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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Monday, June 20, 2016

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## Afternoon Clips – Monday, June 20, 2016

### Orlando Shooting News:

**Associated Press:** 911 transcript: Orlando gunman said he was Islamic soldier

<http://bigstory.ap.org/196c91013aa1461a91efb0abf1774933>

Eric Tucker and Mike Schneider

Orlando gunman Omar Mateen identified himself as an Islamic soldier in calls with authorities during his rampage and demanded to a crisis negotiator that the U.S. "stop bombing Syria and Iraq," according to transcripts released by the FBI on Monday. The partial transcripts were of a 911 call made by Mateen and three conversations he had with the police crisis negotiators during the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history, in which 49 people died and dozens were wounded. Those communications, along with Facebook posts Mateen made before and after the shooting, add to the public understanding of the final hours of Mateen's life. The first call came more than a half-hour after shots rang out, when Mateen told a 911 operator, "Praise be to God, and prayers as well as peace be upon the prophet of God," he told the dispatcher, referring to God in Arabic.

### Dylann Roof Case:

**Associated Press:** Prosecutor: Roof federal case conflicts with state, holidays

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7nbOZrUP](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7nbOZrUP)

Bruce Smith

The state prosecutor trying accused Charleston church shooter Dylann Roof says trying Roof in federal court in November for hate crimes and other charges interferes with both his scheduled January state trial and the victims' and jurors' holidays. Roof's federal trial in the Emanuel AME shootings is set for Nov. 7 and attorneys say it could last six weeks. The 22-year-old also faces nine counts of murder in state court in January. Scarlett Wilson, who said she raised the concerns during a brief court hearing Monday, said in an email to The Associated Press that November is "a horrible time for a trial for anyone."

**Post and Courier:** Solicitor lambastes feds for ignoring state's prosecution of Dylann Roof

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC16/160629945>

Andrew Knapp

Charleston's top prosecutor on Monday said the U.S. Department of Justice and the federal court system have ignored South Carolina's case against Dylann Roof by trying him first, making it likely that his victims will endure two trials. Roof, the accused killer of nine worshippers at Emanuel AME Church, already faced a January death penalty trial in state court when the federal authorities announced they also would seek his execution in their separate case. A judge then heeded defense lawyers' request by setting the federal trial date earlier, in November, meaning Roof would be tried first in a jurisdiction that is historically less likely to execute people. In the first state court hearing since then, 9th Circuit Solicitor Scarlett Wilson expressed frustration with the conflicts emerging between the two capital cases. The predicament is a first of its kind in American legal history.

### SC Elections:

**Associated Press:** SC election officials reopen race to replace Rep. Southard

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gJkKS4oT](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gJkKS4oT)

SC State Wire

The state Election Commission has reopened the race to replace former Rep. Edward Southard after he withdrew as part of an ethics agreement. Commissioners decided Southard withdrew for a "legitimate, nonpolitical reason," as defined by law. Spokesman Chris Whitmire said Monday candidates for all parties can file for the Berkeley County seat between June 28 and July 5. Any necessary primaries will be July 19. Last week, the House Ethics Committee found the 69-year-old Republican from Moncks Corner violated the chamber's no harassment policy and fined him \$2,000.

**Post and Courier:** Endorsements in Charleston's state Senate District 41 GOP runoff

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC1603/160629946>

Sschuyler Kropf

The two Republican candidates in a runoff for a Charleston seat in the South Carolina state Senate split endorsements Monday from the other two hopefuls in last week's primary. Senate District 41 candidate Roy Maybank was backed by former candidate Culver Kidd, while Sandy Senn, the first-place vote-getter, was endorsed by Tim Mallard. "While I am disappointed my platform did not resonate with the voters, I believe of the remaining candidates you most closely represent the agenda that I so passionately tried to convey. I am writing today to express my support for your campaign," Kidd said in a letter of endorsement to Maybank. "I know Sandy Senn is also committed to serving our community and for fighting for real reform at the Statehouse," Mallard said. "I support Sandy Senn and will vote for her on June 28th."

