

L.A. Now

California: This just in

San Bernardino shooting updates: Tashfeen Malik attended seminary in Pakistan; President Obama to address the nation

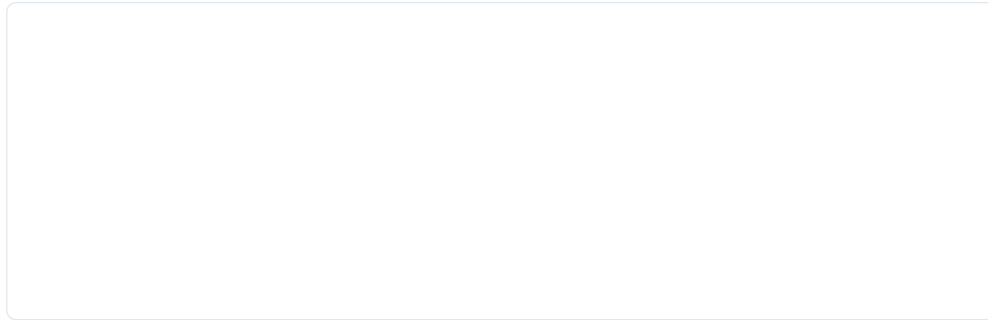
DECEMBER 6, 2015, 1:51 PM

Key developments

- Two assailants opened fire in San Bernardino at a holiday party in the Inland Regional Center around 11 a.m. Wednesday.
- [Fourteen people were killed](#) and 21 wounded, most of them county employees. The Times is [collecting their stories](#).
- The [two attackers](#), who were married, were killed in a gun battle with police. They were U.S.-born Syed Rizwan Farook and Pakistan national Tashfeen Malik, and had an [arsenal of ammunition and pipe bombs](#) in their Redlands home.
- There is no sign the couple were part of a terrorist network, officials said, but the FBI is officially [investigating the shooting as terrorism](#). Federal law enforcement sources say the attack might also be workplace related.
- Officials said [Malik pledged allegiance to Islamic State](#) in a Facebook post and Farook had contact with people from at least two terrorist organizations overseas. A radio station and website associated with Islamic State claimed the couple were [supporters of the militant group](#).
- Malik [was a "modern girl"](#) who became religious during college and then began posting extremist messages on Facebook after arriving in the U.S., a family member in Pakistan told The Times.
- President Obama will give a [rare address](#) from the Oval Office on Sunday at 5 p.m. Pacific time.

1:51 P.M.

Feeling vulnerable



All the dead and their stories



A composite photo of all 14 victims from the San Bernardino shooting rampage.

A father of six. A free spirit who befriended strangers in the grocery store checkout line. A mother of three who fled religious persecution in Iran. A woman who was 8 when she and her mother left Vietnam for a better life. The youngest was 26. The oldest was 60.

These are the names and stories of the 14 people killed in the San Bernardino shooting on Dec. 2, 2015. They lived across Southern California, from Los Angeles and Orange counties, in the Inland Empire and the San Bernardino Mountains that tower over the valley where the shooting occurred.

The list will be updated as more information becomes available. It also includes information about some of the 21 people wounded.

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1:07 P.M.

In church, honoring the dead



(Brian van der Brug / Los Angeles Times)

Cynthia Tibke, second from the left, wipes away tears as the names of the 14 people killed in Wednesday's attack are read during youth Mass this morning at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral in San Bernardino.

12:37 P.M.

Malik attended Islamic seminary in Pakistan

Two students who attended college with San Bernardino assailant Tashfeen Malik confirmed that during her time studying pharmacology at Bahauddin Zakariya University in Multan, Pakistan, she began



attending Al Huda, a chain of modern institutes of Islamic education which mainly focuses on women with the stated objective of “bringing them back to their religious roots.”

“She used to go to attend sessions in Al Huda almost every day,” said a fellow student, who asked not to be identified. “She was not too close to any class fellow.”

Dr. Ayesha Siddiqa, a Pakistani security analyst, said Al Huda institutes teach women “fundamentalist” ideas, though they do not necessarily promote a jihadist agenda.

—Aoun Sahi

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The Multan, Pakistan, house of Gulzar Ahmed Malik, Tashfeen Malik's father. She reportedly stayed there as a pharmacology student. (Faisal Kareem/ EPA)

11:34 A.M.

