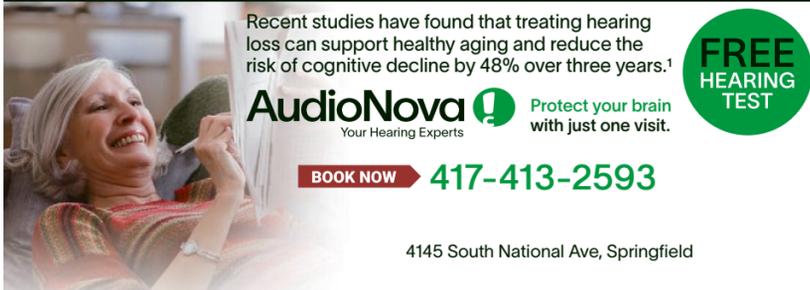


Treatment of hearing loss with hearing aids may delay cognitive decline.\*



Recent studies have found that treating hearing loss can support healthy aging and reduce the risk of cognitive decline by 48% over three years.<sup>1</sup>

**AudioNova**  
Your Hearing Experts

Protect your brain with just one visit.

**FREE HEARING TEST**

**BOOK NOW 417-413-2593**

4145 South National Ave, Springfield

**RISK-FREE IN-HOME TRIAL** of the latest hearing aid technology<sup>2</sup>  
Offer expires 01/30/26

Hear better for years to come with our **SAME-DAY SERVICE**

\*Source: Sarant et al. 2023 <https://healthsciences.unimelb.edu.au/research-groups/audiology-and-speech-pathology-research/hearing-and-cognition-research-program/research/remediation-hearing-aids/>; Lin, F, et al. (2023, July 17). Hearing intervention versus health education control to reduce cognitive decline in older adults with hearing loss in the USA (ACHEVE): a multicentre, randomised controlled trial. DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(23\)01406-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01406-X)  
<sup>2</sup>Certain types of hearing loss may require a hearing instrument model that is not appropriate for the trial. Hearing evaluation required. See clinic for details. Only available for selected hearing instruments. Offer expires 01/30/26.

# SPRINGFIELD NEWS-LEADER

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026 | NEWS-LEADER.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Former student, parent sue schools

### Republic School District faces racial discrimination lawsuit

**Marta Mieze**  
Springfield News-Leader  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Republic School District is facing another lawsuit alleging the district failed to address repeated reports of racial discrimination and harassment, bullying and concerns that a disability accommodation plan was not being fol-

lowed. A former Republic student athlete, alongside his mother, are suing the district and seeking damages for the harm inflicted.

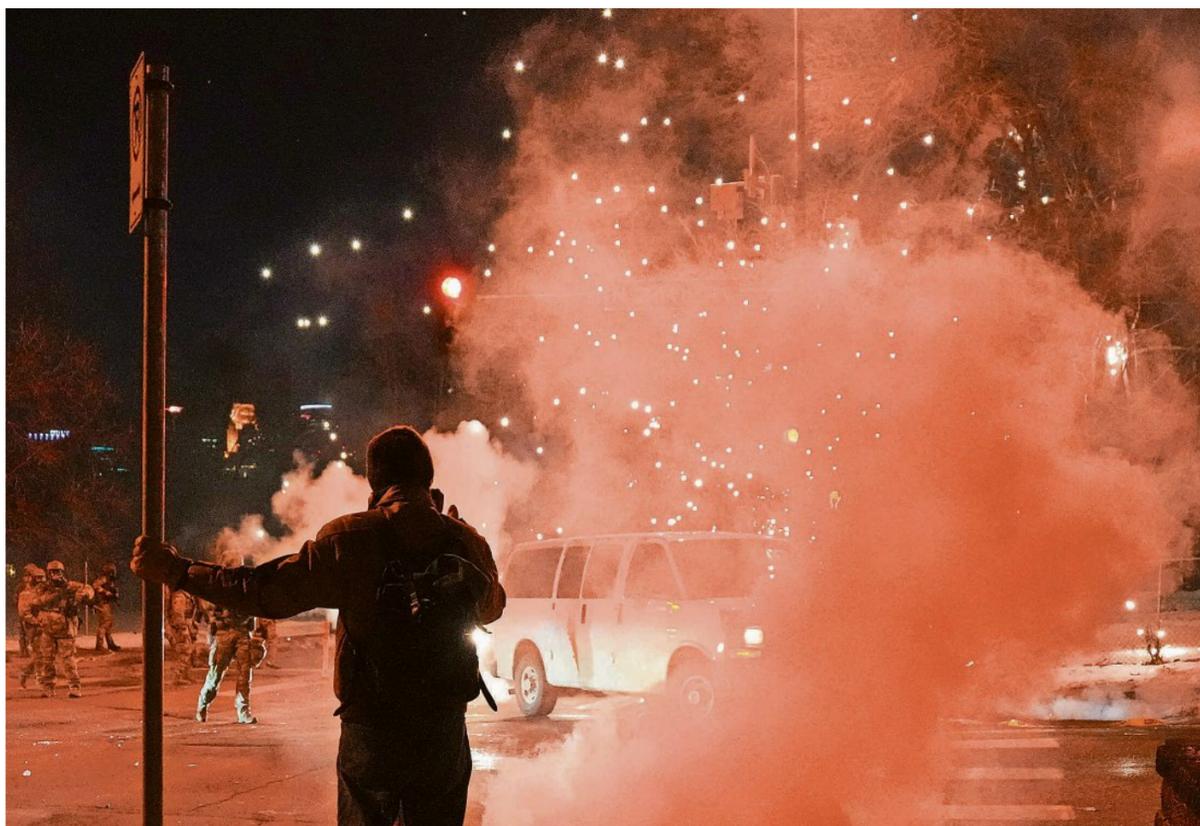
In a 65-page petition filed against Republic schools on Monday, Jan. 12, Tyrone Williams and his mother, Alisha Hornbuckle, claim that throughout Williams' high school years, from 2021 to 2025, he continuously faced bullying

