



Southwestern
EYE CENTER®

(480) 702-3660

Are you noticing changes in your vision?

EYE EXAMS | CATARACTS | GLAUCOMA | RETINA | DRY EYE | OPTICAL

2018 PULITZER PRIZE WINNER

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025

azcentral.com

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



The students who were killed in the shooting have been identified as Mukhammad Aziz Umurzokov and Ella Cook.
BING GUAN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

FBI SEEKS LEADS IN BROWN SHOOTING

New photos released of person of interest

Michael Loria and Jeanine Santucci
USA TODAY

A search in Rhode Island rolled into its fourth day Dec. 16 as federal and state officers pursued a suspect who opened fire during a final exam at Brown University, killing two, injuring nine and leaving no obvious indication of a motive.

The widening search comes as authorities in Providence released the clearest images yet of the person investigators think could be tied to the deadly attack.

"We want to see the individual that pulled the trigger on these young kids apprehended, identified and brought to justice," Gov. Daniel McKee told reporters. "We want to make sure that all Rhode Islanders know that everything that is physically possible is being done."

The shooting rocked Providence and the community at Brown, one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the country.



Authorities have released the clearest images yet of the person investigators think could be tied to the attack.
PROVIDED BY FBI AND PROVIDENCE RIPD

Brown University President Christina Paxson on Dec. 16 confirmed the identities of the two students who were killed.

Ella Cook was a sophomore and Mukhammad Aziz Umurzokov was in his first semester, Paxson said. Cook was an "accomplished competitive pianist," vice president of the school's Republican Club, member of the Alpha Chi

Omega sorority and a volunteer at her home church in Alabama, the school's president said. Umurzokov planned to concentrate in biochemistry and molecular biology on his way to becoming a neurosurgeon, and in high school in Virginia served as president of his Model United Nations chapter and Scholastic Bowl team captain, she said.

"Both were brilliant and beloved – as members of our campus community, but even more by their friends and families," Paxson said. "Our hearts continue to be with them in their profound sorrow."

Rhode Island Hospital discharged a second injured victim, according to a hospital spokesperson. Of the seven still hospitalized, five remain in critical but stable condition, a sixth is in critical condition, and a seventh is in stable condition.

Brown University has said it would not be identifying victims who were wounded in the shooting.

"We must also keep the other victims of the shooting in our thoughts as we hope and pray for their healthy recovery. Most remain in the hospital in stable condition," Paxson said. "We also

See SHOOTING, Page 8A

Mesa park rangers probe finds misconduct

Director, deputy resign after 8-month inquiry

Maritza Dominguez
Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

Mesa's parks director and deputy director have resigned after an eight-month investigation into reports that Mesa park rangers used excessive force and racial slurs that went unchecked for months under their watch.

Mesa's "Goon Squad" scandal has also cost the jobs of three rangers and their supervisor, who investigators found didn't just condone unauthorized enforcement tactics targeting homeless people in the parks but encouraged them. When he took over the team in 2020, the supervisor improperly urged rangers to arrest, use physical force and seize the property of troublesome people in the parks.

When confronted with Police Department complaints about rangers' heavy-handed responses in dozens of incidents in 2023 and 2024, top parks officials took no action and ignored directives from the city manager's and attorney's offices.

See PARK RANGERS, Page 11A

Pentagon-Kelly feud 'escalating' over 'illegal orders' video

Ronald J. Hansen
Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Pentagon is opening a fact-finding investigation of Sen. Mark Kelly over his role in a controversial video, a step the agency characterized as "escalating" the matter with the former Navy combat pilot.

The move comes as Kelly, D-Arizona, seemed to outline his legal defense in a Dec. 15 letter to the Navy that promised to fight what they called "unprecedented and dangerous overreach."

See FEUD, Page 13A



More one-on-one time with your doctor

Schedule a tour
602-704-5136



Adults 65+

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to the azcentral.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus section. Check it out today!



Volume 136 | No. 213
Subscribe 800-332-6733
©2025 \$3.49

