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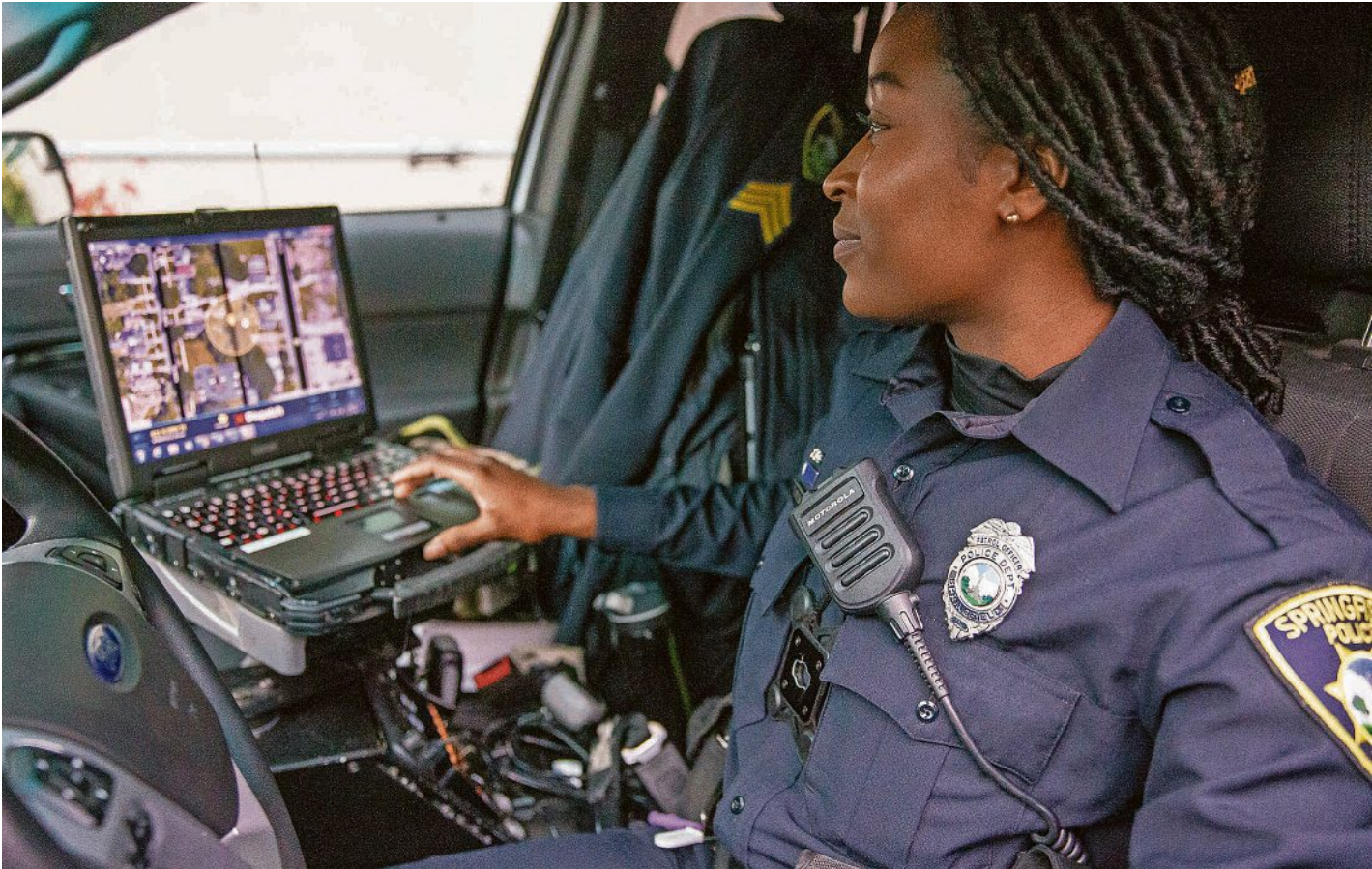
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Marshfield News Herald

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Gunshot detection tech ignites controversy



Springfield, Illinois, Police Officer Timara Pflug demonstrates in 2021 how officers can see a notification of gunfire on a map from Shotspotter, now called SoundThinking, in their squad cars. JUSTIN L. FOWLER/SPRINGFIELD STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

Critics cite concerns about privacy, accuracy

N’dea Yancey-Bragg USA TODAY

When gunshots ring out on America’s streets, bystanders face an instant, high-stakes dilemma. ● *Do I call the cops? Were those even gunshots? Maybe it was just fireworks.* ● Every moment of hesitation risks a delay in medical treatment or gives a suspect extra time to escape. But a high-tech solution to the problem has ignited a fresh round of controversy in cities across the nation.

