

The Washington Post



Advertisement

washingtonpost.com > Metro > Virginia

> THIS STORY: [READ +](#) | [Comments](#)

Advertisement

Virginia Tech Shootings

• [Full Coverage](#)

Judge Agrees to Va. Tech Payout Some Families Remain Unhappy With State, School

By *Anita Kumar*
Washington Post Staff Writer
Wednesday, June 18, 2008

RICHMOND, June 17 -- A Circuit Court judge approved an \$11 million settlement Tuesday for most of the families of victims of last year's Virginia Tech massacre, but some of them remain dissatisfied and angry over the actions of the state and the school.



Douglas Fierberg, an attorney who represented families of the Virginia Tech shooting victims, reads a statement at a news conference in Richmond after a judge approved an \$11 million settlement. With him are some family members. (By Steve Helber -- Associated Press)

THIS STORY

- » Judge Agrees to Va. Tech Payout
- [Special: Virginia Tech Shootings](#)

The settlement, which allows the state to avoid any further legal action, includes \$100,000 and medical expenses for each family, as well as meetings between families and Gov. Timothy M. Kaine (D), state police and Virginia Tech officials to discuss administrative and legislative changes made since the shootings.

Thirty-two people were killed in the attack, and the settlement covers the families of 28 of those victims as well as the families of those who were wounded.

After the judge approved the deal, some families said more needs to be done to determine the roles of the state and university in the April 16, 2007, shootings. The families called for further investigation.

"This has nothing to do with money and everything to do with seeking the truth and complete accountability," said Joe Samaha of Centreville, whose daughter Reema was killed.

TOOLBOX

- [Resize](#)
- [Print](#)
- [E-mail](#)
- [Yahoo! Buzz](#)

COMMENT

63 Comments | [View All >](#)

COMMENTS ARE CLOSED

WHO'S BLOGGING

powered by **sphere**

[» Links to this article](#)

Sponsored Links

[Hot Stock Alert - EHSI](#)
Profit From Healthcare Explosion New Millionaires Created Today
www.EmergingHealthcareSolutionsInc.com

Staples® Weekly Ad

Glue & pens for 1¢, reams for 50¢, & other hot deals on school supplies!
www.staples.com/weeklyad

TOP JOBS

The Washington Post

▪ [Business Jobs](#)

Buy a link here

Seung Hui Cho, a Virginia Tech student from Fairfax County with a history of mental problems, killed two students in a dormitory and then, more than two hours later, killed 25 students and five faculty members in an academic building before taking his own life. Two dozen others were wounded.

An investigation by a panel appointed by Kaine said the university should have shut down the campus and issued clearer warnings after the dormitory shootings. The panel also faulted the state's mental health system for not ensuring that Cho received treatment.

Advertisement

Surprising prediction by Forbes columnist Ken Fisher

If you have a \$500,000 portfolio, you should download the latest report by *Forbes* columnist Ken Fisher. In it he tells you where he thinks the stock market is headed and why. This must-read report includes his latest stock market prediction, plus research and analysis you can use in your portfolio right now.

[Click Here to Download](#)

FISHER INVESTMENTS*

Lawyers for 20 of the families released e-mails Tuesday indicating that Virginia Tech warned employees to remain inside after the shootings began but failed to warn students.

"Lives could have and should have been saved," said Peter Grenier, whose firm took the lead in the negotiations.

Still, the families' decision to agree to a taxpayer-financed settlement largely ends a 14-month process by the state to compensate the families of the worst massacre on a college campus in U.S.

history. Two families did not file claims against the state, and two others are not satisfied with the settlement and could continue negotiations or file lawsuits. Neither the state nor the university admitted liability.

"I'm glad the settlement is going forward," said state Sen. John S. Edwards (D-Roanoke), whose district includes the Blacksburg campus. "It will certainly never replace the loss they suffered."

Kaine (D) was in California Tuesday, and his office referred questions to the attorney general's office. Chief Deputy Attorney General William C. Mims declined to comment on the families' allegations that the state and Virginia Tech have not been truthful.

CONTINUED 1 2 [Next](#) >



More ways to share this Article...