San Bernardino terrorism probe widens as Obama is set to speak

With President Obama set to deliver a rare prime-time address from the Oval Office on Sunday, the investigation into the San Bernardino massacre continued Sunday both in the United States and Pakistan, where one of the attackers once lived.

The FBI on Saturday raided the home of one of the shooter's friends as agents searched for the source of the guns used in the attack. And in Pakistan on Sunday, the interior minister said the country has launched its own investigation and offered assistance to U.S. authorities.

In San Bernardino, residents tried to get back to their routines after what is appearing to be the most deadly act of terrorism on U.S. soil since 9/11. On Saturday, many residents resolved to get on with life but said they were still anxious.

"I'm nervous," said Fernandino Rodriguez, 39. "You hear ambulance and a

firetruck's sirens and you wonder: 'What happened now?' You're constantly in fear."

—Paloma Esquivel, [Joseph Tanfani](#) and Louis Sahagun

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11:27 A.M.

Vigil planned for Monday to honor San Bernardino shooting victims

A vigil to honor the 14 people killed and 21 injured in last week's mass shooting in San Bernardino will be held at the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors headquarters Monday evening.

The candlelight vigil is planned for 5 p.m. at the headquarters at 385 N. Arrowhead Blvd. in San Bernardino.

The gathering will include county employees, local and national labor leaders, elected officials and clergy, among others, according to a news release by the Service Employees International Union, which is sponsoring the memorial.

The shooters, Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, were killed in a shootout with police hours after the rampage Wednesday.

— [Stephen Ceasar](#)

10:14 A.M.

Chance encounter has sad ending

Staff writer Christine Mai-Duc wanted to get a sense of what it's been like for San Bernardino's elected officials.

She spent time with Assemblywoman Cheryl Brown, who represents the area.

[Her piece](#) has a lot of great detail, but one particular story stands out for the Democratic lawmaker as she tries to comfort her community:

On the day of the shootings, Brown rushed to the Rudy C. Hernandez Community Center, where family members were waiting to be reunited with survivors and those who had been evacuated from Inland Regional Center. She knew she had to do what she could to calm frayed nerves, allay some of the panic she was seeing on people's faces as the afternoon's chaos unfolded.

She saw a bearded man, pacing back and forth, his eyes on every bus that arrived to drop off more evacuees. "He looked forlorn," Brown said. Brown asked him if he was okay, if she could pray for him.

"I'm pagan," Ryan Reyes replied. He was looking for his boyfriend, Daniel Kaufman, who ran the coffee shop in the center and wasn't answering his calls. Brown embraced him, told him she cared about him, and said she would be praying for him anyway.

When Kaufman [was named as one of the victims the next day](#), Brown said her heart fell.

— [Christina Bellantoni](#)

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10:11 A.M.

Homeland Security head to meet with Muslim leaders in Virginia





(Michael Graae / Getty Images)

Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson will sit down with Muslim community leaders Monday in northern Virginia to discuss Obama administration efforts to protect civil liberties while also preventing and stopping future terror attacks.

The roundtable discussion at All Dulles Area Muslim Society Center is the latest in a series of events around the country Johnson has attended to encourage community leaders to push back against radical ideologies that can inspire violent attacks.

In September, Johnson created the DHS Office for Community Partnerships with a goal to promote trust with the Muslim community and find ways community organizations can discourage violent extremism and undercut messages that promote terrorism. “Countering violent extremism has become a key focus of DHS’ work,” he [said at the time](#).

FBI efforts to work with Muslim community organizations have had mixed results. Some Muslim leaders have been frustrated by the agency’s efforts to collect intelligence while also trying to build open channels of communication with local groups.

— [Brian Bennett](#)

7:58 A.M.

The first line of defense





(Gina Ferazzi / Los Angeles Times)

The San Bernardino massacre has focused new attention on "lone wolf" terrorists who plan attacks away from traditional high-profile targets without directly coordinating with others.

While the FBI typically takes the lead in major terrorism investigations, local police officers and sheriff's deputies are the initial line of defense — especially in the case of home-grown plotters.

The challenges are daunting.

“

The fact that this was such an ordinary guy, who was likable, who got along with other people at work ... It was a Christmas party. It was the Inland Regional Center, which is not at the top of anybody's perceived target list. That underscores the point that this could happen anywhere. This person I've known for years is maybe, as we speak, planning to kill me.

