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YORK SUNDAY NEWS

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'It's not always an easy decision'



Chief David Lash reads a statement responding to a lawsuit during Northern York County Regional Police Commission meeting on Oct. 20.
PAUL KUEHNEL/YORK DAILY RECORD

York County police ambush lawsuit raises questions about SWAT team use

Teresa Boeckel
York Daily Record
USA TODAY NETWORK – PENNSYLVANIA

Police describe doorways as a "fatal funnel" because a shooter can concentrate gunfire at the entryway, leaving officers exposed to multiple angles of fire with limited room to maneuver.

In North Codorus Township, four Northern York County Regional Police detectives were shot, three fatally, after officers found that the front door of a home they had come to search was unlocked.

The deadly operation on Sept. 17, 2025, is now at the center of a lawsuit that, in part, challenges how the department planned and carried out the attempt to arrest an armed man who had been stalking a woman he had briefly dated.

To understand the allegations raised

See AMBUSH, Page 2A



The York County Quick Response Team vehicle is shown on the scene of a police incident near Friar Run in Penn Township on Feb.15, 2024.
HARRISON JONES/YORK DAILY RECORD

What does York County's Quick Response Team do during emergencies?

Teresa Boeckel
York Daily Record
USA TODAY NETWORK – PENNSYLVANIA

The York County Quick Response Team has deployed to emergencies in the community, including the deadly attack at UPMC Memorial Hospital last year.

The specialized team of law enforcement professionals from around York County responds to situations with a greater propensity for violence that require more than a standard police response, according to the York County District Attorney's Office.

The team and its role came up recently in a lawsuit filed against Northern York County Regional Police Chief David Lash and the police commission. The lawsuit alleges that Lash did not consult with the commander of the tactical team before a police operation in September 2025. Three detectives were killed, and a sher-

See TEAM, Page 3A

Pennsylvania eviction filings fall to decade-low territory

Matthew Rink
USA TODAY NETWORK

Fewer Pennsylvania renters are receiving eviction notices from their landlords in 2026, according to data from Legal Services Corp.'s Civil Court Data Initiative.

In fact, eviction filings in the third quarter of 2026 dropped to the third-lowest level within the past decade, a USA TODAY Network Pennsylvania analysis of the data found. Only 2020 and 2021, when eviction filings reached historic lows because of eviction moratoriums during the COVID-19 pandemic, were lower for the quarter.

There were 29,269 eviction filings during the three-month span of July, August and September, compared to 29,835 for the same period of 2025. Eviction filings tend to rise during the summer months.

Through the first three quarters of the year, landlords filed 82,277 evictions against tenants in Pennsylvania. That's a 2.7% drop from the first three quarters of 2025 and a 6.7% decline from the same period of 2024.

The Civil Court Data Initiative tracks eviction filings on a monthly basis.

Although filings were up slightly in September, they dropped in August and July from the same months in 2025.

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