal investigators was formed last year to investigate the deaths. An announcement says Orangeburg County Sheriff Leroy Ravenell plans to meet with reporters at noon Thursday. Authorities say that 17-year-old Shamekia Sanders, 14-year-old Tamara Perry and 28-year-old Krystal Hutto all died of bullet wounds to the head in the July 15, 2015, shootings at a home outside of Holly Hill. Fifty-year-old Jerome Butler also was killed, while an 8-year-old boy was critically injured. Ravenell has said that drugs were being sold from the house where the slayings occurred.

**Post and Courier:** Three charged in 2015 quadruple homicide near Holly Hill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929348/three-charged-in-2015-quadruple-homicide-near-holly-hill>

Angie Jackson

Three men have been arrested in connection with a shooting that left four people dead and a young boy wounded during a break-in last year in Orangeburg County. Antly Jermaine Scott, 35, and Derrick Warren Coleman, 27, were captured Tuesday in Foley, Alabama, Sheriff Leroy Ravenell announced at a press conference Thursday. A third man, Robert Lamont Bailey, 37, was arrested Tuesday in Eutawville. All three men live in the Holly Hill and Eutawville areas. The men face four counts of murder as well as one count each of attempted murder, first-degree burglary and possession of a firearm during the commission of a violent crime. Scott and Coleman are awaiting extradition to South Carolina, while Bailey is jailed in Orangeburg County and was expected to be arraigned Thursday. Armed with handguns, the trio allegedly forced their way into a home at 7050 Old State Road near Holly Hill in the middle of the night on July 15, 2015. Two teenagers and two adults were fatally shot in what the Sheriff's Office called a drug-related robbery attempt. An 8-year-old boy was critically wounded but survived his injuries.

## **Charlotte Protest Shooting:**

**Associated Press:** In Charlotte, police shooting affects presidential politics

<http://bigstory.ap.org/89317a46988b4da1860617ef1595438e>

Bill Barrow

The killing of a black man by a Charlotte police officer, and the sometimes violent protests that followed, have intensified the political divide in a state crucial to deciding whether Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump wins the presidency. Republicans and Democrats alike say the killing of Keith Lamont Scott will energize both parties' strongest supporters in a presidential battleground state that also has competitive races for governor and the U.S. Senate. Both camps are citing the case as they push familiar arguments on race relations, law enforcement and social unrest. "Both sides think they are right in this," says Dee Stewart, a Republican consultant in North Carolina. "This all fits very well with Trump's argument of 'law and order' and respecting our officers. It fits with the left's narrative that anytime law enforcement acts with force in certain communities, it should be viewed with suspicion.

**Associated Press:** Charlotte police shooting audio appears to back up officer

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f179af6ccd4141b3a2c0d99ff57c057e>

Tom Foreman Jr and Emery P. Dalesio

A Charlotte, North Carolina, police officer calls for backup, saying he has spotted a man with a gun and a marijuana joint in his SUV. In follow-up radio traffic, the officer says a suspect has been wounded and is lying on the ground. The two snippets of audio the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department released on Thursday along with a brief 911 call appeared to back up authorities' assertion that officers believed that the black man, Keith Lamont Scott, had a gun. A black officer fatally shot Scott, 43, last week, sparking violent street protests and prompting the governor to call up National Guard troops, who were stationed on downtown

streets. In the roughly 20-second 911 call, a witness can be heard asking for paramedics and then says they are already arriving. "I can't stand y'all sorry asses," he remarks. The three audio clips, totaling less than two minutes, were released amid growing public demands for more details about Scott's death. Police on Saturday shared about three minutes of video capturing the Sept. 20 shooting.

**Charlotte Observer:** Police radio of Scott shooting: 'We got shots fired ... Need Medic'

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/special-reports/charlotte-shooting-protests/article104892336.html>

Mark Washburn, Doug Miller and Fred Clausen-Kelly

Keith Lamont Scott show officers telling their dispatcher that they were going after a man they had observed with marijuana and a gun. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police released limited radio traffic Thursday after a public records request made the day after the shooting by The Charlotte Observer. On Saturday, Police Chief Kerr Putney released parts of videos taken during the shooting from a dashboard camera and a body cam worn by a uniformed officer at the scene outside Scott's apartment at The Village at College Downs complex on Old Concord Road. Synching the radio traffic with video of the shooting shows that the first officer notified his dispatcher 37 seconds after four shots were fired at Scott. "We got shots fired," he radioed. "One suspect down. Lexington Court."

**Post and Courier:** Public outcry for transparency in police shooting investigations clashes with public records rules

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929312/public-outcry-for-transparency-in-police-shooting-investigations-clashes-with-public-records-rules>

Gregory Yee

In the wake of recent police shootings, the public outcry for transparency has come head to head with law enforcement agencies' interpretation of freedom of information laws. The statutes outline the public's right to records produced by government agencies but also include exemptions for law

enforcement records. Those are meant for such situations as protecting the identity of a confidential informant or keeping investigative techniques hidden from criminals. When incorrectly used, however, the exemptions can result in records being kept out of the public eye. Jay Bender, a Columbia-based lawyer who represents The Post and Courier, said the exemptions are broadly written and can be difficult to contest. State Law Enforcement Division officials have used one of these exemptions to reject the newspaper's request for body camera and dashboard camera footage of the fatal officer-involved shooting Aug. 26 of Christian Olivencia in North Charleston.