- [Reddit](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [myspace](#)
- [del.icio.us](#)
- [NewsTrust](#)
- [Stumble It!](#)

> THIS STORY: [READ +](#) | [Comments](#)

From Our Partners



- [Applebaum: Five Ways the Iraq War Weakened America](#)
- [Ruth Bader Ginsburg Was the Original Mama Grizzly](#)
- [How To Keep Your Spirits Up When You're Trapped in a Mine](#)
- [Who Was Really the First To Call Journalism "the First Rough Draft of History"?](#)
- [Unemployment Benefits Do Not Create Unemployment](#)
- [Our Insatiable Appetite for TV Shows About Kids at Fat Camp](#)
- [Slate's Book Club Dissects the Finale of the Addictive Hunger Games Trilogy](#)
- [Help! My Son's Ex-Girlfriend Won't Tell Me Why She Dumped Him.](#)

- Computer Jobs
- Construction Jobs
- Education Jobs
- Engineering Jobs
- Healthcare Jobs
- Legal Jobs
- Management Jobs
- Media Jobs
- Non-Profit Jobs
- Sales Jobs
- Science Jobs

Find Your Dream Job Now!

FIND JOBS

Jobs by [SimplyHired](#)

FEATURED ADVERTISER LINKS

- Lawsuit: Cochlear Implants, Seroquel, Accutane, Yaz Gallbladder, TVT Sling, Shoulder Pain Pumps
- Gulf Oil Spill, Class Action, Mesothelioma, Asbestos Cancer, DePuy Hip Recall, Lung Cancer, Avandia
- Check all 3 bureaus with Equifax Complete!
- Russia Now: In-Depth Coverage of Russia News, Business, and More.
- TimeSpace: Navigate articles, photos, video and commentary from around the globe.
- Looking to buy a home? Visit TWP Real Estate section for the latest open houses.
- Make Your Vanguard Investing More Profitable - Free Research Report Reveals 5 Worst Funds for Your 401k

Slate HIGHLIGHTS



How To Keep Spirits Up When Trapped in a Mine

- Justice Ginsburg, the Original Mama Grizzly
- Five Ways the Iraq War Weakened America
- Our Insatiable Appetite for Shows About Fat Ca...

[See All of Slate >](#)

Most Viewed Metro Articles

- [Local Digest](#)
 - [Teen arrested in fight on Green Line](#)
 - [D.C. officer pleads guilty in botched robbery](#)
 - [Mistakes rise for Washington region's air traffic controllers](#)
- » [Top 35 Metro Articles](#)
 » [Most Popular on washingtonpost.com](#)

More from Virginia

Blog: Virginia Politics

Here's a place to help you keep up with Virginia's overcaffeinated political culture.

- [Virginia Notebook](#)
- [About this Blog](#)



Find a Local Blog

Plug into the region's blogs, by location or area of interest.



FOLLOW METRO ON: | GET LOCAL ALERTS: Mobile Email

© 2008 The Washington Post Company

Sponsored Links

[Hot Stock Alert - EHSI](#)

Profit From Healthcare Explosion New Millionaires Created Today

www.EmergingHealthcareSolutionsInc.com

[Staples® Weekly Ad](#)

Glue & pens for 1¢, reams for 50¢, & other hot deals on school supplies!

www.staples.com/weeklyad

[Bank of America® Mortgage](#)

Want To Learn More About Buying A Home? Start With Our Free Guide.

myhome.bankofamerica.com

[Buy a link here](#)

Ways you can get us

- Mobile
- Podcasts
- Newsletter & alerts
- Widgets
- RSS
- Post Store
- Facebook
- Photo Store
- Twitter

Website

- [About Us](#)
- [Work for us](#)
- [Site map](#)
- [Topics Index](#)
- [Search terms](#)
- [Make us your homepage](#)
- [Corrections](#)

Newspaper

- [About The Post](#)
- [Subscribe](#)
- [Home delivery service](#)
- [Topics Index](#)
- [e-Replica](#)
- [PostPoints](#)

Company

- [Post Company web sites](#)
- [Advertise](#)
- [In the newspaper](#)
- [On the web site](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [Contact the Ombudsman](#)

Partners



© 1996-2010 The Washington Post Company | [User Agreement and Privacy Policy](#) | [Rights and Permissions](#)

[Help](#) | [Contact Us](#)