



Eleven dead, six wounded in massacre at Squirrel Hill synagogue

Authorities investigating shooting incident as hate crime



KRIS MAMULA, ANDREW GOLDSTEIN, PAULA REED WARD, LIZ NAVRATIL AND SHELLY BRADBURY
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

OCT 27, 2018 3:33 PM

At about 9:50 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, Robert Bowers walked into the Tree of Life synagogue in Squirrel Hill, a Pittsburgh neighborhood, and started shooting. The first Swat team entered the building at 10:29 a.m.

The Post-Gazette's initial story was first published at 10:33 a.m..

<https://www.post-gazette.com/local/city/2018/10/27/Police-responding-to-incident-in-Squirrel-Hill/stories/201810270069>

That story was updated more than a dozen times within the next two hours, and continued to be updated more than 150 times within the next 24 hours with details, photos, videos and livestream videos.

Jim Iovino @jimiovino Follow

#BREAKING Police responding to active shooter incident in Squirrel Hill. PG crews on the way. Latest here:

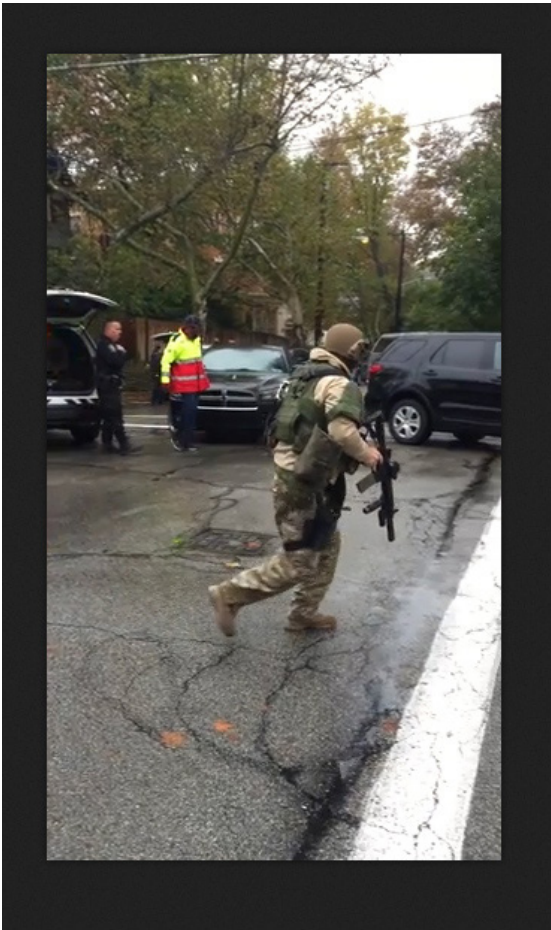
Eleven dead, six wounded in massacre at Squirrel Hill synagogue
Four police officers also were wounded in the shooting at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood Saturday.
post-gazette.com

◀ **On the Post-Gazette social platforms:**
10:38 a.m.: Deputy managing editor Jim Iovino, who was compiling the story, tweets out what we know:
<https://twitter.com/jimiovino/status/1056193314419032065>
10:40 a.m.: That was followed up by the first tweet from the Post-Gazette twitter account:
<https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056193982479454209>
And the first Facebook post, which updated again @ 11:25 a.m., to report casualties: ▶
<https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghpostgazette/posts/10156830613174826>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
October 27, 2018

Update: There are "multiple casualties."
This is what we know right now on the report of an active shooter situation in Squirrel Hill:

POST-GAZETTE.COM
Police responding to active shooter incident in Squirrel Hill
Police are responding to an active shooter incident in Squirrel Hill near...
57 Likes 48 Comments 550 Shares
Share



◀ **10:51 a.m.:** First video from the scene of SWAT response posted to the site: https://f1.media.brightcove.com/4/1105443290001/1105443290001_5854269866001_5854269491001.mp4?publd=1105443290001&videoid=5854269491001

