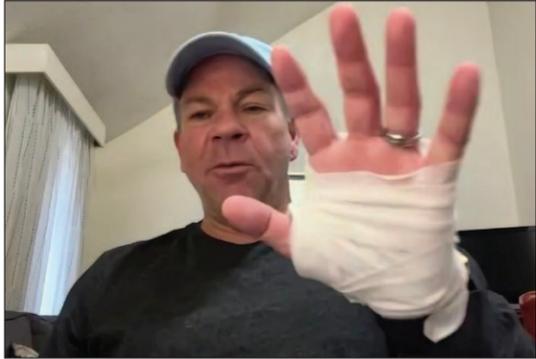


CRIME

'Courageous citizens' prevent more carnage



ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this image taken from video, Michael Black, a Rhode Island man who helped stop a shooter at a high school hockey game on Monday, holds up his injured hand during an interview with The Associated Press, Thursday, Feb. 19, 2026 in Spartanburg, S.C.

When Rhode Island shooter started firing, bystanders jumped into action

MICHAEL CASEY and KIMBERLEE KRUESI
Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Sitting in the stands at a hockey game, Michael Black heard what he thought was popping balloons before quickly realizing it was gunfire.

As dozens of people rushed out of the Rhode Island arena, Black told his wife to “run, run” and then lunged toward the shooter’s handgun.

Black managed to get his left hand caught in the chamber of Robert Dorgan’s gun, jamming it and then briefly attempted to hold Dorgan down. But Dorgan, a former body-builder, hoisted Black into the air before at least two other bystanders rushed over to subdue the shooter. One of them could be seen on video putting Dorgan into a choke hold.

Dorgan fell to the ground, with Black on top of him. The shooter died from a self-inflicted gunshot after pulling out a second gun as the two locked eyes. Black never heard Dorgan say a word.

“The first thought was the safety of my wife. And the second thought was, because the bullets were coming out, was to focus in on the gun,” Black said. “Get the gun and then subdue the shooter.”

Pawtucket police have said the shooter behind the deadly ice rink tragedy on Monday was Robert Dorgan, who also went by Roberta Esposito and Roberta Dorgano.

Dorgan’s ex-wife Rhonda Dorgan and adult son Aidan Dorgan were killed in the shooting, and three others were injured: Rhonda Dorgan’s parents, Linda and Gerald Dorgan; and a family friend,

Thomas Geruso, all of whom remained in critical condition Wednesday.

‘COURAGEOUS CITIZENS’ HELP STOP TRAGEDY

Along with Black, Robert Rattenni, and Ryan Cordeiro are being credited as subduing the suspect. Separately, Chris Librizzi and Glenn Narodow, both retired Rhode Island firefighters and EMTs, and nurse Maryann Rattenni provided first aid in the immediate aftermath.

Pawtucket police say this group of “courageous citizens” who rushed to intervene in the attack “undoubtedly prevented further injury and increased the chances of survival for the injured.”

“I look at it as being fortunate, saddened tremendously in the loss, but fortunate that a small group of people could make a difference,” Black said in a Zoom interview Thursday from South Carolina where he was on a college visit with his son.

One of the more puzzling unsolved questions surrounding the ice rink shooting is over why Dorgan chose the Dennis M. Lynch arena. It was a familiar spot for Dorgan’s family, with Aidan Dorgan, 23, playing hockey and had once hoped to be recruited by a college hockey team. He’d shown up Monday to watch his little brother’s hockey match with his mom, grandparents and other family. Dorgan had also been known to frequent the arena to watch family matches.

On Monday, Amanda Wallace-Hubbard, Aidan Dorgan’s sister and step-daughter to Rhonda Dorgan, was in the stands. She has since credited Black as the reason she’s still alive since she was likely next in line to have been shot.