**The Herald:** Tolson discusses plans for York County Sheriff's Office

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article84755057.html>

Teddy Kulmala

The November general election is still more than four months away, but for Kevin Tolson – who is running unopposed for York County sheriff – that's four extra months to begin transitioning into the office of York County's top cop. Tolson, a senior investigator with the 16th Circuit Solicitor's Office, beat out former forensic investigator John H. Williams in Tuesday's primary. Former deputy Michael Scurlock Jr., who was running as an independent, dropped out of the race earlier this month after failing to get the required number of signatures to get on the ballot as a petition candidate. Scurlock's exit created a clear path to the office for Tolson, which he called an "unusual" circumstance.

**South Carolina News:**

**Associated Press:** 2 jailed over Confederate flag fight in South Carolina

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Jc3u6qww](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Jc3u6qww)

SC State Wire

Authorities say two tourists visiting South Carolina were arrested over the weekend in a dispute over the Confederate flag. Local media outlets report the South Carolina Secessionist Party was putting on its weekly display Saturday of Southern flags when a woman broke two small Confederate flags off a parked truck and ran away with them. James Bessenger, founder of the party, ran after her. Police say the woman's father told them he grabbed Bessenger to stop him from chasing his daughter.

**Post and Courier:** Scuffle over Confederate flags at Charleston Battery lands two tourists in jail

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC16/160629933>

Dave Munday

A scuffle over Confederate flags Saturday at The Battery landed two tourists in jail. The S.C. Secessionist Party was putting on its weekly display of Southern flags. A woman walking by broke two small Confederate flags off a parked truck and ran away with them, according to a Charleston police report. Party founder James Bessenger, 27, took off running after her. A man stepped in front of Bessenger and kept grabbing him so he couldn't chase the young woman, according to the report. Police were called.

**Post and Courier:** Gas prices fall again across S.C.; still lowest in the nation

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC05/160629949>

Warren L. Wise

The price of gasoline fell again across South Carolina during the past week to remain the lowest in the nation. Gasoline prices dropped 4.3 cents last week in the Palmetto State to an average of \$2.02 a gallon, according to gas price service GasBuddy. Motor club AAA puts the price a penny higher. The price of gas in S.C. is nearly 46 cents a gallon lower than this time last year. Nationally, the price dipped 4.5 cents during the past week to an average of \$2.34 a gallon. That's down by 46 cents from this time one year ago. "The price of crude oil, which had been gaining steam leading up to June, has now experienced a sustained downturn over the last couple of weeks," said Will Speer, GasBuddy senior petroleum analyst.

## Local News:

**Associated Press:** Police: Robbery suspect takes hostage; is killed by officers

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

Jeffrey Collins

A man who took a store clerk hostage during a robbery in South Carolina has been shot to death by officers, authorities said. Jasper County deputy Dan Morgan was wounded in the foot during the shootout about 8 a.m. in Hardeeville, and the hostage may have twisted her ankle running from the Dollar General, Hardeeville spokesman Juan Singleton said. Officers arrived at the store just as the robbery took place because guests at a motel across U.S. Highway 17 called 911 when they saw a masked man in the parking lot walking toward the store, Singleton said. "The officers were there very quickly," Singleton said.

**Greenville News:** Opening arguments expected in Dacusville murder case

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/06/20/opening-arguments-expected-afternoon-case-dacusville-mom-charged-murdering-children/86145654/>

Ron Barnett

Opening arguments are expected to begin this afternoon in the double murder trial of Suzanna Simpson, the Dacusville mother who is accused of killing her two young children and attempting to kill her husband. Simpson has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity, according to 13th Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins. Jury selection has been underway since shortly after 9 a.m. Although the case qualifies for the death penalty, the state is not seeking capital punishment, according to the Solicitor's Office.

