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Antonio Miranda, recipient of a rare triple organ transplant, sits in his room at Mayo Clinic Hospital in Phoenix on Aug. 1. The hospital gifted Miranda pillows of the organs that were transplanted: liver, heart and kidney. DIANNIE CHAVEZ/THE REPUBLIC

‘TRIPLE T’: MAYO’S MEDICAL MIRACLE

Valley man gets 3 organs during rare transplant

Stephanie Innes
Arizona Republic | USA TODAY NETWORK

Even at the Mayo Clinic, which specializes in some of the world’s most rare and complex cases, Tony Miranda is an anomaly.

He’s now known to his family and some staff as “Triple T.”

Miranda, who lives in Surprise, on May 8 and 9 became the second person in Arizona history to undergo a triple transplant where surgeons gave him a new heart, liver and kidney.

On the day of his discharge from Mayo on Aug. 13, as a hospital staff member pushed Miranda in a wheelchair, two rows of health care workers

lined a hallway, applauding and cheering. They then gathered for a bell-ringing to honor the person who donated all three of his new organs.

Miranda, who is a father of two and grandfather of seven, is now recovering at home.

The first person to get the triple transplant surgery in Arizona, also at the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, was an Oklahoma man who underwent the procedure nearly three years ago, which makes Miranda the first Arizonan to have the surgery in his home state.

The number of organ transplants in general is increasing — there were 12,623 organ trans-

See TRANSPLANTS, Page 4A

Suspect in Kirk shooting charged

Evidence, information from Robinson’s mother detailed

Thao Nguyen, Jeanine Santucci, Christopher Cann, N’dea Yancey-Bragg
USA TODAY

Utah officials on Sept. 16 formally charged the man accused of killing conservative activist Charlie Kirk with capital murder and other crimes ahead of his first court appearance.

Tyler Robinson, 22, was charged with aggravated murder, felony discharge of a firearm, obstruction of justice, witness tampering and the commission of a violent offense in the presence of a child, Utah County Attorney Jeff Gray announced at a news conference. Gray said he would seek the death penalty, calling Kirk’s killing “an American tragedy.”

“I do not take this decision lightly and it is a decision I have made independently as county attorney based solely on the available evidence and circumstances and nature of the crime,” Gray said.

Robinson, in what appeared to be a bulletproof vest, appeared in court via video stream at about 3 p.m. local time and spoke only briefly, saying

See SUSPECT, Page 10A

Find more online and inside

Read the latest in the investigation into Charlie Kirk’s death at [usatoday.com](#) and in the Nation & World Extra section, a subscriber-only feature in your eNewspaper.

- President Donald Trump, Vice President JD Vance to travel to Arizona for slain Turning Point USA leader Charlie Kirk’s service in Glendale. **8A**
- Turning Point USA leaders call on thousands at Charlie Kirk vigil at ASU to join movement. **1B**

GOP leaders try to end lawsuit expanding abortion rights

Stacey Barchenger
Arizona Republic | USA TODAY NETWORK

Arizona’s top Republican lawmakers are attempting to stop at its earliest stage a lawsuit that could overturn abortion restrictions, with their lawyer arguing the case was premature even despite voters approving last year’s ballot measure creating abortion rights.

The attorney for Arizona House Speaker Steve Montenegro and Senate President Warren Petersen said in court Sept. 15 that the lawsuit was filed too early, among other legal reasons, and it should be dismissed. The GOP leaders previously intervened in the case to defend laws that doctors, abortion access advocates and a medical group argued are unconstitutional under Proposition 139, the 2024 law that created a frame-

work to make abortion available in Arizona.

The case reflects that, even after the advocates’ big win at the ballot last year and with statewide Democrats pledging to defend reproductive health care, access to an abortion is not yet certain and remains subject to political whims and potential roadblocks.

See LAWSUIT, Page 11A

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