

“This is Missouri? Walmart panic unexpected, man says”

BY HANNAH KNOWLES

Washington Post

His wife told him it was a bad idea. His sister reminded him of what had happened in El Paso, Texas, less than a week earlier, when a gunman killed 22 people after opening fire at a shopping center and Walmart.

But Dmitry Andreychenko went ahead with his plan for a “social experiment,” according to police. The 20-year-old used a cellphone Thursday to film himself entering a Walmart in Springfield, Missouri, wearing body armor and carrying a loaded assault-style rifle. He said he wanted to test whether his Second Amendment rights would be honored in a public area.

The subsequent scenes of panic were frighteningly familiar. In the week since two mass shootings in Texas and Ohio left 31 dead, moments including a backfiring mo-

torcycle in Times Square to a falling sign in a Utah mall have triggered pandemonium. On Tuesday, panicked customers ran from a Louisiana Walmart after men in the open, statewide, overriding local regulations. In 2017, not immediately reach Andreychenko for comment. It is not state for concealed weapons, allowing anyone 19 or older to carry a concealed weapon or one in the open without a permit.

“This is Missouri!” he told investigators, according to law enforcement.

Prosecutors on Friday charged Andreychenko, of Springfield, with making a terrorist threat, saying he recklessly disregarded the risk of causing a building theater.

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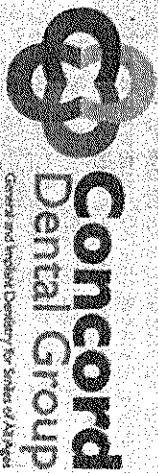
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