Law enforcement officials in states including New York, Georgia, California, Michigan and Virginia have credited one system with helping them make arrests and alerting them to gunshots that would have otherwise gone unreported.

The system – part of an arsenal of police surveillance technology that advocates have warned about – is a network of audio sensors designed to record the sound of gunshots and tell authorities where the shots were fired.

That’s where the problems start.

The technology has faced a host of controversies: concerns over privacy and eavesdropping; complaints about accuracy; and even reports of many devices being installed in the wrong places.

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The Springfield, Missouri, Police Department has installed gunshot detection devices through Flock’s gunshot detection system, Raven. NATHAN PAPES/SPRINGFIELD NEWS-LEADER

DNR reveals details of fatal Devil’s Lake fall

Adrienne Davis
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

The details of what led to the fatal fall and death of 30-year-old climbing guide Audrie Pelosi in May at Devil’s Lake State Park have been released by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Pelosi died after falling approximately 150 feet from the Hawk’s Nest climbing area on the park’s east bluff while setting up equipment for a top-rope climb, according to a DNR investigation report.

Pelosi died while setting up climbs for clients

On May 30, Pelosi and two other employees of Apex Adventure Alliance were preparing several climbs for a group of clients who were on their way to the park.

Pelosi and her two coworkers were setting anchors for top-rope climbing. Pelosi was working near a tree she planned to use as an anchor while her coworkers were setting anchors farther east.

The two coworkers were on the opposite side of a large rock outcropping, which prevented them from seeing or communicating with Pelosi while they worked.

Neither coworker witnessed Pelosi fall.

After the coworkers finished setting their anchors, they returned to where Pelosi had been working and discovered she was gone. They yelled for her several times but received no response.

The two descended the bluff using a trail east of their location and found Pelosi lying unresponsive below the rock wall. One of the coworkers called 911 and stayed with Pelosi while the other returned to the top of the bluff to direct emergency responders to their location.

At around 8:10 a.m., a DNR conservation warden who was checking fishermen at the Prairie du Sac Dam heard an EMS radio page requesting the Baraboo Fire Department ropes rescue team for a fall at Devil’s Lake State Park. The warden, who was the only conservation warden on duty in Sauk County at the time, notified dispatch that he was heading to the scene.

Emergency crews rappelled down the wall to Pelosi’s location and noted

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Progressive El-Sayed wins Michigan Senate primary

Democratic candidate says goal is to unify party voters

Terry Collins, Phillip M. Bailey,
James Powell and Jay Stahl
USA TODAY

Progressive Abdul El-Sayed defeated moderate Rep. Haley Stevens for the Democratic nomination for Senate in

Michigan, NBC News and Decision Desk HQ projected, a major victory for the Democratic Party’s left wing in one of the most pivotal races of the 2026 election season.

The Aug. 4 multistate primaries were an important step in Republicans’ efforts to hold narrow majorities in both chambers come November.

The two Michigan Democrats faced off in a swing state that could determine

control of the Senate in President Donald Trump’s last two years. El-Sayed will now be charged with holding the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Gary Peters – the biggest electability test for the party’s progressive wing in 2026.

Stevens, a former Obama administration official and traditional liberal embraced by the party establishment, had argued that El-Sayed, a populist public health officer, risks losing to Re-

publican Mike Rogers, who ran unopposed for his party’s nomination in a state Trump won in 2024. El-Sayed’s side contended that outsider candidates generate more enthusiasm. The Democrats also traded barbs over spending from pro-Israel groups.

El-Sayed has trailed in some polling against Rogers. “If he wins, I think we’re

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