11:10 a.m.: More images ▶ from the scene emerge as PG reporters and photographers rush to the scene: <https://twitter.com/jimiovino/status/1056201523573743616>

Reporter Sean Gentile: ▶ **11:43 a.m.:** At the corner of Shady and Northumberland, a couple blocks from the synagogue. SWAT teams from other PDs are showing up to help. <https://twitter.com/seangentille/status/1056209693029421060>

Reporter Sean Gentile: 11:49 a.m.: Allegheny County bomb squad is here. <https://twitter.com/seangentille/status/1056211199363293186>



◀ **Multimedia journalist Stephanie Strasburg: 12:06 p.m.:** I'm here at Squirrel Hill in Pittsburgh where a shooter has taken multiple lives at a synagogue. Will update as we confirm more details. @PGVisuals @PittsburghPG <https://twitter.com/StephStrasburg/status/1056215575679131654>

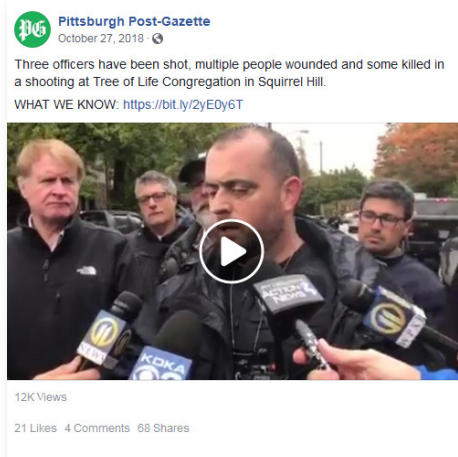
Reporter Sean Gentile: 12:18 p.m.: ▶ Rabbi Chuck Diamond is a past president of Tree of Life. He said three separate services would've been starting around that time and that the crowd would've been older. <https://twitter.com/seangentille/status/1056218594785353728>



12:24 p.m.: Three officers have ▶ been shot, multiple people wounded and some killed in a shooting at Tree of Life Congregation in Squirrel Hill. WHAT WE KNOW: <https://bit.ly/2yE0y6T> <https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghpost-gazette/posts/10156830816554826>

12:33 p.m.: Three officers have been shot, multiple people wounded and some killed in a shooting at Tree of Life Congregation in Squirrel Hill. Here's what we know so far. <https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056222382946508800>

◀ **Multimedia journalist Andrew Stein: 12:35 p.m.:** Cody Murphy, 17, left, hugs Sabrina Weihrauch, center, as Marina Godley-Fisher, 17, center right, and her mother, Amanda Godley look on, all live in Squirrel Hill, after an active shooter situation at Tree of Life Synagogue on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, in Squirrel Hill. <https://twitter.com/PittsburghStein/status/1056222889945501696>





Pittsburgh police Chief Scott Schubert yells at onlookers to get out of view of the Tree of Life synagogue as emergency personnel work to secure the scene, Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, in Squirrel Hill. Robert Bowers, who was later charged in the attack, exchanged gunfire with police officers before retreating back inside the synagogue. (Andrew Stein/Post-Gazette)



▲ **Multimedia journalist Andrew Stein: 12:36 p.m.:** More from the situation shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue @PittsburghPG
<https://twitter.com/PittsburghStein/status/1056223212336484352>

Multimedia journalist Alexandra Wimley: 12:37 p.m.: Multiple people were shot, some killed, by an active shooter at Tree of Life Synagogue in Squirrel Hill today.
<https://twitter.com/alexandrawimley/status/1056223494093062144>

Reporter Andrew Goldstein: 12:47 p.m.: Multiple casualties at Tree of Life. We are awaiting updates.
<https://twitter.com/angolds/status/1056225818014375937>

