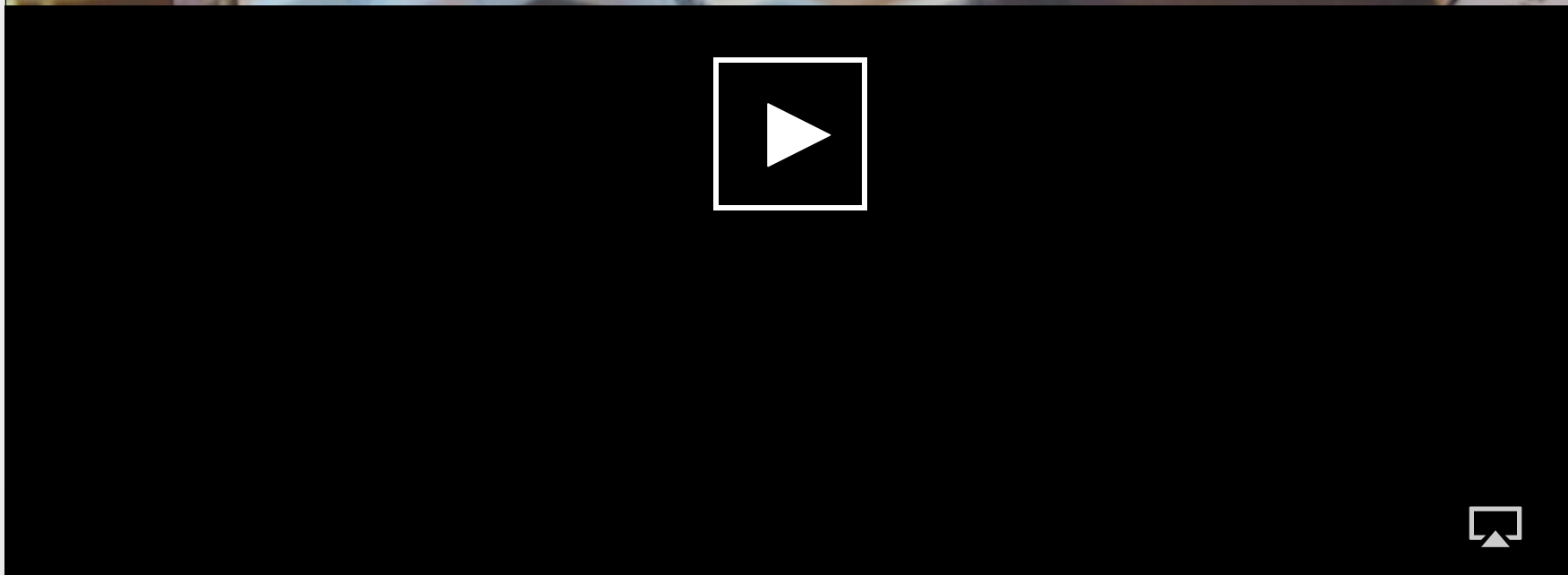
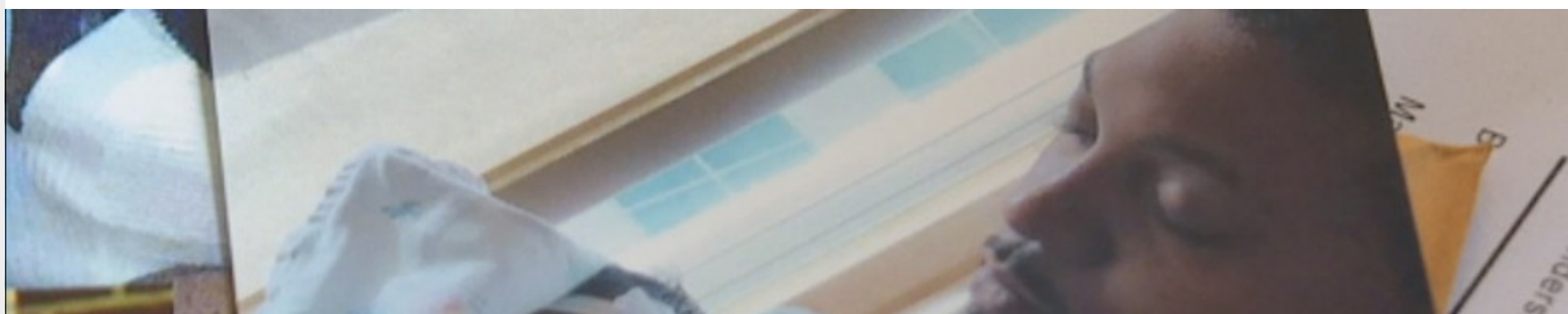


Family members who have lost their children to gun violence speak out

by Jessi Starkey | Thursday, October 22nd 2020



As city leaders call for a stop to the recent violence, families who are dealing with loss are also speaking out. They say they want a seat at the table. (Courtesy: Casimire Family)

COLUMBUS, Ohio (WSYX/WTTE) — As [city leaders call for a stop to the recent violence](#), families who are dealing with loss are also speaking out. They say they want a seat at the table.

"This is raw," Columbus mother Jacqueline Casimire said. "You go through it second by second. Day by day."

Casimire lost her son, Corneluis just one month ago. She said her entire life changed with one phone call.

"In his home. In his bedroom, he was shot dead."

She said with every shooting or murder that passes, the grief is brought up again, for another mother who is feeling the unimaginable pain.

"These senseless killings are the worst to me," she said. "Why? For what reason?"

She is standing with other mothers who wish they were not in the same situation. Malissa Thomas-St. Clair founded [Mothers of Murdered Columbus Children](#) and the Save Our Streets initiative. For months, they have taken to the streets to spread their message of peace. They are talking with city leaders about solutions.