### **Governor Nikki Haley News:**

**Greenville News:** Gov. Haley approves GHS bond transfer

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/29/governor-approves-ghs-bond-transfer/91271478/>

Liv Osby

Gov. Nikki Haley on Thursday approved Greenville Health System's plan to move its \$600 million bond debt from the public nonprofit to its new private nonprofit Strategic Coordinating Organization. "This very technical tax issue has high stakes for GHS patients," Haley wrote in a letter to the hospital and to legislators who opposed the transfer. "If I do not approve this request, IRS regulations would cost GHS \$167 million in financing fees starting Oct. 1," she said. "For these reasons, I have approved the bond reclassification request." GHS has changed its governance structure so that it can remain a public nonprofit as part of a larger private, nonprofit multi-regional health system. As a result, GHS leases its assets to an Upstate Affiliate Organization, which operates existing GHS hospitals and facilities, and the SCO makes decisions about the direction of the system and has the financial responsibility. Because of that restructuring, officials want to shift \$600 million in bond debt from GHS to the SCO. The move would reclassify the bonds from governmental to nonprofit and would not add any new debt, according to Michael Riordan, CEO of the SCO.

**Greenville News:** Haley, Scott rate popular in new Winthrop Poll

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/09/29/haley-scott-rate-popular-new-winthrop-poll/91262300/>

Amanda Coyne

Gov. Nikki Haley and U.S. Sen. Tim Scott both received positive approval ratings in the September Winthrop Poll, released Thursday morning. Haley was viewed favorably by 57 percent of the poll's respondents, with a disapproval rating of 29 percent. Scott, a Republican facing re-election in November, had a 52 percent approval rating and a 21 percent disapproval rating. The poll reached 694 South Carolina residents on cell phones and landlines, with a 3.7 percent margin of error. Less popular were President Barack Obama and U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham. While 48 percent of respondents approved of Obama's performance as president, 50 percent disapproved. Graham's approval rate was the lowest of the four politicians, coming in at 38 percent, with 41 percent of respondents disapproving of his performance.

**Times and Democrat:** Miles to go to end killing of S.C. women

[http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/editorial/miles-to-go-to-end-killing-of-s-c-women/article\\_a1b76b33-8562-5aad-a13c-0f56eff8af29.html](http://thetandd.com/news/opinion/editorial/miles-to-go-to-end-killing-of-s-c-women/article_a1b76b33-8562-5aad-a13c-0f56eff8af29.html)

It's hard to say having the fifth-highest rate among the 50 states in a ranking of violence against women is any kind of good news. But after South Carolina has been ranked No. 1 in the rate of women being murdered by men, such is the case. South Carolina's rate of 2.32 women per 100,000 in 2013 was down to 1.73 in 2014, according to the new Violence Policy Center study titled "When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2014 Homicide Data." The 2014 rate is still higher than the national average of 1.08 per 100,000. The annual report was released in advance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. The study uses 2014 data, the most recent year for which information is available. It covers homicides involving one female murder victim and one male offender, and uses data from the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Report. The study found that nationwide, 93 percent of women killed by men were murdered by someone they knew, and that the most common weapon used was a gun.

**NOTE:** Gov. Nikki Haley helped sharpen the focus on domestic violence with an effort announced in April. The governor and members of the South Carolina Domestic Violence Task Force

were joined by sheriffs from around South Carolina as the chief law enforcement officers pledged to adopt an initiative that will improve officer response and create a baseline standard of uniformity statewide for domestic violence crimes by the end of this year.

**NOTE:** According to Haley, each sheriff — including Orangeburg’s Leroy Ravenell, Calhoun’s Thomas Summers and Bamberg’s Ed Darnell — will implement an internal policy specifically for domestic violence aimed at ensuring victim safety, offender accountability and officer safety and accountability.

### **General Assembly News:**

**The State:** Women’s rights group backs Finlay opponent

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article104879086.html>

Avery G. Wilks

A women’s rights group on Thursday endorsed state Rep. Kirkman Finlay’s general election opponent and denounced the Richland County Republican’s votes for a 20-week abortion ban passed this spring. Planned Parenthood Votes South Atlantic, a political action committee formed last year to support Planned Parenthood, cast its first ever S.C. legislative endorsement for Richland County Democrat Tyler Gregg. Gregg promised Thursday at a press conference on the State House steps that if elected, he will support women’s reproductive rights, equal pay for women and providing paid family leave to help parents care for a newborn or adopted child. “I won’t play politics with women’s health,” the Columbia attorney said. Eve Stacey, a member of the group’s board, called South Carolina’s new anti-abortion law “radical” and “blatantly unconstitutional.” “Let’s elect someone who will be a champion for women’s rights, and that person is Tyler Gregg,” she said. S.C. House members voted 80-28 in favor of the ban. Reached Thursday, Finlay noted that state Rep. Robert Ridgeway, D-Clarendon, a gynecologist, also voted for the ban. “It strikes me that I’m with the medical expert in our body,” Finlay said.

