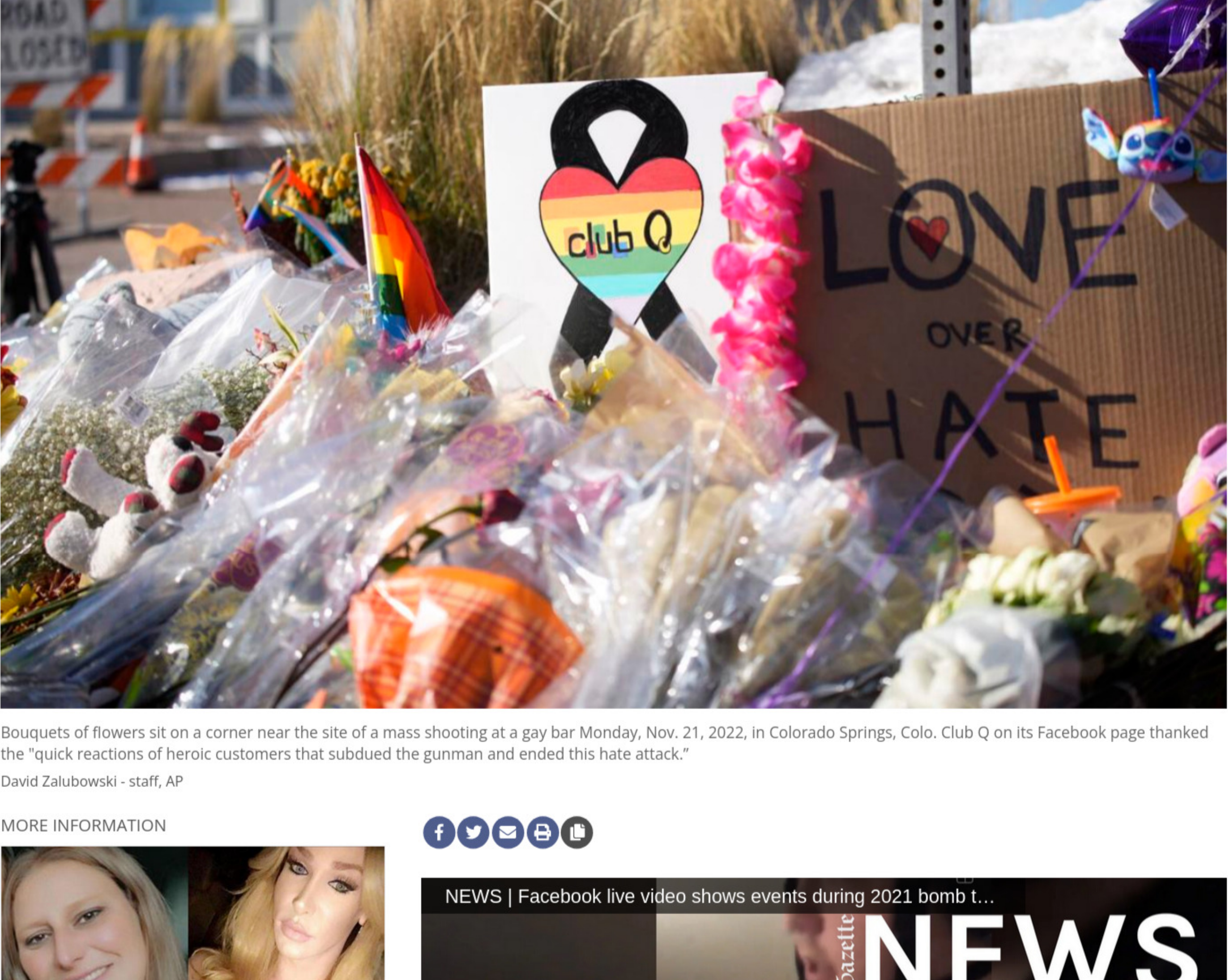


<PREV

Club Q suspect's mother had a past of her own

NEXT>

By: CAROL MCKINLEY carol.mckinley@gazette.com Nov 21, 2022 Updated Nov 28, 2022



Bouquets of flowers sit on a corner near the site of a mass shooting at a gay bar Monday, Nov. 21, 2022, in Colorado Springs, Colo. Club Q on its Facebook page thanked the "quick reactions of heroic customers that subdued the gunman and ended this hate attack."