**Sun News:** Acting police chief quits Horry County amid investigation of officers

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/crime/article84803762.html>

Audrey Hudson

Just weeks after he took over as acting Horry County police chief, Kelvin Waites quit the law enforcement agency and is taking the top cop job in Georgetown. Deputy Chief Waites was named acting police chief for Horry County after Sandra Rhodes stepped down May 6, one month later Deputy Chief Scott Rutherford announced his retirement. Horry County Council Chairman Mark Lazarus confirmed that Waites, who lives in Georgetown, is leaving the police department. "We hate to lose him, he's a good guy," Lazarus said.

**Associated Press:** College of Charleston AD Joe Hull to step down

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=q22NZJFj](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=q22NZJFj)

SC State Wire

College of Charleston athletic director Joe Hull is leaving the school when his contract expires at the end of the year. College President Glenn McConnell released a statement Monday that did not say why Hull was leaving after nine years. Hull was athletic director when College of Charleston opened 5,100-seat TD Arena, which helped to attract the Charleston Classic fall basketball tournament to the

city. He also helped lead the Cougars from the Southern Conference to the Colonial Athletic Conference a few years ago.

**Post and Courier:** Charleston County Schools summer feeding program fills nutrition gap

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160620/PC16/160629950>

Deanna Pan

Eleven-year-old Omarion strode into the Sanders-Clyde Elementary School cafeteria balancing his 1-year-old sister, Paris, on his shoulders, her chubby legs dangling around his neck. Three of his younger cousins skipped past him through the door. Kaylora Black, the cafeteria manager, hoisted Paris into her arms. "Let's get you a meal," she said. More than half of all students in Charleston County's public schools qualify for free or reduced-price breakfast and lunch during the school year. Omarion, an incoming sixth-grader at Military Magnet Academy, is one of them. But now that school's out, he has been coming to Charleston's Sanders-Clyde with his baby sister every day for lunch since he met Black, strolling through his East Side public housing complex last week.

**Independent Mail:** Agriculture fans from Florida to N.J. visit Upstate farms

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/local/agriculture-fans-from-florida-to-nj-visit-upstate-farms-35a95ad8-8f51-6a8d-e053-0100007f0a8c-383570191.html>

Mike Ellis

Robert Ullberg, from Orlando, Florida, spent his 50th birthday this weekend touring Upstate farms with about 10 family and friends. The highlight of his celebration was spooking goats and making them faint at Lucky Acres Farm in Townville. "You look at them and they freeze, you kind of jerk forward and they faint," Ullberg said. It doesn't harm the goats, said Gloria Williams, who runs the farm with her husband. Along with his family and friends, including some who live in Abbeville County, Ullberg visited three farms Saturday and three more Sunday as part of the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association's Upstate Farm Tour. The tour included 22 farms throughout the Upstate.

**Sun News:** Myrtle Beach awaiting new shipment of beach wheelchairs

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article84861027.html>

Chloe Johnson

After announcing, and then reversing, a decision to stop delivering modified wheelchairs to beachgoers, the city of Myrtle Beach is awaiting a shipment of 12 new chairs. In late May, the city announced it would no longer deliver for free wheelchairs that roll on sand, citing the cost of the service and wear and tear that has now reduced the city's reserves to only four chairs. City of Myrtle Beach Spokesman Mark Kruea also said the deliveries, which previously were completed by beach patrol officers, used police time. "It takes a lot of time to deliver a wheelchair along 10 miles of beach," Kruea said. "It's a great service, but it's one of those that really fits the 'above and beyond' description."

**Associated Press:** Crumbling support closes bridge to Interstate 385 north

[http://m.apnews.com/ap/db\\_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bc8gWGpd](http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=bc8gWGpd)

SC State Wire

The bridge carrying traffic from Interstate 85 north to Interstate 385 north heading toward downtown Greenville will remain closed to trucks for at least a week. The South Carolina Department of Transportation said engineers working on a project to improve the interchange discovered a crumbling support on the bridge and closed it to all traffic Saturday. After further review, engineers decided cars, but not tractor trailers, could use the bridge until repairs are made. DOT spokesman Pete Poore says material for the repairs are arriving Monday and it should take a week to fix the bridge. DOT has just started a \$231 million project to redesign the interchange scheduled to finish by the end of 2018. Poore says the bridge will be replaced during that project.