### **SC Agency News:**

**WRDW:** UPDATE: Irish Travelers continue to fight to get girls back

<http://www.wrdw.com/content/news/Irish-Travelers-continue-to-fight-to-get-girls-back-395009061.html>

The South Carolina Department of Social Services arrived at the home of an 11-year-old girl in Murphy Village. DSS allegedly got a tip that the girl was engaged and wanted to question her alone, according to the child's mother. Her parents said their daughter has medical problems and needs a feeding tube so they did not want DSS taking her away. When the parents gave DSS a letter to sign saying they wouldn't take their daughter away, DSS left. DSS also couldn't answer whether they had a court order. Parents were concerned because the other six children DSS took for questioning were removed from the home. Some of the parents of the children DSS took already were also outside the home of the 11-year-old girl when DSS arrived. The mother of the girl DSS was allegedly trying to question called her attorney to go over her rights.

**Post and Courier:** Charleston ports agency sues contractors over alleged defects in Leatherman terminal design

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929337/charleston-ports-agency-sues-contractors-over-alleged-defects-in-leatherman-terminal-design>

David Wren

The State Ports Authority is suing a pair of contractors over the initial design of a containment area that ultimately will support the wharf of a new cargo terminal at the former Navy Base in North Charleston. The SPA, in a lawsuit filed this week, says engineering firms Moffatt & Nichol and S&ME Inc. failed to properly test soils at the site before designing containment area walls that would not be strong enough to support the ship-to-shore cranes, trucks, cargo containers and other equipment that eventually will be placed at the terminal. The design flaws have cost the SPA more than \$35 million in additional work, materials and construction delays, according to the lawsuit, filed in circuit court in Charleston. In addition, the maritime agency says it has suffered financial losses due to its delayed use of the terminal, which originally was scheduled to open in 2013. The first phase of the facility, now known as the Hugh K. Leatherman Sr. Terminal,

now is slated to open by late 2019. Randy Paulson, chief marketing officer for Long Beach, Calif., based Moffatt & Nichol, said it is “unfortunate” that the project has resulted in a lawsuit.

### **SC Delegation News:**

**Associated Press:** \$500 million Charleston Harbor deepening clears hurdle

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?content\\_guid=rEhEOUP6](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?content_guid=rEhEOUP6)

SC State Wire

The half-billion dollar Charleston Harbor deepening project has cleared another hurdle now that the House of Representatives has passed the Water Resources Development Act. The measure approved Wednesday includes \$200 million in federal money for the channel deepening project. Differences between the House and the Senate version approved earlier must now be worked out. South Carolina Ports Authority president and CEO Jim Newsome is applauding the state's congressional delegation for working to get the federal bill passed. The authority wants the shipping channel deepened to 52 feet from 45 feet to accommodate larger containerships. South Carolina lawmakers have already set aside \$300 million to pay for the state's share of the deepening.

**Post and Courier:** Seven out of nine S.C. lawmakers vote against bill to prevent a government shutdown

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929350/seven-out-of-nine-sc-lawmakers-vote-against-bill-to-prevent-a-government-shutdown>

Emma Dumain

Congress passed a bill late Wednesday to avert a government shutdown; seven of the nine members of the South Carolina delegation voted against it. The bill, which will float federal operations between Oct. 1 and Dec. 9, was guaranteed to go to the president's desk. Once certain terms were agreed to, there

was no risk of a shutdown like the one that occurred in 2013. This essentially gave all but one of the Palmetto State Republicans on Capitol Hill a pass to go on the record opposing legislation they said fell short on a few critical fronts. In the Senate, U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham was angry the stop-gap spending measure didn't fully fund the Export-Import Bank, an important fixture of the South Carolina economy that helps U.S. companies finance goods for sale overseas, and which has come under fierce scrutiny from conservatives in recent years. In the House, U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan was pushing for Congress to take a stand against allowing Syrian refugees into the country at a moment where terrorists could be using every loophole to enter the United States and do harm on the homeland.

**The State:** SC Democrats slam GOP congressmen over votes against spending bill

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article104892591.html>

Avery G. Wilks

Congress avoided a government shutdown on Wednesday by approving a short-term spending bill, but S.C. Democrats are railing against Palmetto State lawmakers who voted against the measure. The spending bill pays to operate the government until Dec. 9 and includes \$1.1 billion to fight the Zika virus. The Democratic Party specifically called out Republican U.S. Sens. Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott and U.S. Reps. Mark Sanford, Jeff Duncan, Trey Gowdy, Mick Mulvaney and Tom Rice for voting against the spending bill. "Make no mistake: If the votes of these Republicans had carried the day, our government would be on the brink of a shutdown and the Zika virus would be on the brink of a U.S. epidemic," the party said in a statement Thursday.