David Zalubowski - staff, AP

MORE INFORMATION



5 victims in Club Q mass shooting identified, as mourning continues around Colorado Springs

All five victims — whose ages ranged from 22 to 40 — of a Saturday night shooting rampage at Club Q, an LGBTQ+ nightclub in Colorado Springs, were identified at a Monday afternoon news conference.

Anderson Lee Aldrich faces 10 charges, including hate crimes, in fatal shootings at Club Q in Colorado Springs

Shooting at Club Q in Colorado Springs leaves 5 dead, many injured; patrons hailed as heroes

'It doesn't stop:' Victims of past attacks on LGBTQ clubs relive the horror

'Blow it to holy hell:' Footage shows Anderson Lee Aldrich live-streamed 2021 bomb incident from Colorado Springs home

'Hero' Army vet who tackled Club Q mass shooter says he acted on instinct

Accused Club Q shooter changed name at 15; dad was MMA and porn star, mom had arrest record

'I thought he was dead': Father of accused Club Q shooter speaks out

Club Q shooting suspect's mom faces charges, documents show

NEWS | Facebook live video shows events during 2021 bomb threat that led to the arrest of 22-year-old Anderson Lee Aldrich, whose name and age match that of the suspect arrested in Saturday's Club Q shooting. In this screen recording provided by the owner of the house where Aldrich's mother lived at the time of the threat, a man appears to be live-streaming the bomb threat while wearing body armor.

The mother of Anderson Lee Aldrich, the suspect in the Club Q shooting, has three outstanding warrants for her arrest out of California and an arson charge out of Bexar County, Texas (San Antonio).

That arson charge was reduced to a lesser charge.

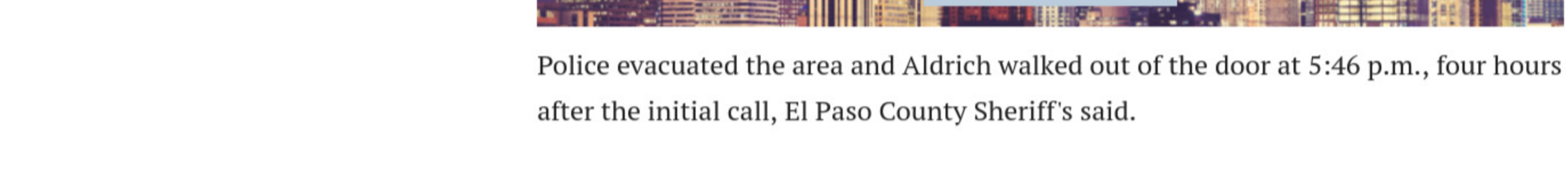
Laura Lea Voepel, 45, was sentenced to five years of probation in Aug. 2013 and did not complete the probation terms, which were set to expire Aug. 2018, according to court records obtained by The Gazette.

"At the end of the day, the District Attorney made an offer of criminal mischief and probation," said her court-appointed attorney, James Oltersdorf.

Oltersdorf said he never heard again from Voepel after he represented her.

Records show that Voepel is Aldrich's mother. It is unclear whether he lived with her while he was in Colorado. On June 18, 2021, she called El Paso County Sheriff's at 1:56 p.m. to report a bomb threat at the 9800 block of Rubicon Drive, according to an El Paso County Sheriff's press release.

Voepel told authorities that her son was threatening to hurt her with a homemade bomb, multiple weapons, and ammunition. The release said that Anderson Lee Aldrich was around a mile away from the Rubicon Drive address and that when deputies called him, he refused to surrender, the release said.



Police evacuated the area and Aldrich walked out of the door at 5:46 p.m., four hours after the initial call, El Paso County Sheriff's said.

Relatives who wished not to be identified said that the incident started when Aldrich found out that his maternal grandparents were going to move from Colorado to Florida.

On a neighborhood doorbell surveillance video obtained by The Gazette, Aldrich can be heard saying to his mother, "This is the day I die. They don't give a f**k about me any more. Clearly."

Aldrich is suspected of killing 5 people and injuring 18 more at Colorado Springs' Club Q nightclub over the weekend. Witnesses said the suspect entered the club just before midnight Saturday and began shooting.

There are three warrants open in three of four cases on Voepel's California criminal record, according to Riverside County court documents.