Black also said a detective reached out to him Tuesday to say that one of Dorgan’s daughters wanted to thank him for his efforts.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the below ordinance(s)/resolution(s) will be considered at the regularly scheduled Public Hearings/Meetings of the Planning Commission (PC), sitting as the Local Planning Agency, and Board of County Commissioners (Board) on the dates and times listed below, or as soon thereafter, as they may be heard on those dates. All public hearings will be held in the County Commission Meeting Room 103, Administration Building, 201 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida. Copies of the applications and staff reports are available at the Development Department Room 204, Administration Building, 201 E. Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida five days prior to the meeting dates and are available on the County’s website at www.desotobocc.com under Department News and News & announcements. Members of the public may appear and be heard on the matters to be considered. Pursuant to Section 286.0105, F.S., if you want to appeal any decision of the Planning Commission or Board, you will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, you may need to arrange for a verbatim transcript to be prepared.

PLANNING COMMISSION: (PC) Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 5:30 PM

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: (Board) Tuesday, March 24, 2025 at 3:00 PM or 6:30 PM, as indicated below

1. Resolution, Comprehensive Plan Amendment Amending the Definition of Essential Services, Transmittal (COMP-0017-2025) PC 5:30 PM & Board 3:00 PM

A RESOLUTION OF THE DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING FOR TRANSMITTAL TO ALL REQUIRED ENTITIES A PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE DESOTO COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO AMEND POLICY 1.1.14 TO BROADEN AND CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES, AND MAKING IT CONSISTENT WITH THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

2. Ordinance, Land Development Regulation Amendment Section 20-95 “Essential Services” (LDR-0012-2025) PC 5:30 PM

AN ORDINANCE OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE COUNTY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS RELATED TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES BY AMENDING SECTION 20-95 “ESSENTIAL SERVICES” TO ALLOW ESSENTIAL SERVICES, AS NEWLY DEFINED, AS PERMITTED USES IN ANY ZONING DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE ADDITION OF MUNICIPAL PUBLIC USE AIRPORTS; IDENTIFYING ESSENTIAL SERVICES THAT ARE ALLOWED ONLY BY SPECIAL EXCEPTION IN THE INDUSTRIAL HEAVY (IH), PUBLIC/INSTITUTIONAL (P/I), AND PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) ZONING DISTRICTS AND AMENDING SECTIONS 20-140, 20-142, AND 20-144, ACCORDINGLY; AMENDING SECTION 20-1650 TO INCLUDE DEFINITIONS FOR AIRPORT RELATED TERMS AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES; AMENDING SECTION 20-1433(10) TO CLARIFY LANGUAGE AND PROCEDURES RELATED TO REVIEW OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

3. Ordinance, Land Development Regulation Amendment Section 20-233 “Family Homestead Exemption” PC 5:30 PM & Board 3:00 PM

AN ORDINANCE OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 20-233 “FAMILY HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION,” TO ARTICLE III “SUBDIVISION PROCEDURES” OF CHAPTER 20 OF THE COUNTY’S LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS TO REVISE THE MINIMUM ACREAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR A PARENT PARCEL; CLARIFYING AND MODIFYING OWNERSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR CONTINUOUS OWNERSHIP AND INTRA-FAMILY CONVEYANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

4. Resolution, Comprehensive Plan Amendment Providing for Density Bonuses for Affordable and/or Workforce Housing, Transmittal (COMP-0015-2025) PC 5:30 PM & Board 3:00 PM