”

— Brian Michael Jenkins, a terrorism expert at the Rand Corp.

— [Cindy Chang](#), [Richard Winton](#)

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4:51 A.M.

Fear of a backlash? Not in Bell



(Marcus Yam / Los Angeles Times)

In Bell, a Lebanese Muslim community established itself at roughly the same time as another group that's frequently in the crosshairs of politicians on the stump: immigrants from Mexico and other parts of Latin America.

Layla Matar, 21, who sells cars at Kia in downtown Los Angeles, said growing up in Bell never made her feel out of place. Half of her friends are Latino, the other half Arab.

"I never knew wearing a head scarf was something different," Matar said.

— [Ruben Vives](#)

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3:55 A.M.

Opinion: What is a mass shooting, really? And when do we care about them?

Here are some of the shootings in 2015 that made it onto the front page of The Times. And some that didn't.

—Julia Kingsley and Ali Swenson

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2:05 A.M.

'Have a nice day' turns into 'You be safe today,' as Christmas parade darkens in San Bernardino



(Wally Skaljic / Los Angeles Times)

“

It doesn't feel safe here anymore. You have to be more vigilant now. And you feel lost.

”

— Efrain Moreno, 52

Residents in San Bernardino are still struggling to recover from the massacre.

Dyeshia McCrumb, who came to the city's Christmas parade, said she was on guard.

"I'm listening and watching for signs of trouble," she said. "I believe police still have not gotten to the bottom of this terrorist attack."

As additional law enforcement officers gathered in front of the parade in preparation for the start at 10 a.m., McCrumb broke into a smile.

"We can still have fun," she said, "if there are police nearby."

— [Louis Sahagun, Sarah Parvini and Ruben Vives](#)

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1:21 A.M.

Digging in on guns

“

The reason that gun control laws do or don't pass is not so much the number of people for or against it, but how deeply they feel. And for pro-gun, anti-more-control folks, it's much more important to them -- they care more deeply about their cause -- than the average citizen.

”

— Franklin E. Zimring, UC Berkeley law professor

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11:51 P.M.

Open letter to the female shooter, Tashfeen Malik

“

You are the definition, the epitome, of a terrible mother.

”

— Bina Shah, a writer of English fiction and a journalist living in Karachi, Pakistan

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11:28 P.M.

Did she corrupt him, or vice versa?



(Greg Vojtko / AFP / Getty Images / FBI)

Syed Rizwan Farook was looking for a woman. A few years ago, not long out of college, he went online to find a match.

"Someone who takes her religion very seriously and is always trying to improve her religion and encouraging others to do the same using hikmah (wisdom) and not

harshness," he wrote on BestMuslim.com ...

—Christopher Goffard

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11:15 P.M.

Obama is told there is no evidence yet San Bernardino attackers were part of broader terrorist cell



(Evan Vucci / AP)

Top U.S. officials told President Obama there is still no evidence indicating the two shooters received outside support or were part of a broader terrorist cell, according to the White House.

There were “several pieces of information” the shooters were “radicalized to violence to commit these heinous attacks.”

— Joseph Tanfani, Richard A. Serrano, and Brian Bennett reporting from Washington

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8:04 P.M.

Obama to discuss 'how we will defeat' terrorism in

rare Oval Office address



President Obama on Sunday will take the unusual step of addressing the nation from the Oval Office to discuss his administration's counter-terrorism policies in the wake of the massacre in San Bernardino.

The White House said in a statement that Obama would discuss progress in the San Bernardino investigation and "the broader threat of terrorism -- including the nature of the threat, how it has evolved and how we will defeat it."

"He will reiterate his firm conviction that ISIL will be destroyed and that the United States must draw upon our values -- our unwavering commitment to justice, equality, and freedom -- to prevail over terrorist groups that use violence to advance a destructive ideology," the White House added, using an alternate name for Islamic State.

The Oval Office address would be Obama's first since 2010, when he declared the end of U.S. combat operations in Iraq.

Obama vowed Saturday that investigators would "get to the bottom" of the massacre as new details emerged about the woman at the center of the terrorism investigation, Tashfeen Malik.

—Los Angeles Times staff

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8:02 P.M.

