



Tyler Robinson, the man accused of killing Charlie Kirk at Utah Valley University, appears during a hearing in Fourth District Court in Provo, Utah, on Dec. 11. RICK EGAN/POOL VIA REUTERS

Accused Kirk killer has first in-person court appearance

Robinson’s lawyers fear ‘media chaos’ at trial

Stephanie Murray
Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

Tyler Robinson’s first in-person court appearance in the Charlie Kirk murder case was dominated by concerns over the media frenzy to come.

Robinson is accused of killing Kirk, the co-founder of Arizona-based Turning Point USA. Kirk was a major figure on the political right and reached millions of people through his podcast and viral debate videos.

Kirk’s Sept. 10 slaying drew national attention, and the public interest in Robinson’s trial was top of mind during the hearing.

Robinson’s lawyers raised issues with how Robinson was shown on a livestream of the Dec. 11 proceeding and told a judge they were worried about “media chaos” and future leaks of information that could block him from having a fair trial.

“We don’t want the chaos that is out in the media in this courtroom,” said Staci Visser, a

member of Robinson’s legal team.

Robinson appeared Dec. 11 in a Provo, Utah, courtroom. Utah Fourth District Court Judge Tony F. Graf, Jr. is presiding over the case. The case comes after Kirk was shot and killed on the campus of Utah Valley University.

Lawyers for two coalitions of media outlets suing for public access to the case also were present.

Robinson wore a light blue shirt and a pink patterned tie during the hearing. His lawyers previously had asked the judge to allow Robinson to wear street clothes during the court appearance, and requested media not show the shackles he wore.

Robinson is charged with one count of aggravated murder and could face the death penalty if he is convicted. He also was charged with one count of felony discharge of a firearm causing serious bodily harm, two counts of obstruction of justice, two counts of witness tampering and one count of a violent offense

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“There’s obviously a huge political element to this case that includes sensitive subjects around motive that I think are really important for the public to witness.”

Tyler Bowyer, chief operating officer of Turning Point Action

DATA CENTER PROJECT REJECTED 3A



People attend a Chandler City Council meeting to protest a data center. LAUREN DE YOUNG/THE REPUBLIC

Cardinals in free fall

The Arizona Cardinals have dropped five in a row and 10 of their past 11. And now, they travel to Houston to face the NFL’s most productive defense, along with a resurgent quarterback, C.J. Stroud, who has helped guide a five-game winning streak. **1B**

Winter wonderlands

Treat yourself to a memorable winter getaway this year at one of these 10 cabins in Sedona, Flagstaff, Rim Country and the White Mountains. **1C**

ICE: Grijalva had joined with ‘rioting crowd’ at raid

Agency denies lawmaker’s claim that she was pepper-sprayed

Dan Nowicki and Laura Gersony
Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has disclosed additional details about the Dec. 5 operation and protest in which Rep. Adelita Grijalva said she was pepper-sprayed.

ICE’s Homeland Security Investigations Arizona and other U.S. agencies executed 16 criminal search warrants on nine restaurants and seven related “stash houses” in and around Tucson and arrested 46 undocumented immigrants, ICE said in a Dec. 10 written statement.

The target was a “a transnational criminal organization involved in labor exploitation, tax violations, and immigration violations,” according to a Dec. 10 statement by ICE.

The restaurants were part of a family-owned chain with locations in “the Tucson, Sierra Vista, Green Valley, Casa Grande, and Apache Junction areas,” it said.

The agency cast the protest involving Grijalva, D-Arizona, as a riot.

“At one of the locations, over 100 agitators descended and attempted to impede law enforcement operations, locking a gate to trap agents within the perimeter of the restaurant,” ICE said in its news release. “Agitators quickly turned violent, assaulting



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Pentagon has report on Sen. Kelly’s ‘illegal orders’ video

It remains unclear if Arizona Democrat could face any fallout

Ronald J. Hansen
Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

The secretary of the Navy reportedly has submitted his review of Sen. Mark Kelly’s conduct involving the “illegal orders” video that the Trump administration views as seditious and could lead to his court martial.

Citing an unnamed Pentagon source, CNN said only that the Office of Legal Counsel received the review, which War Secretary Pete Hegseth asked for by Dec. 10. It leaves unclear what — if any — fallout the Arizona Democrat might face.

Separately, the FBI has sought to discuss the Nov. 18 video with all six of the Democrats who took part in a message that reminded military personnel they “must refuse illegal orders.”

While it is unclear what the Pentagon and Justice Department will do next, Kelly and one of his colleagues who participated in the video, Sen. Elissa

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