



COURTS

Here are 9 people to know in Guyger trial

Murder case stemming from shooting death of Botham Jean begins today

By **DANA BRANHAM**
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Former Dallas police Officer Amber Guyger's trial begins Monday in the death of Botham Jean, the 26-year-old man she shot on Sept. 6, 2018.

Jean was Guyger's upstairs neighbor at the South Side Flats apartments when she fatally shot in his own apartment. She told police she confused his apartment for hers and opened fire thinking he was an intruder.

Guyger will have a team of defense attorneys representing her, while a team of prosecutors will present the murder case against her.

Here are a few key people to know inside the courtroom and out:

Amber Guyger



Guyger, 31, is a former Dallas police officer who will be tried for murder in the death of Jean.

Before the shooting, Guyger had been the only female officer on an elite crime response team in the department's southeast division.

She was put on leave after the

shooting and fired about two weeks later.

Guyger and her family have been mostly quiet and out of the public eye since the shooting, save for court dates when Guyger has had to come to the Frank Crowley Courts Building as her case has progressed.

Guyger's aunt wrote in an op-ed published by *The Dallas Morning News* that Guyger and her family are "devastated by what happened."

Botham Jean



Jean was a 26-year-old accountant working at PricewaterhouseCoopers, known as PwC, in downtown Dallas. He lived at the South Side Flats apartments in the Cedars in a unit on the fourth floor directly

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NATIONAL MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS SYSTEM

12 years later, father found buried nearby



Photos by Amersia McCoy/Fort Worth Star-Telegram

John Almandarez (above), the father of Alice Almandarez (right), went missing in Houston in 2002. Her family searched for him for years without answers until learning in 2014 about a national database, based in Fort Worth, for missing and unidentified deceased people.

Daughter uses database to locate missing dad who ended up in cemetery close by

By **NICHOLE MANNA**
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — For 12 years, John Almandarez's unidentified body was buried in a Houston pauper's cemetery under a grave marked "MLO2-2230."

He was a father who shared his love of baseball and the Astros with his five daughters. They didn't see him again after a Father's Day visit in 2002.

His middle child, Alice Al-

mendez, was a teenager at the time and took on the heavy load of trying to find her father. She said police offered little help and the search often felt hopeless, even once leaving her in the morgue shouting for help. It consumed her life for more than a decade.

Unknown to her, the only clue to the biggest mystery of her life was buried inside the Harris County Cemetery, which she drove past nearly every day.



But in 2014, she learned about NamUs — a national clearinghouse and database for missing and unidentified deceased people headquartered in Fort Worth.

Once she discovered the clearinghouse, it took only six months for Almandarez to learn her father drowned in the Buffalo Bayou close to his home and that his body was found on July 2, 2002.

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Presidential candidates use Texas as ATM

A fundraiser in Dallas this month, former Vice President Joe Biden gave Texas Democrats encouragement as he hauled in their campaign dollars to spend in other parts of the country.

"I think you're going to turn Texas blue," he told 130 people in Preston Hollow.

Notice he didn't say, "I think we're going to turn Texas blue."

That same weekend, Democratic presidential contenders Beto O'Rourke and Pete Buttigieg, the South Bend mayor, also had cash grabs in Dallas.

There's a lot of talk about Texas being a political battleground that could reshape the nation's political dynamic. If Texas falls to Democrats, the Republican path to the White House would be blocked.

Democrats haven't won a statewide race in Texas since 1994, but there are cracks in the GOP shield.

After a strong 2018 election cycle, Texas Democrats have a chance to add a few seats in Congress next year and hope

POLITICS



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to seize the state House for the first time since 2003.

But down-ballot races don't elevate Texas to battleground status. A true swing state is a place where the presidential contest is up for grabs.

While Texas Democrats and some Republicans agree that Texas is a battleground, national candidates don't appear to be buying it. Biden, the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination, isn't treating Texas differently than previous presidential candidates.

Even with swing state status on the horizon, Texas' most important role is being an ATM for Republicans and Democrats for campaigns

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SMARTPHONES

The sound of things to come?

SMU research finds new way to snoop: vibration of typing is translatable

By **JORDAN WILKERSON**
Staff Writer

Smartphones are like living things. With their cameras and microphones, they can see and hear. They can detect the amount of ambient lighting, the air pressure and the temperature — among a host of other aspects about the environment they're in.

Six years ago, less than half of Americans owned a smartphone. Four out of five own one now, says the Pew Research Center. There are millions of people walking around every day with a vast array of these sensors in their pockets.

And smartphones can record all of it.

This has created major concern about how easily one's privacy can be invaded by these sensor-rich devices, with particular concern about the environment they're in.

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