**Savannah River Site/MOX News:**

**Aiken Standard:** Inspector General audit finds no long-term strategy in place for H Canyon

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160929/160929484/inspector-general-audit-finds-no-long-term-strategy-in-place-for-h-canyon>

Thomas Gardiner

The Department of Energy has no overall, long-term strategy for operations at Savannah River Site's H Canyon facility, according to an audit report released this week by the Office of Inspector General. The results of the IG audit were delivered Monday to the Energy Department, which later published it online. According to the report, a representative from DOE's Office of Environmental Management, or EM, said the lack of strategy was because the different offices with missions at the facility continually evaluate how to use the facility for their respective missions. However, the audit reported that those efforts were not comprehensive. The EM program manages H Canyon operations, but the National Nuclear Security Administration, the Office of Science and the Office of Nuclear Energy all have a stake in resources and missions within the facility.

### **South Carolina News:**

**Post and Courier:** Paid sick leave mandate for federal contractors could have outsize effect on S.C.

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929318/paid-sick-leave-mandate-for-federal-contractors-could-have-outsize-effect-on-sc>

Thad Moore

The Obama administration is moving forward with plans to make federal contractors give their employees paid sick days, a move expected to affect more than 1 million workers nationwide and potentially thousands around the Lowcountry. Labor Department officials said the rule, which was finalized Thursday after President Barack Obama signed an executive order last year, would increase benefits for about 1.1 million workers across the country once it's fully implemented, affecting about 60,000 employers. The new requirement for federal contractors, which will start with contracts signed next year, may have an outsize effect in South Carolina. The state is home to the Savannah River Site and big military installations such as Joint Base Charleston, which draw billions of dollars in contracts each year. The state pulled in \$4.2 billion in federal contracts in the most recent fiscal year. While five states now require employers to offer paid sick days, South Carolina does not. Neither have any of its local governments,

though more than 20 cities and counties elsewhere have passed similar rules.

**McClatchy DC:** South Carolinians' incomes grew 4.3 percent last year, but still lag behind nation

<http://www.thestate.com/latest-news/article104950861.html>

Vera Bergengruen

South Carolinians saw their household incomes rise in 2015 – but not as fast as the rest of the country. Real median household income for South Carolinians grew by 4.3 percent, the equivalent of \$1,944 in income, the White House said on Thursday. According to new census data, the national figure was \$2,800, or 5.2 percent per household. That's the first time annual real income growth exceeded 5 percent since 1967, when the Census Bureau began reporting household income data, the White House said. The Sumter metro area had the fastest growth in South Carolina last year, with the typical household income rising 12.2 percent. The second fastest was the Myrtle Beach area, where income grew by 7.6 percent. At the same time, the poverty rate fell by 1.3 percentage points in the state. In the last year, 53,100 people were lifted out of poverty in South Carolina, according to the new census data. The unemployment rate in South Carolina was hovering around 5.1 percent as of August, the lowest it has been since 2001. During the recession the unemployment rate peaked at 11.7 percent in December 2009. Since 2010, the state's economy has added 266,200 jobs, the White House said.

**Associated Press:** Officials: Remains of NC teen who disappeared in 2011 found

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ooOjxJT0](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=ooOjxJT0)

SC State Wire

The body of a North Carolina teenager whose adoptive parents were convicted of tax fraud related to her 2011 disappearance was found this week, officials said Thursday. The remains of Erica Parsons were discovered in Chesterfield County, South Carolina, according to Chesterfield Sheriff Jay Brooks. He said information from a person close to the case helped investigators find the

body. Testimony at the trial of Casey and Sandy Parsons unveiled a pattern of abusing Erica, who lived with the family in Rowan County from 2000 until she disappeared in 2011 at age 13. She wasn't reported missing until 2013. In a news release, the Rowan County Sheriff's Office said the skeletal remains found Tuesday were positively identified as Erica Parsons by the North Carolina Medical Examiner's Office. The sheriff's office said the investigation into her disappearance and death is continuing.

### **Local News:**

**Island Packet:** Judge revokes bond for man accused in DUI death of Hilton Head bicyclist

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article104871676.html>

Caitlin Turner

The bond for a Hilton Head Island man accused of fleeing the scene of a crash that killed bicyclist Jeff Garske in August was revoked Thursday in Beaufort County Court. Circuit Court Judge Michael Nettles revoked a \$50,000 bond against Richard Alford, 64, and denied him additional bond after he was charged with driving under the influence on Wednesday evening. Around 5:10 p.m., the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office had received a report that Alford's vehicle was swerving on westbound U.S. 278 in the area of Plantation Center. Alford told Beaufort County deputies that he had been drinking and was going through a divorce, Deputy Solicitor Sean Thornton said Thursday in court. Alford failed the horizontal gaze test given by deputies and was unable to perform other parts of the test because he is wheelchair bound. He also refused a Breathalyzer test, Thornton said.

**The Herald:** More than \$1M in cocaine seized in Lancaster County drug bust

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/crime/article104884866.html>

Teddy Kulmala

An Indian Land business owner was charged with trafficking in what Lancaster County Sheriff Barry Faile said was one of the largest busts his agency has made. Alex Vicente Soto-Godinez, 36, was charged with trafficking cocaine and possession with intent to distribute marijuana, authorities said. Investigators say they received information from York County authorities that illegal drugs were present at Alex's Auto Care on Fort Mill Highway, which Soto-Godinez operates. Soto-Godinez was not at the business when authorities began surveillance around 7 a.m. Wednesday, but he later arrived, officials said. Based on their conversation with Soto-Godinez when he arrived, information obtained by investigators and the use of a drug K-9, investigators obtained search warrants for the business and his vehicle.