"I don't want anyone else to hold a picture of their son in their hand, and that is their memory," Thomas-St. Clair said. "We have to do this collaboratively. It can not be us against them with our city leaders. It is so easy to blame leadership. We have to start coming together as a united front."

Sign up for our newsletter

Get our latest articles in your inbox

Email Required

SIGN UP

They said they want a seat at the table.

"I would like to sit down with Ron O'Brien," Casimire said. "Invite us mothers to the table."

Casimire said the thought of the amount of illegal guns on the street keeps her up at night.

"I will die for the right of other people not to have to go through this. We have to get these guns off of the street. We have to."

They encourage other family members or people who are wanting to be apart of a positive change to [join them](#).

"We can move through this journey - using our pain and turning it into a purpose to save our streets," Thomas-St. Clair said.

TRENDING



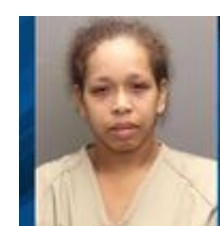
15-year-old girl dies after fight leads to shooting in Franklin Park [▶](#) [✉](#)



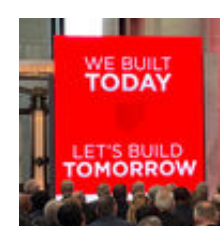
UPDATED Teen killed at Franklin Park identified as East High School student [▶](#) [✉](#)



Woman arrested after shooting at Whitehall Kroger



Woman arrested after bringing loaded gun to Columbus elementary school [▶](#)



UPDATED \$3.5B Honda, LG EV battery plant coming to Fayette County [▶](#) [✉](#)

STAY CONNECTED



NEWSLETTER SIGN UP [▶](#)

© 2022 Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.

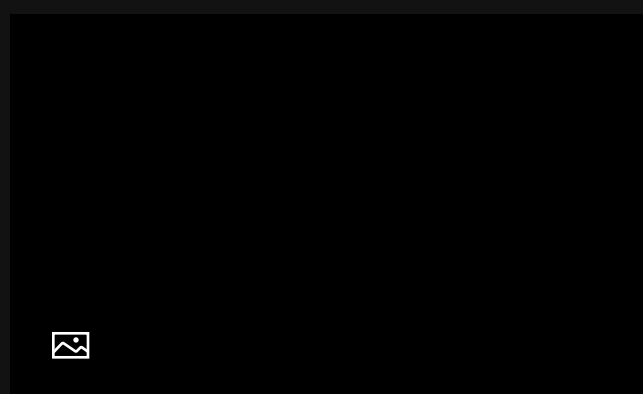
[Terms](#) | [WSYX](#) | [WSYX](#) | [WSYX](#) |

[WTTE](#) | [WTTE](#) | [WTTE](#) |

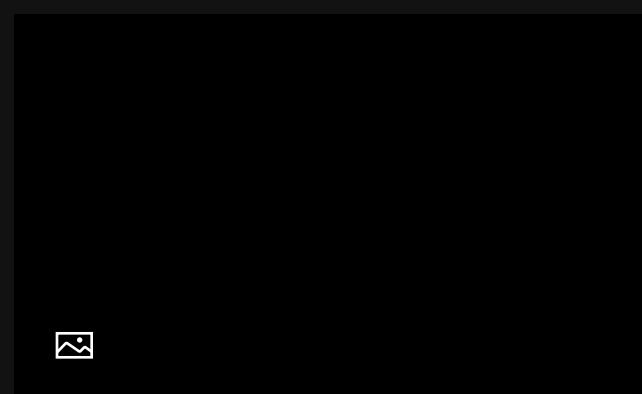
[Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookie Policy](#) |

[Cookie Preferences](#)

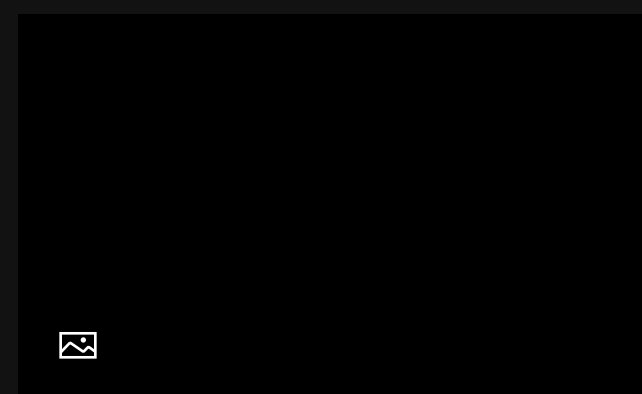
NEWS IN PHOTOS: "Local"



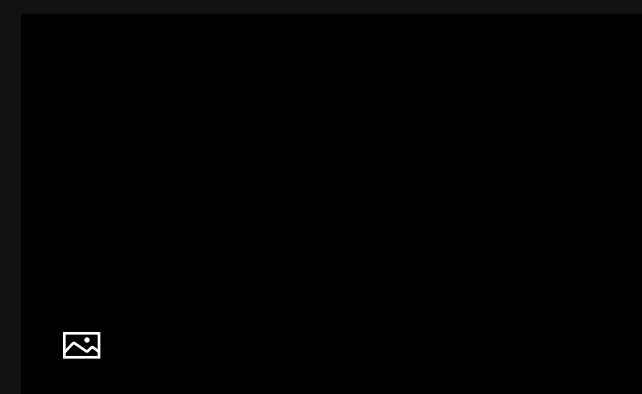
UPDATED Teen killed at Franklin Park identified as East High School student



Ohio Board of Education set to vote on controversial LGBTQ resolution Wednesday



UPDATED \$3.5B Honda, LG EV battery plant coming to Fayette County



Columbus Weather: Cool start to the morning followed by warm afternoon