

Fullerton

APPLIANCE CENTER

"Neighbors Helping Neighbors Since 1924"

1470 W 38th St.
Erie, PA
(814) 864-0993

1196 Park Ave.
Meadville, PA
(814) 333-8300

JANUARY
SALES
EVENT

Happening
Now!

SHOP 24/7 at Fullertonappliancecenter.com

Erie Times-News

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026 | GOERIE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

MARCELLO D. WOODARD SHOOTING



Demonstrators gather outside the Erie County Courthouse on Jan. 21 in support of homicide victim Marchello D. Woodard, a parolee shot by a state parole agent on July 2 in Erie. The supporters assembled at the courthouse ahead of the preliminary hearing for the parole agent, Kevin J. Seelinger. PHOTOS BY GREG WOHLFORD/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

Parole agent to face trial

Tim Hahn and Ed Palattella
Erie Times-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

A state parole agent was among a group of law enforcement officers working in Erie on the evening of July 2 on special detail aimed at getting guns off the streets.

At some point during that evening, the agent, Kevin J. Seelinger, and the partner he was riding with came upon a light-colored car stopped on East 27th Street.

Each of the law enforcement officers were heard telling the driver of the car to put it in park and exit it, according to a witness.

A woman exited the car from the passenger side and walked around the rear of it, the witness said.

Then he said he heard gunshots.

The driver of the car, identified by authorities as Erie resident Marchello D. Woodard, was shot in the back, the shoulder and the arm. His car crept forward, traveling about a block until an Erie police vehicle responding to the shooting pulled in front of the slow-moving car and stopped it.



Kevin J. Seelinger, state parole agent charged in the shooting death of Marchello D. Woodard, is led from a holding area at the Erie County Courthouse to his preliminary hearing on Jan. 21.

Woodard was still breathing but was unresponsive as police officers pulled him from the car and attempted life-saving measures on him, according to two officers on the scene.

Woodard was taken to UPMC Hamot, where he was pronounced dead.

One of the officers who responded to the shooting said he asked who fired the shots, and Seelinger replied that he did.

Erie County District Attorney Elizabeth Hirz provided evidence about what happened to Woodard during the preliminary hearing for Seelinger on Jan. 21.

Hirz also argued that she needed only to provide the basic elements in order for Seelinger's criminal case to advance to the Erie County Court of Common Pleas: that Woodard was fatally shot, that Seelinger fired the shots, and that Woodard's death was ruled a homicide.

Greene Township District Judge Susan Strohmeier, who presided over the hearing, held Seelinger, 35, for court on all charges: a general count of criminal homicide, a felony count of aggravated assault, misdemeanor counts of simple assault and recklessly endangering another person, and a summary count of harassment.

The mostly silent courtroom erupted in cheers from one side, where

See WOODARD, Page 4A

ICE releases immigrants in Texas

Move runs counter to 'zero release' claims

Lauren Villagran
USA TODAY

Despite vowing "zero releases," the Trump administration has begun quietly releasing dozens of immigrant families from a Texas detention center after detaining but not deporting them.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement released some 160 detained people — half of them minors — to a border shelter beginning Jan. 17, with plans to release as many as 100 to 150 per day over the next two to three weeks, according to the shelter director and other sources with direct knowledge of the releases.

See ICE, Page 5A

ANNA Shelter treats abandoned husky found near death

Nicholas Sorensen
Erie Times-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

A dog that was found abandoned and in life-threatening conditions under a bridge is now receiving care from the A.N.N.A. Shelter.

Ruth Thompson, executive director for the A.N.N.A. Shelter, said that on Jan. 19 just before 7 p.m. she received a call from the Erie Bureau of Police to report that they recovered an abandoned female husky and were transporting it to the shelter at 1555 E. 10th St.

The husky was found in a crate underneath the bridge located on the Bayfront Connector near Broad and Elm streets. When the dog was found, she was believed to be frozen and possibly deceased.

The low temperature on Jan. 19 was 14 degrees, with wind chills as low as minus 11, according to the National Weather Service.

The husky was transported to the A.N.N.A. Shelter where she was then found to be alive but nonresponsive.

The husky was covered in feces, had frostbite on her paws, a high temperature, low heartbeat and reeked of urine.

Intensive care around the clock

When the husky reached the shelter, the triage team took her into intensive care. The dog was weighed in at 15.2 pounds and was estimated to be at least six months old.

While Dr. Sarah Zeigler, the in-house veterinarian at the A.N.N.A. Shelter, gave Thompson instructions over the phone, the team administered life-saving action. The husky was given fluids, antibiotics, gel-warming packs, was dried off with hair dryers and was monitored and given constant attention.

"Our goal (was) to get her body temperature and heart rate up," Thompson said.

Thompson told the Erie Times-News that there is a long road ahead for the animal. The dog was then placed in the shelter's intensive care unit at 5617 W. Ridge Road.

"She will remain there under the care of vets and techs until they feel comfortable that her body is doing what it's supposed to do," Thompson said.

Thompson said that she and Zeigler

See AIMEE, Page 6A

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to goerie.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 26 | No. 95
To subscribe 453-4691
or 800-352-0043
©2026

\$2.49



7 69185 00001 3