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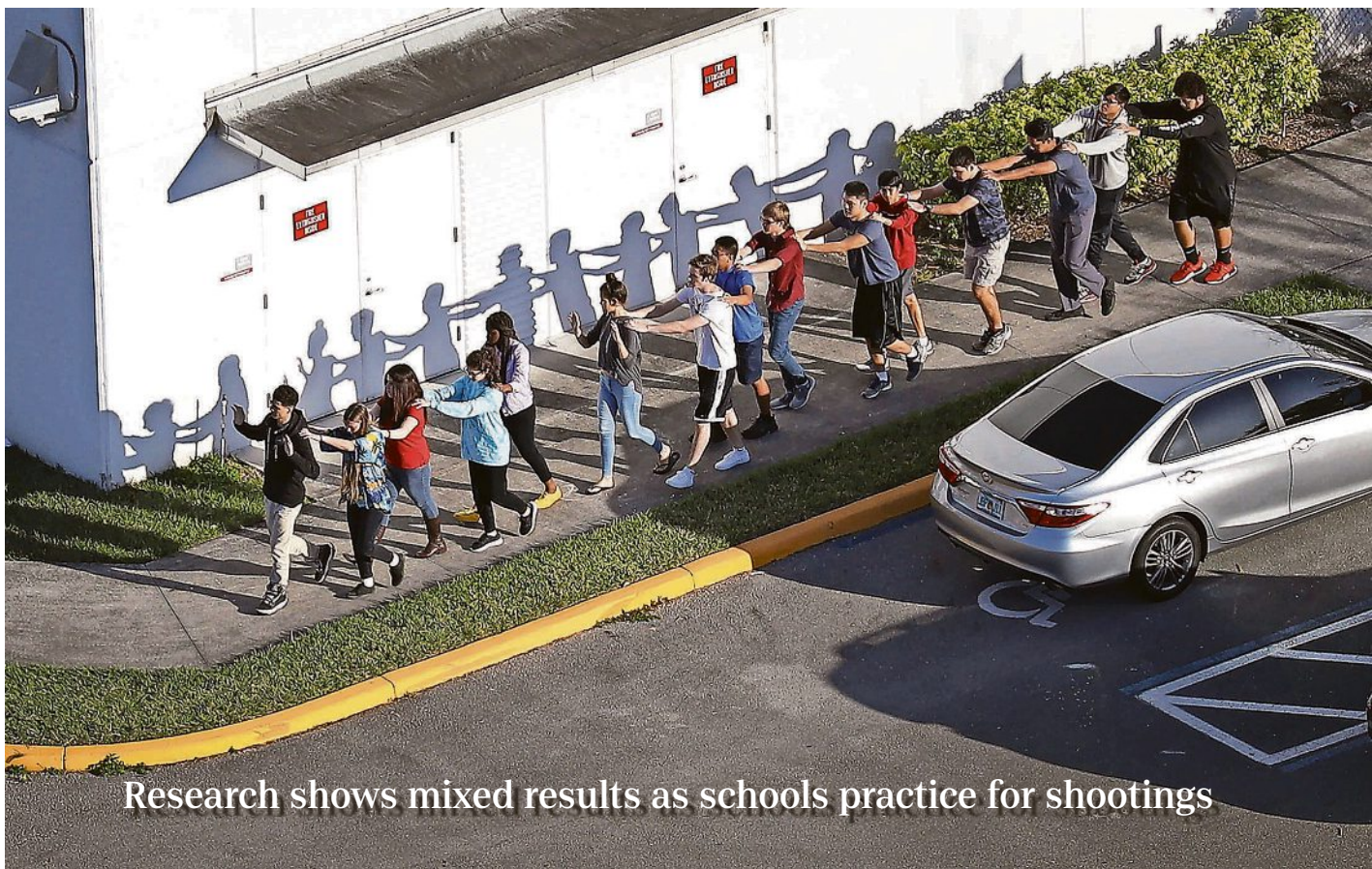
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THE LIMITS OF LOCKDOWNS



Research shows mixed results as schools practice for shootings

People are brought out of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School after a shooting on Feb. 14, 2018, in Parkland, Florida. More schools nationwide began practicing lockdown drills after the Parkland shooting. JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES

James Densley
Metropolitan State University | THE CONVERSATION

There have been 63 school shootings – meaning any time there is gunfire on a school campus – so far in 2026. • They happen so often that preparing for one has become normal. Students as young as 4 years old routinely practice for the possibility of a school shooting with lockdown drills – typically, hiding in the corner of a dark classroom, behind a locked door.