**Post and Courier:** Christan Rainey works to prevent domestic violence in the wake of unspeakable tragedy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160930/160939997/christan-rainey-works-to-prevent-domestic-violence-in-the-wake-of-unspeakable-tragedy->

Diane Knich

Every morning for the past 10 years Christan Rainey woke up thinking about his mother and four younger siblings who were shot to death in a North Charleston mobile home. Rainey, 31, said it took about seven years for him to stop asking why his mother's husband, Michael Anthony Simmons, murdered his family in the fall of 2006. "Then I realized I was asking the wrong question," the North Charleston firefighter said. Now he simply asks God for guidance. And that guidance has led him to forming an organization called M.A.D. USA, a group that works in myriad ways to stop domestic violence. On Saturday, Rainey's group will hold an awareness event at the Wal-Mart on Centre Pointe Drive in North Charleston. The event will include information and referrals for assistance on domestic violence, speakers, free food and live music. It's the fourth such event his group has held to honor his mother, Detra Rainey, who was 39 when she died along with her four youngest children, William Lee Rainey, 16; Hakiem Rainey, 13; Malachi Robinson, 8; and Samenia Robinson, 6.

**Associated Press:** Fired officer charged with killing 14 shelter cats

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?content\\_guid=pVRxSMjy](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?content_guid=pVRxSMjy)

SC State Wire

A former Marion County official is accused of taking 14 cats from a shelter and killing them. The State Law Enforcement Division said Thursday 51-year-old Marion Richardson is charged with misconduct in office and animal euthanasia violation. Warrants say Richardson and his supervisor took the cats from the county's animal shelter, and Richardson shot them to death. Henry Rogers of Mullins is also charged with the euthanasia violation. Richardson was fired as the county's code enforcement officer Sept. 9 after the cats were found dead. The shelter's director told authorities the two claimed the cats were going to a farmer. Richardson's attorney Rose Mary Parham says he was asked to dispose of the cats, and shooting them in the back of the head is more humane than using carbon monoxide.

**The State:** Heroes in Blue: 4 helped by legacy of slain Forest Acres officer

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article104991546.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Friday marks one year since Forest Acres police officer Greg Alia was shot and killed while responding to a suspicious person call at Richland Mall. Then came the deadly flood in October. Amid the chaos, the young officer's wife, Kassy Alia, worked to honor his memory by founding the nonprofit Heroes In Blue. The organization's mission is twofold. It supports the families of officers killed in the line of duty. And it promotes good relationships between police and the communities they serve. Here are four people who are helping – or have been helped by – the organization.

**The State:** Columbia College investigates potential black face incident

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article104974046.html>

Cynthia Roldan

Columbia College is investigating an image shared on social media depicting three students with their faces partially covered in what seems to be black paint. The three students are going through the college's judiciary process to determine if they violated the school's code of conduct, said Monique McDaniels, spokeswoman for Columbia College. The image shows three unidentified girls, one of them wearing a Columbia College gray hoodie, with black markings partially covering different parts of their faces. College President Elizabeth Dinndorf issued a statement to students saying the image "disrupted" the school and the students will not be allowed back on campus until the investigation is complete.

**Post and Courier:** MUSC students want outside group to investigate cheating allegations

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160939986/musc-students-want-outside-group-to-investigate-cheating-allegations>

Lauren Sausser

Students at the Medical University of South Carolina want an independent group to investigate an alleged cheating scandal after College of Medicine Dean Raymond DuBois told them last week they "just don't have all the facts." A petition calling for the independent review was published on [change.org](http://change.org) at 7 p.m. Thursday. Students who wrote it specified that the investigation should be conducted by a group not affiliated with "MUSC, MUSC board members, or the South Carolina government." The petitioners have asked this outside group to "gather all relevant facts," "make specific recommendations to improve the process" and "release a public disclosure of their findings." The Post and Courier attempted to contact MUSC for a comment after the petition was posted but was not successful. The newspaper learned last month that two medical school students were caught cheating on several tests and were referred to the MUSC Honor Council. That group voted to expel the students, but DuBois overturned the Honor Council's decision, allowing them to remain enrolled. Several sources say both are related to prominent public officials.

**Island Packet:** District employee out a job after school bus-rider allegedly hit in face with water bottle

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article104960626.html>

Rebecca Lurye

A bus driver is no longer working for the Beaufort County School District following a report that he allowed an adult to board, yell at the students he was transporting, and allegedly toss a water bottle that struck a student's face. District spokesman Jim Foster would not say whether the driver was suspended or fired, only that the man is no longer a district employee. He also would not identify the driver, who would have broken district protocol by allowing the woman to come aboard the school bus when he was dropping students off at Heritage Lakes Drive in Bluffton on Sept. 22. The driver was identified only by his first name in the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office report on the incident. The woman was not named at all in the report, though Capt. Bob Bromage said she has since been identified and the criminal investigation is ongoing.

