

Gunman gave no hint of bloodshed to come

By **BEN FINLEY** and **ALAN SUDERMAN**
Associated Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — The Virginia Beach employee who shot and killed 12 people at a municipal building gave no hint of the bloodbath to come when he emailed his resignation letter earlier in the day, saying that he was leaving for “personal reasons” but that “it has been a pleasure to serve.”

The two-sentence email from DeWayne Craddock, an engineer with the city utilities department, was released Monday.

Craddock, 40, opened fire on his co-workers on Friday, then was killed in a gunbattle with police, leaving no immediate clues to what set him off.

The email read: “I want to officially put in my (2) weeks’ notice to vacant my position of Engineer III with the City of Virginia Beach. It has been a pleasure to serve the City, but due to personal reasons I must relieve my position.”

An unidentified person responded to the email by saying he or she hoped that Craddock would be able to resolve his personal issues and that Craddock’s last day



Community members stand by the 12 crosses at the memorial located by the Virginia Beach Municipal Center.

AP Photo/Sarah Holm

would be Friday, June 14. Craddock responded: “Thank you. Yes, that is correct.”

Authorities shed no immediate light on what led him to resign.

Craddock was an employee “in good standing” and showed “satisfactory” job performance, City Manager Dave Hansen said.

That has left survivors, officials and community members wondering what set off the violence.

“Right now we do not have anything glaring,” said Police Chief James Cervera. “There’s nothing that hits you right between the eyes. But we are working on it.”

On Monday, a makeshift memorial made of bouquets, flags, teddy bears and crosses bearing the names of the shooting victims stood at one entrance to the municipal center. A small group of city employees wept and hugged each other as they left flowers by one of the crosses. Volunteers with comfort dogs were on hand.

Crystal Pangelinan came to pay her respects after her children, ages 5 and 7, went to school.

“Explaining what happened to them was hard,” she said.

The building is part of a sprawling compound of gov-

ernment buildings. While other buildings appeared to be open for business Monday morning, signs of the shooting remained. A section of the compound remained blocked off by law enforcement vehicles, and FBI personnel could be seen walking around.

There was no indication Craddock targeted anyone specifically.

The police chief said investigators are retracing the gunman’s activities on the day of the attack, using his electronic keycard to track his movements through secure areas of the building. They are also reviewing his personal and professional lives.



AP Photo/Patrick Semansky

Patricia Olds, a coworker of LaQuita Brown, a victim of a mass shooting at a municipal building in Virginia Beach, Va., is comforted before carrying a cross bearing Brown’s name to a nearby makeshift memorial.

Recent Mississippi River flooding approaches records set in 1993

By **HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH**
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The swollen Mississippi River is straining levees, snarling traffic and forcing people from their homes as the water level in some places approaches record levels set during devastating flooding in 1993.

Missouri Gov. Mike Parson was touring flooded areas Monday in the northeast part of the state, where there have been around a dozen water rescues. Statewide, nearly 400 roads are closed, including part of U.S. 136.

Locks and dams upstream of St. Louis are shut down as the Mississippi River crests at the second-highest level on record in some communities. Midwestern rivers have flooded periodically since March, causing billions of dollars of damage to farmland, homes and businesses from Oklahoma and Arkansas and up to Michigan.

Residents, emergency responders and volunteers helping in recovery efforts are facing another challenge from swarms of mosquitoes drawn to standing water.

“Nuisance mosquitoes are usually the first populations to take advantage of flooded conditions,” said Howard Pue, of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. “They can be big, really numerous and inflict painful bites.”

Gary Stubblefield, a volunteer coordinator for recovery and cleanup efforts in the Joplin area, said the volunteers cleaning up after an



AP Photo/David Carson

Emily Kientzel empties the water out of her grandmother Joan FitzGerald’s boat that filled with floodwater from the Mississippi River, as they check on the home of a friend outside of Portage des Sioux, Mo. They are standing on the second story balcony of the home.

EF-3 tornado struck parts of Carl Junction May 22 are asking for bug repellent contributions. Organizers have handed out hundreds of cans, and more is needed, Stubblefield said.

Near the 1,400-person town of Winfield, Missouri, a Mississippi River levee breached Sunday, forcing evacuations in a rural area, said Sue Casseau, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. On Saturday, sandbags were intentionally removed from a farm levee along the Mississippi River near Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, to allow water through and remove pressure downstream. The Illi-

nois River also overtopped levees that protect a combined 1,500 acres in western Illinois, she said.