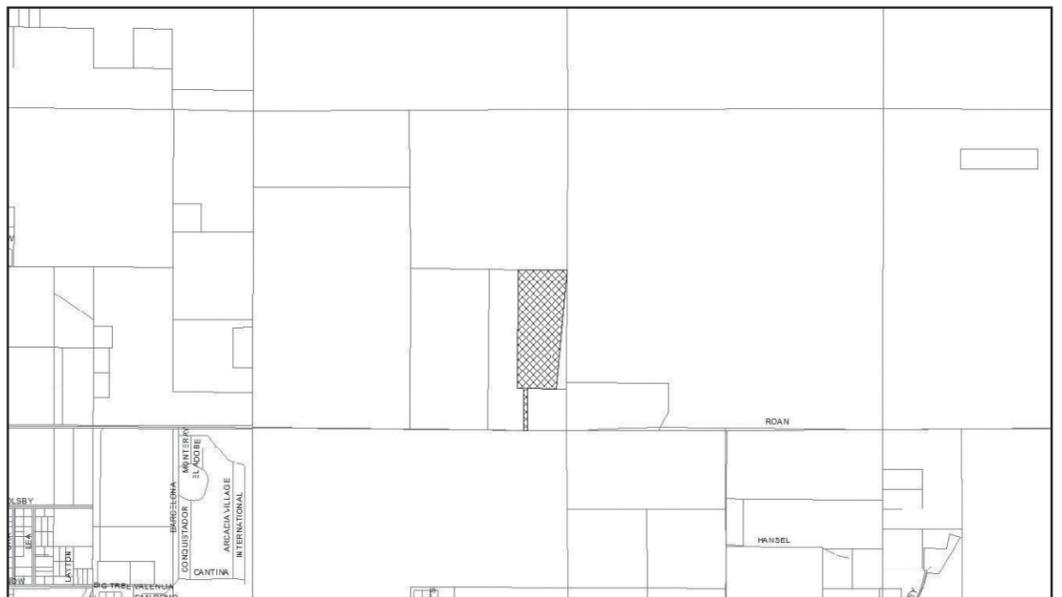
A RESOLUTION OF THE DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING FOR TRANSMITTAL TO ALL REQUIRED ENTITIES A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT TO AMEND OBJECTIVE 1.1 “LAND USE CATEGORIES ESTABLISHED,” RELATED TO DENSITY AND INTENSITY BONUS CRITERIA; AMENDING OBJECTIVE 1.6 “NEIGHBORHOOD MIXED USE CATEGORY DEFINED” AND OBJECTIVE 1.9 “URBAN CENTER LAND USE CATEGORY DEFINED” TO ALLOW FOR INCREASED BONUS DENSITY MAXIMUMS FOR THE LIMITED PURPOSE OF AFFORDABLE AND/OR WORKFORCE HOUSING; CLARIFYING LANGUAGE FOR CONSISTENCY; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

5. Ordinance, Land Development Regulation Amendment Section 20-1626 “Criteria for Award of Bonus Density/Intensity” (LDR-0013-2026) PC 5:30 PM

AN ORDINANCE OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE DESOTO COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING SECTION 20-1626 “CRITERIA FOR AWARD OF BONUS DENSITY” BY INCLUDING INTENSITY BONUS, AND UPDATING THE CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD FOR BONUS DENSITY/INTENSITY GENERALLY, AND ADDING SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD OF BONUS DENSITY FOR QUALIFYING AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING PROJECTS; AMENDING SECTION 20-144 “PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PUD)” PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL OF PUD IMPROVEMENT PLANS THAT PROVIDE AFFORDABLE/WORKFORCE UNITS AS PROVIDED THEREIN; AMENDING SECTION 20-1650 “DEFINITIONS” PROVIDING FOR NEWLY DEFINED TERMS TO IMPLEMENT THE AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING DENSITY BONUSES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

6. Ordinance, DCIP Commercial Data Processing Facility Rezone to PUD (RZNE-0077-2025) PC 5:30 PM & Board 6:30 PM

AN ORDINANCE OF THE DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING ATLAS IDENTIFIED IN LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS ARTICLE 2, ZONING DISTRICTS AND REQUIREMENTS, SECTION 20-31, ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONING DISTRICTS; GRANTING TO THE APPLICANT, DESOTO COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK, LLC, AN OFFICIAL ZONING DISTRICT ATLAS AMENDMENT (RZNE-0077-2025) BY CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT OF +/- 34.22 ACRES FROM AGRICULTURAL - 5 (A-5) TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) WITH A CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR A 35,134 SQUARE FOOT DATA CENTER FACILITY AND OFFICE ON PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED IN CENTRAL DESOTO COUNTY AT 3800 NE ROAN STREET, THE PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER BEING 28-37-25-0000-0031-0000 AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



PUBLISH: AS DISPLAY AD Friday, February 20, 2026

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