**The State:** Students won't lose in slipup, but Richland 1 will

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article104998406.html>

Sarah Ellis

Richland 1's Title I students are not losing out on resources meant for impoverished schools, but the district still has to absorb a \$3.1 million hit somewhere in its budget as the result of a missed deadline for federal funding reimbursement. "They aren't losing the federal funding," said Ryan Brown, a spokesman for the state Department of Education, which disburses Title I funding to districts across the state. "What they have lost is some of their own district funding." Richland 1 can carry over \$3.1 million in unused federal Title I funding, which it left sitting as a result of a missed deadline for reimbursement. It has until Oct. 15 to apply for those funds. But the district already has spent \$3.1 million on resources and services at 20 disadvantaged schools eligible that it will not be repaid from the federal program.

**The State:** Mold scare drives 10 students out of USC dorm

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/education/article104984726.html>

Avery G. Wilks

Ten University of South Carolina students have moved out of the 47-year-old Bates House residence hall over concerns about mold. A USC spokesman said Thursday the suspected outbreak “was mostly dust accumulated in HVAC vents” as a result of humidity. But air-quality testing of 67 rooms revealed five had higher levels of spores, he said. USC is conducting mold remediation in those rooms. The students now are staying in the nearby Cliff Apartments. Bates House is home to 522 students – for now. USC plans to tear down the dorm and three others to make room for an up-to-3,800-bed student housing village with three- to six-story towers and a parking garage.

**The State:** New identity, public improvement part of plans for Main Street

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article104995851.html>

Cliff Leblanc

A newly unveiled “urban” look for Columbia’s Main Street will be accompanied next year with nearly \$650,000 in city-funded streetscaping. Some 80 banners that proclaim “Main Street District” or “The Heart of the Capital City” were hoisted this week on decorative poles between the State House and Elmwood Avenue. The branding campaign by City Center Partnership also placed the new logo on 43 trash cans, 14 utility boxes and, next week during a formal launch, banners will be placed across the five city parking garages within the 36 blocks around Main. An updated website designed to help with recruiting businesses – [mainstreetcolasc.com](http://mainstreetcolasc.com) – is part of the plan. “We wanted to distinguish ourselves from the other entertainment districts – something that says we really are the heart of the city,” CCP’s recruiter Jenna Bridgers said Thursday. “Nobody else can really claim that.” Downtown’s two other entertainment districts, Five Points and the Vista, have their own identities, said Bridgers and businessman Sean McCrossin.

**Sun News:** City to school: We want \$2 million

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article104980186.html>

Christian Boschult

The City of Myrtle Beach is asking for \$2 million for renovations to Myrtle Beach High School's Doug Shaw Memorial Stadium. During an Horry County School Board meeting on Monday, city councilman Wayne Gray addressed the school board to present the request. Construction on the 48-year old stadium will cost \$6.5 million, said Gray. The stadium has been jointly owned by The City of Myrtle Beach and Horry County Schools since the last renovation in 2008. Work is scheduled to start this January and will include upgrades to the stadium seating, a new press box, locker rooms, restrooms and entry and exit gates. The playing field will get a new artificial surface and a new track and sprint lanes will be installed. "The city and school district jointly own that facility, and of course the agreement is they would be responsible for the district standards for athletics facilities," said Gray. Gray said \$2 million was the cost estimate for upgrades to the items that district is responsible for maintaining.

**Post and Courier:** November referendum to include \$600 million for mass transit, Council decides

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160929/160929315/november-referendum-to-include-600-million-for-mass-transit-council-decides>

Prentiss Findlay

Mass transit will benefit to the tune of \$600 million if voters approve the half-cent sales tax referendum on Nov. 8, Charleston County Council decided Thursday. Council, voting as the Finance Committee, OK'd the funds for public transit. Overall, the referendum is expected to generate \$2.1 billion including money for highways, bridges, mass transit and other transportation-related projects. "It was important to confirm the (mass transit) commitment," said Councilwoman Colleen Condon who sponsored the resolution for mass transit funding. The resolution pledges some \$250 million for bus rapid transit. The remainder of the \$600 million would be for operating costs and capital expenses for mass transit. Improvements to the existing mass transportation system and a rapid transit bus system between Summerville and Charleston are the goals.

**Herald-Journal:** 5 projects totaling \$144M move forward in county

<http://www.goupstate.com/news/20160928/5-projects-totaling-144m-move-forward-in-county?rssfeed=true&start=2>

Bob Montgomery

Tax breaks are being credited for helping five projects move forward in Spartanburg County that have planned investments of up to \$144 million and 125 new jobs. Called a fee in lieu of tax agreement, the incentive allows a company to pay a reduced property tax rate, typically 6 percent, instead of the statewide tax rate of 10.5 percent. In exchange, the company agrees to invest and create a certain number of jobs. Last week, the county council approved first readings for Industrial Mold, Banc of America Leasing & Capital, Project Door, Praxair and Draexlmaier. The third reading is when a company such as Project Door is identified, according to Councilman David Britt, chairman of the council's economic development committee. Some companies prefer anonymity until the deal is finalized, he said. Britt said tax breaks are an important economic tool because Spartanburg is often competing with other states for the same business.