**National News:**



**Associated Press:** Senate likely to reject gun curbs, despite Orlando massacre

<http://bigstory.ap.org/e33f665dddeb46ffaaf9f0fa83628bb6>

Alan Fram and Mary Clare Jalonick

Eight days after Orlando's mass shooting horror intensified pressure on lawmakers to act, a divided Senate hurtled Monday toward an election-year showdown over curbing guns that seemed likely to produce a familiar result: gridlock. Each party was offering one plan it said would keep terrorists from obtaining firearms and a second bolstering the existing system of background checks for gun purchases. Democrats said the GOP proposals were unacceptably weak, Republicans faulted the Democrats' plans as overly restrictive and all four faced likely defeat in largely party-line votes. That Monday's four roll-call votes were occurring at all was testament to the powerful political currents buffeting lawmakers after gunman Omar Mateen's June 12 attack on a gay nightclub. The 49 victims who died made it the largest mass shooting in recent U.S. history, topping the string of such incidents that have punctuated recent years.

**Associated Press:** Trump tumult: Campaign manager fired

<http://bigstory.ap.org/f96d270584754b63b44008ce706a1e67>

Jill Colvin and Jonathan Lemire

Donald Trump fired his hard-charging campaign manager, Corey Lewandowski, on Monday in a dramatic shake-up designed to calm panicked Republican leaders and reverse one of the most tumultuous stretches of Trump's unconventional White House bid. Lewandowski, in some ways as brash and unconventional as the candidate himself, had been by Trump's side since the beginning of his unlikely rise to presumptive GOP nominee. But he clashed with longtime operatives brought in to make the seat-of-the-pants campaign more professional. The former conservative activist played a central role in daily operations, fundraising, and Trump's search for a running mate, but Lewandowski's aggressive approach also fueled near-constant campaign infighting that complicated Trump's shift toward the general election.

**Associated Press:** Rebuking Trump, Biden warns against backsliding on democracy

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a2c4dfce9a3b439f8806e6b7970a4414>

Josh Lederman

Warning of a potential surge in anti-Americanism, Vice President Joe Biden tore into Donald Trump's views on foreign policy on Monday, urging the country not to follow the presumptive Republican nominee down a path of isolationism and bigotry. Though Biden framed his speech to the Center for New American Security speech as advice for the next president, his remarks amounted to a point-by-point rebuttal of Trump on immigration, terrorism and relations with Russia. Biden cautioned against policies, embraced by Trump, that the vice president said would make the U.S. and its neighborhood poorer, less democratic and less secure. "Wielding the politics of fear and intolerance, like proposals to ban Muslims from entering the United States or slandering entire religious communities as complicit in terrorism, calls into question America's status as the greatest democracy in the history of the world," Biden said.

## **World News:**

**Associated Press:** Roses and tears as UK lawmakers pay tribute to slain Jo Cox

<http://bigstory.ap.org/1a97b4cf0d51484596c2d294f417a4da>

Jill Lawless

The raucous business of Britain's House of Commons was replaced by somber silence and heartfelt tributes Monday for slain lawmaker Jo Cox, while the man charged with her slaying made a brief appearance in court by video link from prison. Lawmakers lined the benches and stood in the aisles of the House for a special session in Cox's memory. Some wiped away tears, and each wore a white rose, symbol of Cox's home county of Yorkshire. Parliament was in recess for campaigning in the European Union referendum when Cox was shot and stabbed to death outside a library in her northern England constituency on Thursday. The suspect, Thomas Mair, gave his name during a

court appearance as "death to traitors, freedom for Britain." The killing — the first of a sitting British legislator in more than a quarter of a century — prompted an outpouring of shock and grief, and brought a three-day halt to campaigning for this week's referendum.

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