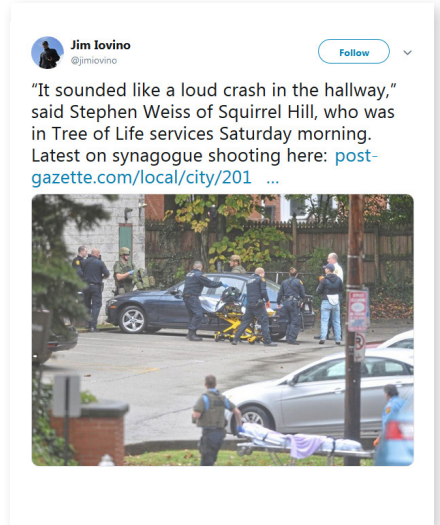
12:52 p.m.: The Post-Gazette announces on the site and on social media that we are taking down the paywall indefinitely so all might access our news content:
<https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056227154093051904>

12:57 p.m.: “This should not be happening, period. This should not be happening in a synagogue. This should not be happening in our neighborhood, Squirrel Hill.” The latest on the shooting at Tree of Life Congregation in Squirrel Hill:

<https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056228431497703424>

12:59 p.m.: Quotes from ► witnesses begin to emerge:
<https://twitter.com/jimiovino/status/1056228949880201216>

◀ **Multimedia journalist Stephanie Strasburg: 1:08 p.m.:** “Yeah this tragedy can happen but as a community we will always bounce back,” said Tina Quigley, who as a one time volunteer firefighter came out to show compassion as Pittsburgh responds to a mass shooting at a synagogue in Squirrel Hill.
<https://twitter.com/StephStrasburg/status/1056231099066695680>





Law enforcement officers secure the scene around the Tree of Life synagogue, Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, in Squirrel Hill. SWAT officers exchanged gunfire with Bowers inside the building before he surrendered. (Alexandra Wimley/Post-Gazette)

1:14 p.m.: The Post-Gazette publishes a story online naming the suspected shooter as Robert Bowers.

Reporter Sean Gentile: 1:14 p.m.: Tom Wolf, Rich Fitzgerald, Conor Lamb — all here. Wolf: “This is an incredibly sad day.”

<https://twitter.com/seangentile/status/1056232583791628288>

Reporter Sean Gentile: 1:14 p.m.: Pittsburgh PD rep:

“The work of first responders” kept scene from being worse. Multiple fatalities. Multiple officers hurt.

<https://twitter.com/seangentile/status/1056232804604874755>

◀ **1:22 p.m.:** The name of the suspect shooter is shared on social media: #BREAKING Officials have confirmed the suspect’s identity in the multiple fatal shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Squirrel Hill.

<https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056234545299841024>

1:23 p.m.: Facebook post: BREAKING: Officials have confirmed the suspect’s identity in the multiple fatal shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Squirrel Hill.

<https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghpostgazette/posts/10156830949409826>

Reporter Sean Gentile: 1:22 p.m.: Wendell Hissrich, Pittsburgh PD safety director, said there are six total injuries. Hissrich said he’s been on the scene of plane crashes but this was worse.

<https://twitter.com/seangentile/status/1056234432863092736>

Reporter Andrew Goldstein: 1:33 p.m.: A resource line has been set up for victims and families: 412-432-4400. Also, a resource center center is being set up at Berry Hall at Chatham University. ▶

<https://twitter.com/angolds/status/1056237395643916289>



Reporter Sean Gentile: 1:37 p.m.: Congressmen Mike Doyle: “We talk about thoughts and prayers and continue to do nothing about it.”
1:38 p.m.: Doyle mentioned people with “a gun in their hands and hate in their heart.” Said Congress has to do more.
<https://twitter.com/seangentille/status/1056238467972251648>

◀ **1:59 p.m.:** “It’s a ‘terrible thing what’s going on with hate in our country,” @realDonaldTrump said in response to the shooting.
<https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056243948828745728>



Kate Rothstein, left, looks down as her daughter Simone Rothstein, right, 16, of Squirrel Hill hugs a woman outside the Tree of Life synagogue, Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, in Squirrel Hill. (Alexandra Wimley/Post-Gazette)