based on his race and visual appearance, was called racial slurs, was discriminated against in his role on the football team, and did not receive the accommodations afforded to him through a 504 Plan, a plan that lays out how a student with disabilities should be supported.

The lawsuit recounts all four years of Williams' time at Republic High School.

The allegations include that Williams, who is Black, faced harsher treatment on the football team than his White counterparts, was called "Tyrone," was told by his peers that he was only good at football because he was Black, was called a racial slur while other students referred to Black people in general as "slaves." Additionally, he was often called "chicken legs" and was told that he had to gain weight to play football,

**See LAWSUIT, Page 10A**



A person stands near tear gas smoke Jan. 14 in Minneapolis as tensions rise after federal immigration enforcement agents were involved in a second shooting in seven days. LEAH MILLIS/REUTERS



More than a hundred people participated in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day march through Downtown Springfield on Jan. 20, 2025. NATHAN PAPES/SPRINGFIELD NEWS-LEADER

## Springfield's 2026 MLK March planned for Jan. 19

**Marta Mieze**  
Springfield News-Leader  
USA TODAY NETWORK

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 19, several organizations are holding events across Springfield to celebrate and connect with community. Here's all you need to know to recognize the holiday locally.

### Annual NAACP MLK March

As in years past, the local chapter of the NAACP will host a march in center city to honor and celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy and uplift the local community. The march will begin at the Brightspeed Ice Park, at 635 E. Trafficway St., at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at the Gillioz Theater. Complimentary donuts and coffee will be

**See MARCH, Page 10A**

## President Trump threatens Insurrection Act in MN

### Second ICE shooting in 7 days raises tensions

**Christopher Cann, Thao Nguyen and Jeanine Santucci**  
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump on Jan. 15 threatened to invoke the Insurrection Act, which would give him power to de-

ploy armed forces domestically, as tensions ratcheted up yet further in Minnesota following a second shooting involving a federal agent.

The agent shot a person in the leg in Minneapolis on Jan. 14 after allegedly being assaulted during an arrest, the Department of Homeland Security said.

"If the corrupt politicians of Minnesota don't obey the law and stop the professional agitators and insurrectionists

from attacking the Patriots of I.C.E., who are only trying to do their job, I will institute the INSURRECTION ACT," Trump wrote in a Truth Social post.

Trump's threat followed another night of clashes between protesters and federal agents in Minneapolis. Local media reported that hundreds of

**See INSURRECTION, Page 3A**



**Earn While You Save.**

**3.80%** APY\*

**17-Month Certificate of Deposit**

**LEGACY BANK & TRUST**  
LEGACYBANKANDTRUST.COM

\*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of December 10, 2025. \$1,000 minimum to earn stated APY. No withdrawal during the first fifteen days following the funding date. Early withdrawal penalty may apply. Maximum deposit per customer \$1,000,000. Eligible accounts for this offer are limited to new accounts funded with no funds held at our institution at the time of account opening.



Member FDIC

### Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to [news-leader.com/enewspaper](https://news-leader.com/enewspaper) or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 136 | No. 13  
Subscribe 800-695-2005  
©2026 \$3.49



0 40901 42035 4