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THE NEWS-PRESS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 | NEWS-PRESS.COMPART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Teen murder defendant slated for plea hearing



Cape Coral resident Terri Moody brings flowers to the memorial site of 15-year-old Kayla Rincon-Miller near the intersection of Southeast 20th Street and Southeast 16th Lane. She also prayed for her during the brief visit March 21, 2024. Rincon-Miller was fatally shot on March 17, 2024, after leaving a nearby movie theater.

Youth among 3 involved in girl's 2024 shooting death, Cape police say

Tomas Rodriguez
Fort Myers News-Press
USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

One of two teens arrested in connection with the 2024 Cape Coral shooting death of a 15-year-old girl is set to accept a plea, court records indicate.

Christopher Horne Jr., 17, is scheduled for a plea hearing Sept. 19 before Lee Circuit Judge Nicholas Thompson. Cape Coral Police arrested Horne weeks after they arrested Thomas Stein, 17, in the death of Kayla Rincon-Miller.

A grand jury on Sept. 4, 2024, indicted Horne and Stein on one count of first-degree murder and three counts of attempted robbery, both including the use of a firearm.

A detailed Cape Coral Police report

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Christopher Horne sits in a Lee County courtroom during a pretrial detention hearing on May 9, 2024. He was arrested at age 16 in connection with the shooting death of Kayla Rincon-Miller, 15.

ANDREW WEST/USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

AG: Open carry is 'law of the state'

Uthmeier says gun law no longer enforceable

Jim Turner
NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier on Sept. 15 said people being able to openly carry guns is “the law of the state,” after a panel of the 1st District Court of Appeal recently ruled that a longstanding ban was unconstitutional.

Uthmeier sent guidance to prosecutors and law-enforcement agencies. Some had already stopped enforcing the open-carry ban after the Sept. 10 opinion.

Uthmeier said in an online post that no other Florida appellate courts had considered the constitutionality of the open-carry ban after two closely watched U.S. Supreme Court decisions in 2022 and 2024. As a result, he said “the First District’s decision is binding on all Florida’s trial courts.”

A 1987 law made it a misdemeanor to visibly display guns, though exceptions existed, for example, for hunting. Floridians could carry concealed weapons.

See CARRY, Page 12A

Alcatraz legal representation fight escalates

Dara Kam
NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE – Calling government efforts “wholly inadequate,” attorneys representing people held at an immigrant-detention center in the Everglades are asking a federal judge to force state and federal officials to allow adequate legal representation at the facility.

The detainees’ attorneys on Thursday filed an amended complaint in a potential class-action lawsuit alleging that officials at the facility are out of compliance with federal

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