Records show that Voepel was arrested in 2008 for false reporting, in 2010 for speeding and failure to appear, and in 2011 for driving under the influence. In 2008, she was arrested in Riverside for public intoxication and failure to appear, but that case was closed.

Voepel is the daughter of California assemblyman Randy Voepel. Relatives who wished to remain unidentified said the suspect is the assemblyman's biological grandson, although family sources say the family relationship has been splintered.

Attempts to reach Randy Voepel, whose campaign website has been taken down since Monday, have been unsuccessful.

Tags: Club Q, Anderson Aldrich, Laura Voepel, Colorado Springs, Riverside California

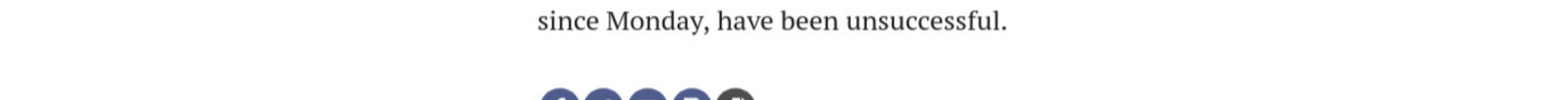
Carol McKinley
Denver Enterprise Reporter
A 40-year Colorado news veteran, Carol McKinley started in radio, and traveled the world as a network TV correspondent/producer. In 2021, she decided to return to local news. A Baghdad alum, she has 4 grown children and lives with her husband and her mom.

CLUB Q SHOOTING

Club Q victim Ashley Paugh: Wife, mom 'would do anything for anyone'

Breeanna Jent breeanna.jent@gazette.com Updated Nov 29, 2022

Ashley Paugh was the type of person who "had a huge heart" and "would do anything for anyone," family members recalled Monday.



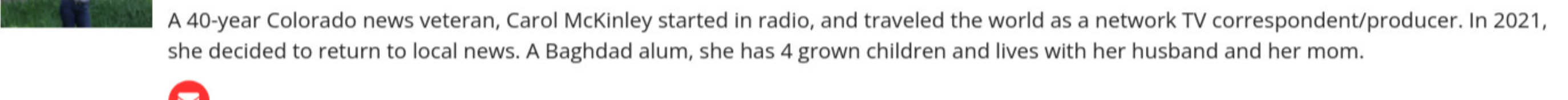
Breeanna Jent

CLUB Q SHOOTING

5 victims in Club Q mass shooting identified, as mourning continues around Colorado Springs

By Debbie Kelley debbie.kelley@gazette.com Updated Nov 23, 2022

All five victims — whose ages ranged from 22 to 40 — of a Saturday night shooting rampage at Club Q, an LGBTQ+ nightclub in Colorado Springs, were identified at a Monday afternoon news conference.



Debbie Kelley

DENVER METRO NEWS

Live coverage: Club Q shooting news conference and update

The Gazette Updated Nov 22, 2022

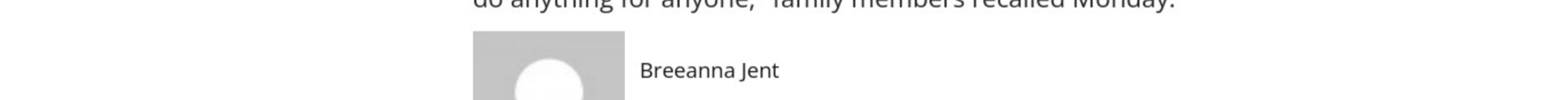
Officials with the Colorado Springs Police Department and the city of Colorado Springs have scheduled a news conference for 3:30 p.m. Monday following the Club Q shooting that left five dead and 18 wounded.

DENVER METRO NEWS

Anderson Lee Aldrich faces 10 charges, including hate crimes, in fatal shootings at Club Q in Colorado Springs

Zachary Dupont zachary.dupont@gazette.com Updated Nov 23, 2022

Anderson Lee Aldrich, the man suspected in the fatal shooting at Club Q in Colorado Springs late Saturday night that left five dead and dozens injured, is facing 10 arrest-only charges relating to the shooting, according to court records.



Zachary Dupont
Reporter

NEWS

Did Colorado law automatically seal 2021 suspect's criminal record?

