



## Stapleton: DeVito's character stands out as he leaves Giants

SPORTS, 1S

# HERALD NEWS

NORTHJERSEY.COM

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025 | AN EDITION OF THE RECORD

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

# 'SHEER CRUELTY'

### Gunman opens fire at Catholic school Mass; 2 killed, 17 hurt



Law enforcement officers gather outside Annunciation Church in Minneapolis after the shooting on Aug. 27. PHOTOS BY TIM EVANS/REUTERS

**Jeanine Santucci and Corey Schmidt**  
USA TODAY

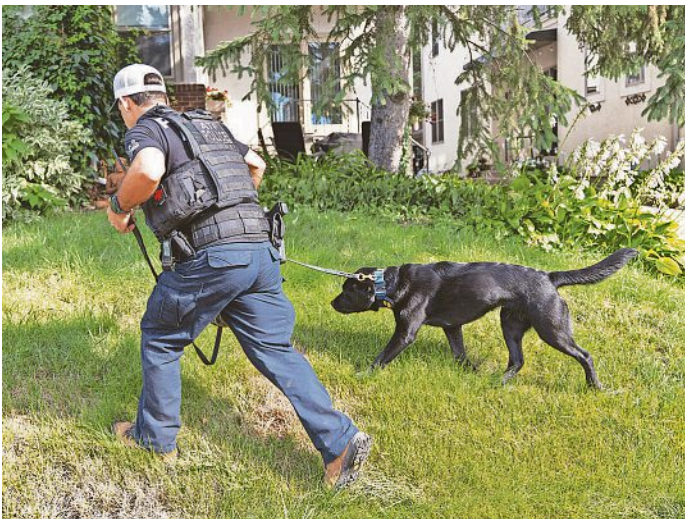
MINNEAPOLIS – Two children were killed Aug. 27 and at least 17 people were injured when a shooter fired through the windows of a Minneapolis Catholic school toward young people worshipping at a Mass, authorities said.

The shooting occurred at Annunciation Church, which also houses a school. The assailant approached the outside of the church building and fired inside toward the children sitting in the pews, said Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara.

The shooter is believed to have used three firearms: a rifle, a shotgun and a pistol. The number of rounds fired was "in the dozens," O'Hara said.

The two children killed were ages 8 and 10. Fourteen of those injured were children. Two children were in critical condition, O'Hara said.

The shooter then died of a self-inflicted wound at the rear



A K-9 officer and his dog search a front yard near the church after the attack. Police say the shooter died of a self-inflicted wound.

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## NJ Transit engineers calling out despite deal

### Rail cancellations bring mounting inconvenience

**Olivia Liu**  
Asbury Park Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

In late July, James Siegler of Morris-town stayed after hours at his office in New York City and missed the Morris and Essex train around 7:30 pm.

The next train in 30 minutes was canceled. And then there were delays. It was almost 10 p.m. by the time he got home.

"You can't do anything. If you made plans that night, it's over," he said. "Basically, you're going home and you're going to bed and then you start all over again."

Siegler has commuted by NJ Transit for nearly 35 years. He said the summer of 2025 was "slightly better" than last year's summer, when he found himself calling an Uber to get home three separate times.

While 2025 is shaping up to become the second-highest year of cancellations since 2020, trailing right behind 2024, the reasons for cancellation are different. And a particular cause has stood out.

Crew and engineer callouts have increased significantly since July. On some rail lines, the lack of available crew or engineers has been the most cited reason for rail cancellations in August, according to NJ Transit notifications.

That comes despite a new contract between the transit agency and the union representing NJ Transit engineers, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen. The raises for the contract will not kick in until the fall.

And while NJ Transit leadership blames its rank and file for failing to come to work, union leaders point to the agency's unwillingness to recruit and retain engineers to maintain higher staffing.

While crew and engineer callouts have increased substantially, the two most cited reasons for cancellations across the rail system in 2025 are mechanical or equipment availability issues. In June and July of this year, there were 498 cancellations due to mechanical issues and 257 cancellations due to equipment availability issues.

In 2024, Amtrak infrastructure

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## In bullying Christie, Murphy, Trump sends a warning



**Political Stile**  
Charles Stile  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Donald Trump is making the most recent New Jersey governors sweat and spend.

Alina Habba, his show horse United States attorney for New Jersey who is

now in career limbo, issued a subpoena earlier this year to Gov. Phil Murphy, over his beer-muscled boast that he might have been harboring an undocumented immigrant at his Middletown home.

Murphy went out and retained two top-shelf New Jersey lawyers for \$450 an hour.

Now Trump is threatening to launch another federal probe of Bridgegate, the infamous lane-closing fiasco, simply

because former Gov. Chris Christie had the temerity to say on television what much of the country already knows: that Trump has turned the Department of Justice into his own person retaliation hit squad.

The scandal grew from the closing of two local lanes to the George Washington Bridge for a five-day stretch in September 2013, a move that caused paralyzing traffic backups in Fort Lee, for the purpose of political punishment.

Two former Christie aides, accused of carrying out the plot to bring municipal misery to the Fort Lee mayor for refusing to back Christie's reelection, endured grueling trials. Federal convictions of close Christie subordinates accused of hatching out the scheme were overturned by the Supreme Court.

Christie could never brush away the rubble of Bridgegate – although his

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