What does Islamic State's messaging mean?

A radio station and a website affiliated with Islamic State have claimed that the couple who carried out the San Bernardino mass shooting Wednesday were "supporters" of the Middle East-based militant group.

But neither of the statements claim Islamic State was responsible for the rampage at the Inland Regional Center that left 14 dead and 21 wounded.

Since the formation of Islamic State, the group has used various means of online and off-line media channels to convey its messages and statements, especially when it comes to claiming responsibility for terrorist acts.

Amro Hassan, reporting for The Times from Cairo, takes a look at what the latest communication means.

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5:53 P.M.

'I got you,' San Bernardino shooting victim tells co-worker as bullets flew



Shannon Johnson, 45, left, and Denise Peraza, 27 (Katherine Hotetz via AP)

As bullets rained down in a San Bernardino conference room, [Shannon Johnson](#), 45, shielded his co-worker [Denise Peraza](#), 27, from the bullets.

“I got you,” Johnson told her.

Peraza recounted how she and Johnson were seated next to each other on Wednesday morning, joking about how they thought the large clock on the wall might be broken because time seemed to be moving so slowly.

Minutes later, the two huddled next to each other under the same table, using a fallen chair as a shield from the more than 60 rounds of bullets being fired from across the room, she wrote in an email sent to The Times Saturday.

“While I cannot recall every single second that played out that morning, I will always remember his left arm wrapped around me, holding me as close as possible next to him behind that chair,” Peraza said in the statement.

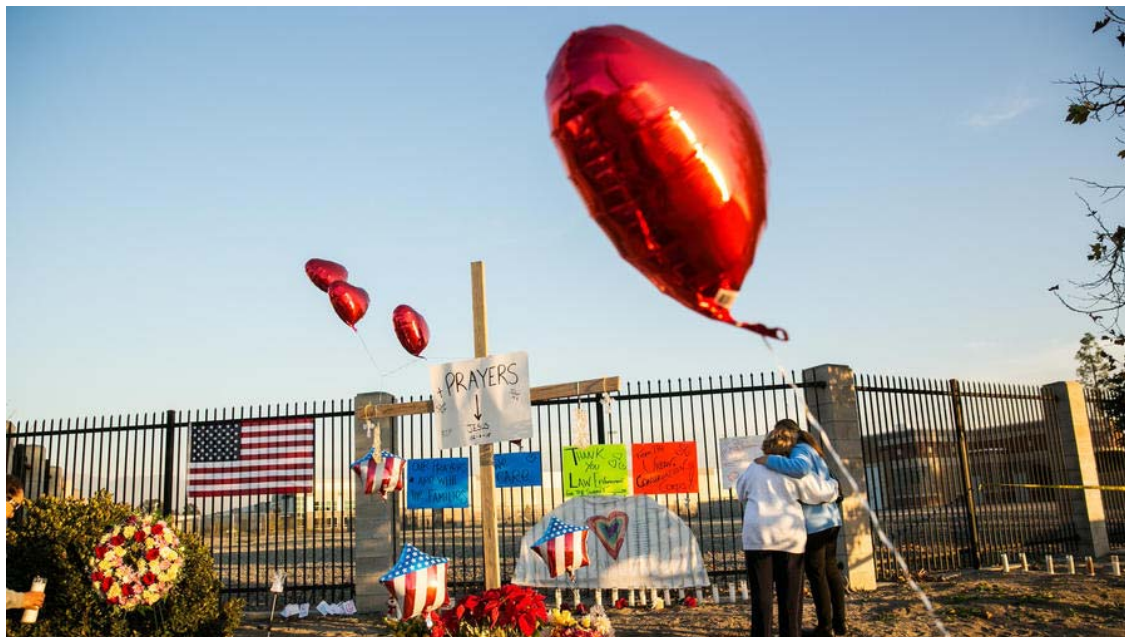
Peraza was shot once in the lower back, she told family members.

Johnson died.

— [Cindy Carcamo and Sarah Parvini](#)

5:30 P.M.

No prayer-shaming here



A memorial for victims of Wednesday's shooting at the Inland Regional Center. (Marcus Yam / Los Angeles Times)

Colleen Shalby spent two days in San Bernardino and found that faith has been a uniting force for the community.

— [Christina Bellantoni](#)

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