**The State:** Lattimore: 'I feel fulfilled, I'm happy and I love Columbia'

<http://www.thestate.com/sports/college/university-of-south-carolina/usc-football/article104907926.html>

David Cloninger

Marcus Lattimore should have been getting ready for another day of practice on Thursday, preparing for San Francisco's Sunday game against the Cowboys. Instead, he was speaking to the Touchdown Club in Columbia. The circumstances why have long been covered, but Lattimore talks with no trace of regret. "I didn't picture my life to be like this," he said. "I had no clue what God had in store for me. All I know is, I feel fulfilled, I'm happy and I love Columbia. So who knows what's next for me?" Lattimore preached his message to the room of longtime South Carolina boosters and the high-school athletes honored Thursday, saying the same words he's said since his horrific career-ending injury. Don't take anything for granted, because you never know when athletic ability will be taken from you. "Every chance I get, every opportunity I get to share my story, if it fits in my schedule, I'm

there,” he said. “Because I know potentially it could change someone’s life. I’ve been in their shoes. I know exactly what they’re facing right now. And I pretty much just want to share some of the things that I’ve learned over the years.”

**The Herald:** Racing on ‘incredible’ track, BMX elite descend on Rock Hill for World Cup

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/state/south-carolina/article105053446.html>

David Thackham

Rachel Jones isn’t racing for medal contention or points. She’s racing to prove she can bounce back after an injury. Jones suffered a rough crash over the summer on her first practice event at the 2016 UCI BMX World Championships in Colombia, and only recently returned to the track a couple of weeks ago. This time, back on the big stage, the 20-year-old Newcastle, Australia, native has the chance to see where she ranks among the elite of BMX. “I’m just looking forward to racing my bike again,” said Jones, who will compete in the Women’s Elite classification at this weekend’s 2016 UCI BMX Supercross World Cup event Friday and Saturday. “It was the first major crash I’ve had, so coming back and transitioning back into racing, and finishing the year on a high” is her motivation. Jones is one of more than 120 pro elite cyclists from over 25 countries who have traveled to Rock Hill as a part of the sport’s World Cup Series circuit. Rock Hill is the fourth spot on the annual circuit, which includes Australia, Great Britain, the Netherlands and Sarasota, Fla.

**Aiken Standard:** ‘Miracle on the Hudson’ passenger and North Augusta native rises above fear of flying

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160929/160929491/x2018miracle-on-the-hudsonx2019-passenger-and-north-augusta-native-rises-above-fear-of-flying>

Bill Bengston

One of this year’s most popular Hollywood productions hits especially close to home for North Augusta native Clay Presley, a Charlotte-based businessman also known as a passenger on US Airways Flight 1549, of Jan. 15, 2009. Presley, a 1972 graduate of

North Augusta Senior High, earned a pilot certificate in the years following the famous forced landing – the “Miracle on the Hudson” – and counts retired Capt. Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger and First Officer Jeffrey Skiles among his friends. Their story is told in “Sully,” a movie starring Tom Hanks and directed and produced by Clint Eastwood. In life and in the film, all 155 passengers and crew survived. Flight is part of the weekly routine for Presley, whose company, Carolina Pad, helps with the design, manufacture and sale of school and office supplies, and has contacts around the world. After the near-death experience on a flight that was meant to have gone from New York City to Charlotte, Presley took flight lessons, to overcome his newly acquired fear of flying. It worked.

### **Presidential Election 2016:**

**Associated Press:** The Latest: Clinton to unveil national service proposal

<http://bigstory.ap.org/c89c165153b24b31bbb10307d21a013f>

Hillary Clinton plans to call on young people to participate in national service. The campaign says the Democratic presidential candidate will announce plans Friday for a new national program designed to help people under 30 engage in public service. She'll present her proposals in a speech Friday in Port St. Lucie, Florida. It is the latest in a series of policy speeches designed to offer an affirmative message in the closing weeks of the presidential campaign. Clinton's campaign is seeking to contrast her approach with what they call Republican Donald Trump's "self-centered message."

**Associated Press:** Trump injects Bill Clinton scandals into 2016 race

<http://bigstory.ap.org/d5a8336f67144d80bd7c9535fdb5853d>

Josh Lederman and Catherine Lucey

Donald Trump is warning voters that a Hillary Clinton victory would bring her husband's sex scandal back to the White House. Injecting Clinton's marital troubles into the 2016 campaign

was Trump's latest effort to bounce back from Monday night's debate performance, which has been widely panned as lackluster. In contrast, Clinton has delivered a mostly positive message in the days since her debate performance re-energized her candidacy. Clinton is stressing that her plans will solve the kind of kitchen-sink problems facing American families — the high cost of childcare, mounting student debt and unpaid family leave. Trump, though promising lower taxes and "jobs, jobs, jobs," has intensified the dire warnings and personal attacks that have defined his outsider presidential bid. He took it a step further on Thursday.