By LUIGE DEL PUERTO luige.delpuerto@coloradopolitics.com and MARIANNE GOODLAND marianne.goodland@coloradopolitics.com Updated Nov 22, 2022

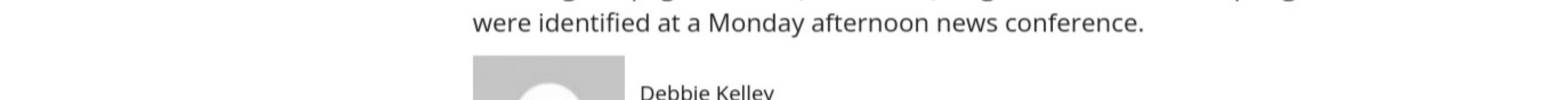
A state law passed by legislators in 2019 automatically prevents the retrieval of criminal records when a case is entirely dismissed — and that same statute is likely what sealed the records from a 2021 bomb threat incident in which a man with the same name and age as the Club Q shooting suspect was arrested.

AURORA

Aurora leaders point to mental health resources following Club Q mass shooting

By JESSICA GIBBS jessica.gibbs@denvergazette.com Updated Dec 5, 2022

Leadership within the City of Aurora reacted with heartbreak following this weekend's mass shooting at a LGBTQ+ nightclub in Colorado Springs and pointed community members to mental health resources as they process the tragedy.



Jessica Gibbs

DENVER METRO NEWS

Gov. Polis orders flags flown half-staff after Colorado Springs Club Q shooting

The Gazette Updated Nov 22, 2022

Colorado Gov. Jared Polis ordered flags to be lowered at half-staff on all public buildings statewide from sunrise Monday morning until sunset on Nov. 26 to honor and remember victims. Polis said his administration will also be flying the Pride flag at the state Capitol for the next five days.

POLITICS

'It doesn't stop:' Victims of past attacks on LGBTQ clubs relive the horror

Jenny Deam The Gazette Updated Nov 22, 2022

Christine Leinonen awoke Sunday morning and pattered about her Polk City, Fla., house completely unaware of the tragedy unfolding half a nation way in Colorado, one terrifying in its similarity to the mass shooting six years ago at an Orlando nightclub that took the life of her son and 48 others.

DENVER METRO NEWS

Denver's gay community sickened, steeled by Club Q killing spree

JOHN MOORE, john.moore@denvergazette.com Updated Dec 2, 2022

"When you live in a country where there are more guns than people ... that can get you pretty down."



John Moore
Senior Arts Journalist

CRIME & JUSTICE

Anderson Lee Aldrich, Colorado Springs mass shooting suspect, may have had earlier run-ins with police

The Gazette Updated Nov 22, 2022

Law enforcement officials investigating the Club Q shootings on Sunday said suspect Anderson Lee Aldrich's "interactions with law enforcement" are part of the broader investigation.

POLITICS

Biden joins Polis, other Colorado leaders in condemning Club Q shooting in Colorado Springs

By LUIGE DEL PUERTO luige.delpuerto@coloradopolitics.com Updated Dec 2, 2022

Gov. Jared Polis, who is gay, called the shooting "horrific, sickening, and devastating."



Luigi Del Puerto
Managing Editor

CLUB Q SHOOTING

Vince Bzdek: Could Club Q have been prevented?

Vince Bzdek Updated 7 hrs ago

The unsealing of two key court cases last week concerning suspected mass killer Anderson Aldrich may have raised more questions than they answered.

U.S. & WORLD

AP

Warnings on gay club shooter stir discussions about old case

By BRIAN MELLEY, COLLEEN SLEVIN and BERNARD CONDON - Associated Press Updated Dec 10, 2022

A California woman who warned a judge last year about the danger posed by the Colorado Springs gay nightclub shooter says the deaths could have been prevented if earlier charges against the suspect weren't dismissed.

Jeanie Streltzo, who is related to suspect Anderson Lee Aldrich, urged Colorado Judge Robin Chittum in a letter last November to incarcerate Aldrich. She told The Associated Press on Friday that Aldrich should have been in prison and prevented from obtaining weapons after the suspect's 2021 arrest uncovered a stockpile of more than 100 pounds of explosive materials, firearms and ammunition.

CLUB Q SHOOTING

'So relieved and overjoyed': Club Q shooting survivor discharged from hospital after nearly 3 weeks