PGVisuals: 2:08 p.m.: From left, Tammy Helps, Kate Rothstein and her daughter Simone Rothstein, all of Squirrel Hill, read from a religious text and embrace at Shady Avenue and Northumberland Street after multiple people were shot at the Tree of Life Congregation.
<https://twitter.com/PGVisuals/status/1056246280580710400>

Multimedia journalist Steph Chambers: 2:42 p.m.: A SWAT team member makes his way to the emergency entrance at UPMC Presbyterian. Several patients are being treated inside from the shooting at Tree of Life Congregation earlier today. Follow @PittsburghPG for updates.
<https://twitter.com/StephChambers76/status/1056254881797955584>

3:17 p.m.: UPDATE: Officials have confirmed that at least eleven people are dead and several more are wounded — including four police officers. The latest >>
<https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghpostgazette/posts/10156831145739826>





3:18 p.m.: UPDATE: The shooter used an assault-style rifle, police report. <https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056263966677188609>

◀ **3:25 p.m.:** Messages of sympathy and concern for those killed and injured in the shooting at Tree of Life Congregation in Squirrel Hill came from across the country and around the globe Saturday. <https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056265657304694787>

4:12 p.m.: FBI and Allegheny County press conference on mass shooting at the Tree of Life Congregation. READ LATEST: <https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghpostgazette/videos/289658001650710/>

5:09 p.m.: .@CarnegieMellon drama students sing and play guitar to collect money for the mass shooting victims in Squirrel Hill at the Tree of Life Synagogue. <https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056291851811127296>

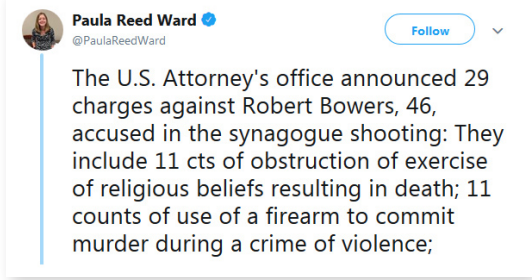
5:35 p.m.: What we know about Robert Bowers, the suspect in today's mass shooting at a synagogue in Squirrel Hill. READ >> <https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056298265170321414>

6:35 p.m.: Hundreds have now gathered for a vigil honoring the mass shooting victims in #Pittsburgh <https://twitter.com/PittsburghPG/status/1056313496705613824>

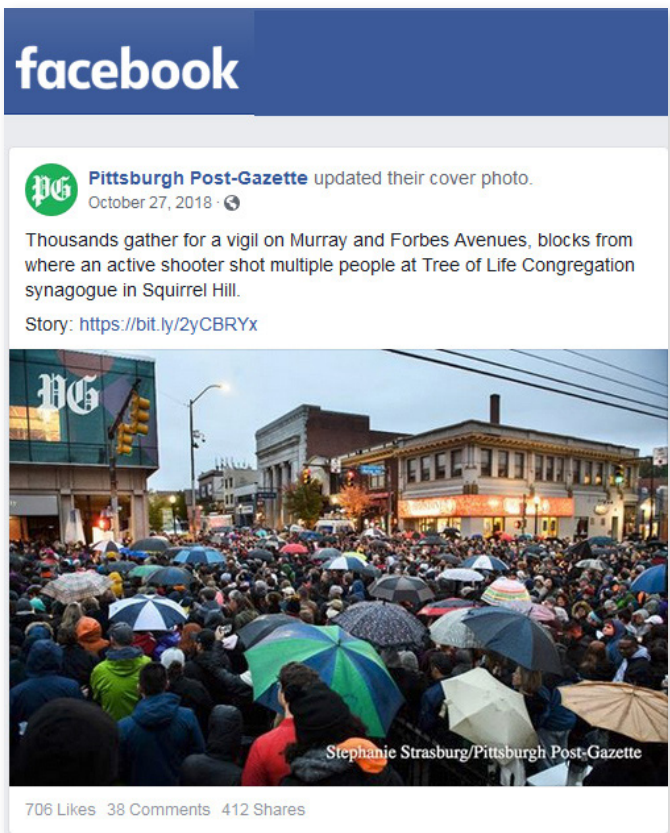
◀ **6:36 p.m.:** Newsslide, the Post-Gazette's edition-based tablet app, published a special edition based on what we knew at that time.

