

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

2 teens killed in Loop ‘ambush’

Students were shot as they were leaving Innovations High

By Alysa Guffey and Sam Charles
Chicago Tribune

Two teenagers leaving their Loop high school were fatally wounded in a midday shooting Friday that startled onlookers under a busy “L” station in the center of the city.

Around 12:25 p.m., the teens — 16- and 17-year-old boys — were leaving Innovations High School with about four other people, Chicago Police Department Deputy Chief Jon Hein said Friday. As the group was in the first block of North Wabash Avenue, two vehicles pulled up and several people exited before opening fire. Each boy was shot in the chest, and the older boy was also shot in the hip. The Cook County medical examiner’s office identified the 17-year-old as Monterio Williams

and the 16-year-old as Robert Boston. Both lived on the Near West Side. The coat of a woman standing nearby was also grazed by a bullet, but she declined medical attention, according to police. Witnesses at the scene said they heard up to 20 shots fired at the group, and one high-ranking police official described the shooting as an “ambush.” A representative for Chicago

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Chicago police conduct an investigation after a shooting on Wabash Avenue between Madison and Washington streets on Friday. Two teens were fatally wounded after leaving their school. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/TRIBUNE**

Taxes for mental health blocked

Wheeling Twp. cites faulty referendum, despite law on dispute

By Robert McCoppin
Chicago Tribune

More than a year ago, voters in Wheeling Township approved a new property tax to fund mental health services. But due to a legal dispute with political overtones, advocates likely will have to go through another referendum and wait a couple more years before they could get funding.

Township officials are refusing to impose taxes for the program, saying it didn’t meet legal requirements, despite a law passed to address the dispute.

The controversy continues even while other suburban governments, from Schaumburg to Naperville townships and Will County, are implementing new voter-approved tax funding for mental health programs.

“You can’t just wave a magic wand and say substantive errors are now waived,” Wheeling Township attorney Ken Florey said in arguing for the delay.

“It’s just frustrating,” mental health advocate Lorri Grainawi said. “The effect is that people with mental health issues, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse are not getting the funding they need.”

To honor the will of the voters, she said, the township should proceed with the new tax, or use money from its reserves to fund increased mental health services until the issue is resolved.

The issue arose in November 2022, when voters in Will County and Addison, Naperville, Lisle, Winfield, Schaumburg, and Wheeling townships voted to create mental health boards and property tax levies to fund mental health services.

The referendums stated the tax rate to be imposed but did not include language required by the

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Andrew Suh, right, embraces childhood friend Brian Moran outside Grace Presbyterian Church in Wheeling on Friday. Suh was released from prison earlier in the day in Kewanee, Ill., after spending 30 years incarcerated for the murder of his sister’s boyfriend in 1993. **JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Man in ‘93 ‘black widow’ murder case released

Andrew Suh had been serving 80-year sentence in slaying of sister’s boyfriend

By Christy Gutowski
Chicago Tribune

Thirty years after killing his sister’s boyfriend in a sensational Chicago crime that launched an international search, Andrew Suh walked out of prison in western Illinois early Friday thanks to a new state law that grants retroactive sentencing credit for rehabilitative programs.

Suh, who turned 50 earlier this month, was greeted by a half-dozen supporters and his lawyer, Candace Chambliss, legal direc-

tor of the Illinois Prison Project, about 9:45 a.m. outside the gates of Kewanee Life-Skills Re-Entry Center.

Among his supporters was Sungmin Kim, an immigration attorney and member of Grace Presbyterian Church in Wheeling whose family is giving Suh a place to live. The two have known each other for nearly 20 years. Suh thanked supporters for their steadfast advocacy and celebrated a Korean tradition of eating tofu to “purge the negativity of the past 30 years,” Chambliss said.

A couple hours later, back in the Chicago area, Suh enjoyed a Korean BBQ meal at a Glenview restaurant and then headed to the Wheeling church, where other supporters, including an old high school classmate, welcomed him home.

In a tearful interview, Suh told the Tribune he is overwhelmed with emotions.

“I cannot possibly begin to explain the emotions that are racing through me right now because this is 30 years in the making,” Suh said. “It’s every-

thing from happiness to sadness to guilt to overwhelming elation. I’m so thankful.”

Suh said he wants to continue his college education and work with troubled youths in his community.

“I’ll do well,” he told the Tribune. “I promise.”

Chambliss said Suh found out earlier in the week that his release might be a possibility, but it wasn’t confirmed until less than 24 hours before it happened, when a

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Trump jury awards Carroll \$83.3 million

Verdict issued on 1st day of deliberations in defamation case

By Jake Offenhartz, Larry Neumeister and Jennifer Peltz
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A jury awarded \$83.3 million to E. Jean Carroll on Friday in a stinging and expensive rebuke to former President Donald Trump for his continued social media attacks against the longtime

advice columnist over her claims that he sexually assaulted her in a Manhattan department store.

The award, when coupled with a \$5 million sexual assault and defamation verdict last year from another jury in a case brought by Carroll, raised to \$88.3 million what Trump must pay her. Protesting vigorously, he said he would appeal.

Carroll, 80, clutched her lawyers’ hands and smiled as the seven-man, two-woman jury delivered its verdict.

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E. Jean Carroll arrives at federal court before closing arguments Friday in New York City. **SPENCER PLATT/GETTY**

Vigil held for teen struck by train

Hundreds pack a youth community center to remember a Barrington High School student who died Thursday after being struck by a Metra train. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

UN court falls short of cease-fire order

The United Nations’ top court ordered Israel to do all it can to prevent death, destruction and any acts of genocide in Gaza but stopped short of ordering a cease-fire. **Nation & World**