“If water is over the field, no one is planting,” Casseau said. “The full economic impact won’t be known until the end of this planting and

together.” Parson’s office said Monday 28 levee breaches have been reported across the state.

Floodgates also have been closed in St. Louis in advance of the Mississippi River cresting there Thursday. The high water already is causing problems. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports that several hotels that were crowded with visitors for the Stanley Cup Final and Cardinals-Cubs baseball games were left without hot water Sunday after too much water overwhelmed a pump station.

Missouri State Highway Patrol Sgt. Eric Brown said there also has been sandbagging in several towns and added that “one of the most impressive things is to see these communities come

together.”

In Lewis County, Missouri, the focus of much of the sandbagging, floodwaters from the Mississippi River surround the Mark Twain casino on three sides in the town of LaGrange, which isn’t protected by a levee, said Sheriff David Parrish. People also are sandbagging around homes and the city hall there, as well as several other areas of the county. He said that one levee that protects the towns of Taylor and West Quincy is being shored up with 3,500 tons of rock.

“It is the second highest level by inches since ‘93,” he said of the river.

The 1993 flood covered nine states and rivers reached record heights across the region. It lasted nearly 200 days in some areas and was

responsible for about 50 deaths.

In Michigan, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer declared a state of emergency Monday for Tuscola County after heavy rainfall last week caused widespread flooding. Whitmer earlier announced a state of emergency in Wayne County, which includes Detroit. Areas along Lake St. Clair and western Lake Erie also have been hit by flooding in recent weeks.

Vice President Mike Pence announced plans for a trip to Oklahoma on Tuesday to visit flood damage from the Arkansas River. Damage has extended from the Tulsa area downstream into Arkansas. The river is slowly cresting, with major flooding is expected to subside within a few weeks.

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
63 51	60 49	58 49	58 51	60 50	64 52	74 55
Partly sunny	A stray shower	A shower in the area	A couple of showers	Chance of a shower	Chance of a shower	Sunny

ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday

Temperatures

High/low 61/51
Normal high/low 62/48
Record high 79 in 1970
Record low 39 in 1987

Precipitation

Sunday 0.00"
Month to date 0.00"
Normal month to date 0.21"
Year to date 22.01"
Normal year to date 33.57"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2019

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight’s Sky: New moon (3:02 a.m.)

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 5:26 a.m.
Sunset tonight 9:02 p.m.
Moonrise today 6:42 a.m.
Moonset today 10:37 p.m.

New First Full Last

June 3 June 9 June 17 June 25

TODAY’S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
1:52 a.m.	8.9	9:11 a.m.	-1.2
3:35 p.m.	7.0	8:58 p.m.	2.8

Cape Disappointment

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
1:33 a.m.	8.7	8:12 a.m.	-1.7
3:06 p.m.	6.7	8:00 p.m.	2.8

Hammond

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
1:42 a.m.	9.2	8:34 a.m.	-1.7
3:20 p.m.	7.2	8:24 p.m.	2.7

Warrenton

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
1:47 a.m.	9.3	8:55 a.m.	-1.1
3:30 p.m.	7.4	8:42 p.m.	2.9

Knappa

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
2:29 a.m.	9.1	10:12 a.m.	-1.0
4:12 p.m.	7.3	9:59 p.m.	2.4

Depoe Bay

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
12:42 a.m.	8.9	7:43 a.m.	-2.0
2:22 p.m.	6.9	7:30 p.m.	2.8

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	88/70/pc	92/74/pc
Boston	68/57/pc	74/63/c
Chicago	76/67/pc	80/57/pc
Dallas	91/71/pc	82/70/t
Denver	79/54/t	72/54/t
Honolulu	87/76/pc	87/74/pc
Houston	91/75/pc	86/76/t
Los Angeles	75/61/pc	77/62/t
Miami	91/79/t	89/79/pc
New York City	71/60/s	80/66/t
Phoenix	98/75/s	100/74/s
San Francisco	74/54/s	73/53/s
Wash., DC	78/67/s	83/69/t

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

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REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today’s weather. Temperatures are today’s highs and tonight’s lows.

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	82/42/s	83/48/pc	North Bend	64/51/pc	60/49/c
Brookings	68/50/pc	60/49/pc	Roseburg	84/54/pc	72/50/pc
Ilwaco	61/52/pc	60/50/c	Seaside	63/51/pc	62/49/c
Newberg	75/52/pc	67/47/pc	Springfield	78/49/pc	69/47/pc
Newport	60/50/pc	58/48/c	Vancouver	75/53/pc	67/48/pc