**Associated Press:** Clinton's 'nasty' Trump ads are mostly his own words

<http://bigstory.ap.org/c7572d72ae2a401998585c0fa3b4198e>

Julie Bykowicz

Donald Trump says Hillary Clinton is making "nasty" ads about him. Most of Clinton's commercials about Trump, though, merely include clips of him speaking. Her campaign seems to have concluded that Trump is his own worst enemy. The most frequently used Clinton advertisements about Trump have a common theme: They show regular people, often in the flicker of a television set, spliced with footage of Trump making some of his most incendiary comments. The Republican presidential nominee's decades in the spotlight, including as a reality television show host, have given the Democratic contender an unusual bounty of ad material. Trump is paying attention. During Monday's debate, he told Clinton he's noticed "the very nasty commercials that you do on me in so many different ways, which I don't do on you." That prompted Shonda Rhimes, a television producer and Clinton supporter, to tweet: "Wait. She did not run ads that say mean things. She ran ads that use audio of his own mean nasty statements."

### **National News:**

**Associated Press:** The Latest: NTSB recovers recorder from wrecked train

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e3ce28d68b06401ba87b81518f657ad8>

National Transportation Safety Board investigators have recovered the event recorder from the train that crashed into a rail station in New Jersey. They're hoping the recorder will tell them how fast the New Jersey Transit commuter train was going when it slammed into the Hoboken Terminal on Thursday morning, killing a woman on the platform and injuring more than 100. Investigators also plan to interview the engineer and other crew members. They're also trying to secure the crash site and ensure it is safe for them to comb through the wreckage.

**Associated Press:** After fatal train crash, investigators seek answers

<http://bigstory.ap.org/3a2e5c4da5c341ef9a35dbf799338383>

Federal investigators are trying to determine what happened before a New Jersey commuter train barreled through a station and crashed into a barrier, causing a young mother to be killed by falling debris and injuring more than 100 others. Investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board will be looking to determine how fast the train was going when it crashed at the busy Hoboken station Thursday morning. Their investigation will seek to answer many questions, including whether a system designed to prevent accidents by overriding the engineer and automatically slowing or stopping trains that are going too fast could have helped if it had been installed on the line. Investigators recovered an event recorded from the locomotive Thursday night and will be examining it Friday, NTSB vice chairwoman T. Bella Dinh-Zarr said Friday morning on ABC's "Good Morning America." The device contains information on the train's speed and braking. More than 100,000 people use New Jersey Transit to commute from New Jersey to New York City each day. The NJ Transit portion of the Hoboken station remained closed on Friday, slowing the morning commute for those making connections there.

**Associated Press:** Sept. 11 families can now sue the Saudis but will it matter?

<http://bigstory.ap.org/2157d77321f247d3a4dfcef562fb1527>

Larry Neumeister and Jennifer Peltz

Just because Congress has allowed Sept. 11 victims to sue Saudi Arabia over claims it had a role in the terror attacks doesn't mean such a case will ever go before a jury. Already, a federal judge has blasted the legal case at the heart of the debate as notoriously weak and full of "largely boilerplate" accusations. And the revised law that passed this week over President Barack Obama's veto gives the Justice Department sweeping authority to put the case on hold and fails to eliminate sovereign immunity from protecting Saudi Arabia's assets. "The bill really is the worst of both worlds — everything Saudi Arabia complained about and very little of what the plaintiffs thought they were getting," said Stephen Vladeck, a University of Texas law professor who has closely tracked the litigation for nearly a dozen years. Still, some families are enjoying a victory, including Kathy Owens, whose husband, Peter, died in the 2001 attacks.

### **World News:**

**Associated Press:** Israelis, world leaders gather for Peres funeral

<http://bigstory.ap.org/9de90217b0fc49b5b29cdfa1c5cd2242>

Josef Federman and Aron Heller

Shimon Peres was laid to rest on Friday in a ceremony attended by thousands of admirers and dozens of international dignitaries — in a final tribute to a man who personified the history of Israel during a remarkable seven-decade political career and who came to be seen by many as a visionary and symbol of hopes of Mideast peace. U.S. President Barack Obama, former U.S. President Bill Clinton and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas headlined a long list of world leaders who converged on Israel's national cemetery, Mount Herzl, for the event. In a nod to the Palestinian leader, Abbas sat in the front row at the memorial service. In a heartfelt eulogy, Obama said that Peres showed that "justice and hope" are at the heart of Israel's Zionist ideals. "Shimon never saw his dream of peace fulfilled," Obama said. "And yet he did not stop dreaming, and he did not stop working."

**Associated Press:** Obama: Peres won his wars but understood the need for peace

<http://bigstory.ap.org/649921cc0fdf45bfaded0038b9012ed8>

Kevin Freking

President Barack Obama hailed Shimon Peres Friday as a man who showed the world that justice and hope are at the heart of the Zionist ideal and saw "all people as deserving of dignity and respect." Wearing a Jewish skullcap as a sign of respect and reverence, Obama said he was the 10th president to fall prey to Peres' charms and they forged an unlikely friendship, despite the nearly four-decade gap in their ages and starkly different backgrounds. "It was so surprising to see the two of us, where we had started, talking together in the White House, meeting here in Israel," he said. "I think both of us understood that we were here only because in some way we reflected the magnificent story of our nations." "The last of the founding generation is now gone," Obama said, speaking just to the left of Peres' casket draped in blue and white. Peres died at 93 Wednesday, two weeks after suffering a stroke.

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