

The Florida Times-Union

Monday
JUNE 13, 2016
\$2

AT LEAST 50 DEAD AT GAY CLUB IN ORLANDO; WORST MASS SHOOTING IN U.S. HISTORY

'ACT OF TERROR, HATE'



THE SHOOTER

- Identified as Omar Mateen, a 29-year-old American citizen
- Professed his allegiance to Islamic State in 911 call from club



Joe Burbank Orlando Sentinel

Clergyman Kelvin Cobaris consoles Orlando gay-rights advocate Terry DeCarlo (left) and Orlando City Commissioner Patty Sheehan as they arrive Sunday at the scene of the worst mass shooting in U.S. history.

THE SCENE Gunfire erupts just as patrons were beginning to leave

By Mike Schneider
Associated Press

ORLANDO | A gunman wielding an assault-type rifle and a handgun opened fire inside a crowded gay nightclub early Sunday, killing at least 50 people before dying in a gunfight with SWAT officers, police said. It was the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

Authorities were investigating the attack on the Florida dance club as an act of terrorism. The gunman's father recalled that his son recently got angry when he saw two men kissing in Miami and said that might be related to the assault.

The shooter called 911 shortly before the attack

and referenced ISIS, FBI agent Ronald Hopper said.

At least 53 people were hospitalized, most in critical condition, officials said. A surgeon at Orlando Regional Medical Center said the death toll was likely to climb.

"There's blood everywhere," Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer said.

All of the dead were killed with the assault rifle, according to U.S. Rep. Alan Grayson, a Florida Democrat.

Witnesses described a chaotic scene when the gunfire began shortly before the club known as Pulse was to close.

"Some guy walked in and

SHOOTING continues on A-4

MORE INSIDE



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FIRST COAST REACTS

Marc Feliciano (above) from Kingsland, Ga., joined hundreds of others at Memorial Park on Sunday for a vigil for the Orlando shooting victims. Earlier, hundreds lined up to donate blood around Jacksonville for the victims. Metro, B-1

LEADERS REACT

President Obama decries attack targeting a place of "solidarity and empowerment" for gays and lesbians. A-4

THE GUNMAN Father says he had expressed disgust at gay people

By Harriet Ryan, Sarah Parvini & Ileana Najjarro
Tribune News Service

The man suspected of carrying out the deadliest shooting massacre in American history was a 29-year-old Florida security guard who pledged allegiance to Islamic State and had told family members he was disgusted by gay people.

Omar Mateen was shot to death by police as they attempted to rescue survivors from Pulse, a gay nightclub in Orlando, Sunday morning. At least 50 people died in the shooting and 53 were injured.

Mateen's ex-wife described him to The Washington Post as "not a stable person" who beat her regularly, sometimes because the laundry wasn't finished.

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DAILY DEAL!

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