

Tucson suspect

grets arraignment with beaming grin

JARED LEE LOUGHNER

Not-guilty plea entered on attempt to kill Rep. Giffords

BY NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Los Angeles Times

PHOENIX — His hands

and feet shackled, Jared Lee

Loughner on Monday shuf-

fled into the special pro-

ceedings courtroom in the

federal courthouse here to

answer charges that he

tried to assassinate Rep. Ga-

brille Giffords during a

shooting spree that killed

six.

He was beaming.

Loughner, 22, continued

to flash an uncanny, self-

satisfied grin throughout

the otherwise routine, nine-

minute arraignment. He sat

down and leaned back in

his chair, crossing his legs.

He glanced at the domed

room, normally used for

naturalization ceremonies

or other special events, and

his smile got even broader.

His defense attorney, Judy

Clarke, whispered some-

thing to him. Loughner

chortled.

Clarke asked U.S. District

Court Judge Larry Burns to

enter a plea for her client.

Burns recorded Loughner

as pleading not guilty.

Loughner stared straight

ahead and kept smiling.

A grand jury has indicted

Loughner for attempting to

kill Giffords, D-Ariz., and

two of her aides on Jan. 8 at

a Tucson shopping center.

More charges are expected

for the killing of one of Gif-

fords' staffers, Gabe Zim-

merman, and the presiding

judge of the federal court-

house in Tucson, John Roll.

Those charges could make

Loughner eligible for the

death penalty.

Monday's hearing was

Loughner's second court ap-

pearance since the attack.

In a mug shot released dur-

ing his prior appearance, he

sported a shaved head and

deep smile. Some of his hair

has grown back since then.

On Monday he wore glass-



BILL ROBLES / ASSOCIATED PRESS

An artist's rendering shows

Jared Lee Loughner mak-

ing a court appearance

Monday in Phoenix.

es, an orange jumpsuit and

canvas sneakers.

All Arizona judges have

recused themselves from

the case. Legal observers

expect the case to ultimate-

ly pivot on an insanity de-

fense, because numerous

witnesses say they saw

Loughner fire on Giffords.

Loughner left behind a trail

of disjointed writings, and

numerous friends and ac-

quaintances thought he was

mentally unstable.

Burns asked Clarke if her

client's state of mind en-

abled him to understand

the charges and her job rep-

resenting him. "We are not

raising that issue at this

time," said Clarke, a veter-

an defense attorney who

also represented Unabom-

ber Theodore Kazynski

and Eric Rudolph, who

bombed the Atlanta Olym-

pics.

Clarke said she did not

object to a motion by fed-

eral prosecutors to move

later hearings back to Tuc-

son, although legal observ-

ers expect her to eventually

try to move the trial out of

state. Prosecutors said they

have turned over to Clarke

45 discs filled with material

taken from Loughner's com-

puter and 250 interviews

with witnesses.

Then Burns adjourned

the hearing, and U.S. mar-

shals led Loughner back to

his cell.

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1/24/2011