Multimedia journalist Steph Chambers: 8:06 p.m.: Hundreds gather at Murray and Forbes avenues for a vigil to mourn those affected by the synagogue shooting this morning at Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill. Eleven people died and six were wounded, including four police officers. @PGVisuals @PittsburghPG <https://twitter.com/StephChambers76/status/1056336462025818112>

◀ **8:59 p.m.:** Thousands gather for a vigil on Murray and Forbes Avenues, blocks from where an active shooter shot multiple people at Tree of Life Congregation synagogue in Squirrel Hill. Story: <https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghpostgazette/photos/a.10150703167999826/10156831851029826/?type=3&theater>



▲ **Reporter Paula Ward: 9 p.m.:** The U.S. Attorney's office announced 29 charges against Robert Bowers, 46, accused in the synagogue shooting: They include 11 counts of obstruction of exercise of religious beliefs resulting in death; 11 counts of use of a firearm to commit murder during a crime of violence <https://twitter.com/PaulaReedWard/status/1056349893202231297> <https://twitter.com/PaulaReedWard/status/1056349894028509184>





Rabbi Eli Wilansky lights a candle at memorial created for the victims of the mass shooting outside Tree of Life synagogue, Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, in Squirrel Hill. An ambulance sat idle outside the synagogue nearly twelve hours after the attack, as the bodies of victims had yet to be removed from the crime scene. (Steph Chambers/Post-Gazette)

9:18 p.m.: BREAKING: The U.S. Attorney's office filed 29 charges against Richard Bowers, the suspect in a mass shooting at Tree of Life Congregation in Squirrel Hill. More details on charges:

<https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghpostgazette/posts/10156831866034826>

10:02 p.m.: Seventeen people were shot at the Tree of Life Congregation. Six survived; four of the survivors were police officers, and one is a nurse and chaplain at UPMC.

<https://www.facebook.com/pittsburghpostgazette/posts/10156831834074826>

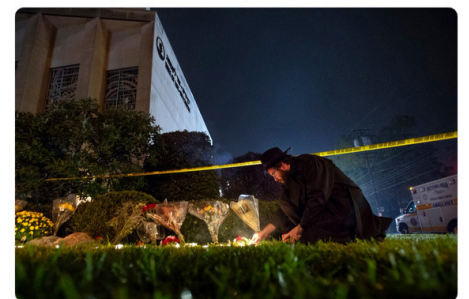
Multimedia journalist Steph Chambers: 11:33 p.m.: ▶ Rabbi Eli Wilansky lights a candle after a mass shooting at Tree of Life Congregation on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, in Squirrel Hill. Eleven people were killed and six were wounded, including four police officers.

<https://twitter.com/StephChambers76/status/1056388511841091585>

Steph A Chambers
@StephChambers76

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Rabbi Eli Wilansky lights a candle after a mass shooting at Tree of Life Congregation on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, in Squirrel Hill. Eleven people were killed and six were wounded, including four police officers. (Steph Chambers/Post-Gazette)



Paula Reed Ward
@PaulaReedWard

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BREAKING: Tree of Life shooter Robert Bowers now charged in state court by Pittsburgh police with 11 counts of homicide; 6 counts of attempted homicide; 6 counts of aggravated assaults and 13 counts of ethnic intimidation

◀ **Reporter Paula Ward: 11:46 p.m.:**

BREAKING: Tree of Life shooter Robert Bowers now charged in state court by Pittsburgh police with 11 counts of homicide; 6 counts of attempted homicide; 6 counts of aggravated assaults and 13 counts of ethnic intimidation.

<https://twitter.com/PaulaReedWard/status/1056391706210435072>