

CHARLIE KIRK KILLING



ALEX GOODLETT, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Utah County Attorney Jeff Gray speaks during a news conference Tuesday announcing charges filed against Tyler Robinson in Provo, Utah.

Officials charge suspect

Authorities: Robinson wrote a confession note, left behind DNA

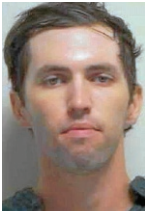
JESSE BEDAYN, HANNAH SCHOENBAUM
AND JOHN SEEWER
Associated Press

PROVO, Utah — Prosecutors brought a murder charge Tuesday against the man accused of killing Charlie Kirk and outlined evidence, including a text message confession to his partner and a note left beforehand saying he had the opportunity to kill one of the nation’s leading conservative voices “and I’m going to take it.”

DNA on the trigger of the rifle that killed Kirk also matched that of Tyler Robinson, Utah County Attorney Jeff Gray said while outlining the evidence and announcing charges that could result in the death penalty if Robinson is convicted.

The prosecutor said Robinson, 22, wrote in one text that he spent more than a week planning the attack on Kirk, a prominent force in politics credited with energizing the Republican youth movement and helping Donald Trump win back the White House in 2024.

Kirk was gunned down Sept. 10 while speaking with students at Utah Valley University. Prosecutors allege Robinson shot Kirk in the neck with a bolt-action rifle from



Robinson

the roof of a nearby building on the campus in Orem, about 40 miles south of Salt Lake City.

Robinson appeared briefly Tuesday before a judge by video from jail. He nodded slightly at times but mostly stared straight ahead as the judge read the charges against him and appointed an attorney to represent him. Robinson’s family declined to comment to The Associated Press since his arrest.

Motive unclear

Authorities have not revealed a clear motive in the shooting, but Gray said Robinson wrote in a text about Kirk to his partner: “I had enough of his hatred. Some hate can’t be negotiated out.”

Robinson also left a note for his partner hidden under a keyboard that said, “I had the opportunity to take out Charlie Kirk and I’m going to take it,” according to Gray.

The prosecutor declined to answer

Please see **KIRK KILLING**, Page A4

Cut Colorado River water use now, experts urge

TONY DAVIS
Arizona Daily Star

Cut Colorado River water use now, water researchers and other experts urge in a new report, to avoid putting the river system in a very difficult to potentially catastrophic position in a year.

The river and its reservoirs’ dwindling reserves that have kept supplying Arizona and the six other river basin states could soon be exhausted unless major cuts in use are made now, they said.

One of the six authors, former federal water official Anne Castle, termed it a “wake up call.”

If the upcoming year’s weather is as dry as this year’s, and no action is taken to cut water use soon, Lake Powell is in danger of falling by next August to the minimum level at which the Bureau of Reclamation wants to keep it.

Worse, it could fall by November 2026 to the level at which Glen Canyon Dam’s turbines can’t generate electricity. Then, river water would have to be funneled through steel outlet tubes instead of the turbines. Officials have said they don’t want to continuously run water through those tubes because they’re not designed to carry a lot of water and could suffer serious damage known as cavitation as a result.

Lake Mead could also fall by spring 2027 to levels below 1,035 feet, at which 12 of Hoover Dam’s 17 turbines can no longer generate power, the bureau’s worst-case forecast says. The bureau has pledged to keep Mead above 1,000

Please see **WATER**, Page A4

Politicians confront security concerns

Elected officials stumping in fear of political violence

STEVE PEOPLES AND MIKE CATALINI
Associated Press

MORRISTOWN, N.J. — Even before the killing of Charlie Kirk, Gov. Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania struggled with the emotional toll of political violence.

Just five months ago, someone broke into his home and set it on fire as Shapiro, his wife and children were asleep.

Since then, Shapiro, a likely 2028 Democratic presidential contender, was forced to confront the vexing questions now consuming elected officials in both parties as they face the impact of Kirk’s assassination on their own public lives.

“The emotional challenge for me that’s been the hardest to work through is that, as a father, the career I chose, that I find great purpose and meaning in, ended up putting my children’s lives at risk,” said Shapiro, a father of four. “Make no mistake, the emotional burden of being a father through this has been something that continues to be a challenge for me to this day.”

Across the U.S., it is much the same for Republican and Democratic officials after the recent political violence. Politicians in both parties and at virtually every level of public service are forced to deal with acute security concerns — and feelings of grief, anger and fear

Please see **SECURITY**, Page A2

Parents testify about dangers of chatbots

MATT O'BRIEN
Associated Press

Parents whose teenagers killed themselves after interactions with artificial intelligence chatbots testified Tuesday to Congress about the dangers of the technology.

“What began as a homework helper gradually turned itself into a confidant and then a

suicide coach,” said Matthew Raine, whose 16-year-old son Adam died in April.

“Within a few months, ChatGPT became Adam’s closest companion,” the father told senators. “Always available. Always validating and insisting that it knew Adam better than



COURTESY MEGAN GARCIA

Megan Garcia of Florida stands with her son, Sewell Setzer III.

Please see **CHATBOTS**, Page A2

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