Pauls Valley High School in Pauls, Oklahoma, went into lockdown on April 7, after an armed gunman fired shots inside the building. Kirk Moore, the school's principal, tackled the gunman and got shot in the leg.

The lockdown and Moore's heroism clearly prevented any further violence in this rare school shooting situation with a positive ending. But by and large, do lockdowns typically work to keep students safe?

See SHOOTINGS, Page 3A



Volunteer students wearing makeup to simulate injuries participate in a school shooting and mass evacuation drill at Lincoln Middle School in Alameda, California. So far, the available research shows mixed evidence on whether shooting drills help students feel more prepared or scare them. JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Judge sets summer 2027 goal for trial in child death

Austin L. Miller
Ocala Star-Banner
USA TODAY NETWORK

A status hearing for Jeroen Jarrell Coombs and Jennifer Farrah Kendrick, both charged in connection with the February death of 3-year-old Paisley Brown, was held May 22 in Circuit Judge Timothy McCourt's courtroom.

The judge told attorneys the goal is to have the case in front of a jury by summer 2027.

Wearing yellow jumpsuits, Coombs and Kendrick sat on opposite ends of the defense table, with their attorneys seated between them.

Coombs, 32, is charged with first-degree murder, sexual battery of a child under 12, three counts of aggravated child abuse, and one count of child abuse. Both the first-degree murder and sexual battery charges are punishable by death.

Kendrick, his 26-year-old girlfriend, is charged with aggravated manslaughter of a child and four counts of child neglect. Kendrick is Paisley's mother.

Coombs was arrested after sheriff's detectives said he abused Paisley while she was in his care. Paisley died Feb. 19. Kendrick is accused of neglecting her daughter.

According to the sheriff's office, Kendrick and Coombs met on Facebook and had been dating since October 2025. They had been living together since January 2026 in a mobile home in the 16500 block of Northeast 44th Avenue in Citra. Authorities said several children were living in the home at the time.

Lawyers, charges and the death penalty

Terence Lenamon and Tania Alavi, of the law firm Alavi & Pozzuto, represent Coombs. Leonard Klatt is representing Kendrick. Assistant State Attorney Amy Berndt is prosecuting Kendrick's case, while Assistant State Attorneys Rich Buxman and Toby Hunt are handling the case against Coombs. Lenamon appeared by Zoom,

See TRIAL, Page 2A

DOJ scrubs news releases about Jan. 6 from its site

Critics: Administration trying to revise U.S. history

Drew Pittock
USA TODAY

The Justice Department acknowledged that it has removed web pages that detail charges, convictions, and other information related to the myriad defendants involved in the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol.

After Washington Post staff writer Meryl Kornfield posted to X on May 22 that the Justice Department was "quietly deleting info about the Capitol attack" from its website, the official DOJ

Rapid Response X account fired back, saying there was "nothing 'quiet' about it." The account posted that it was "proud to reverse" the agency's "weaponization" under former President Joe Biden.

"We will do everything in our power to make whole those who were persecuted for political purposes," DOJ Rapid Response wrote on its X account. "This includes stripping DOJ's website of partisan propaganda."

Critics argue the Trump administration is systematically working to rewrite

the events of Jan. 6.

According to Kornfield, among the documents purged was a news release about a man who went to the Capitol with bear spray and faces an ongoing child solicitation case. She also attached links to two other news releases, which were preserved using the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine.

A May 24 search of the DOJ's archives performed by USA TODAY showed that some news releases related to Jan. 6 were still available, including when members of the Oath Keepers and

See JAN. 6, Page 9A



Jan. 6 defendants have recently been thrust back into the spotlight, following President Donald Trump's announcement of a \$1.776 billion "anti-weaponization fund."

LEAH MILLIS/REUTERS FILE

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