

One dead after protest in Portland

State police will return to help

By GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Oregon State Police will return to Portland to help local authorities after the fatal shooting of a man following clashes between President Donald Trump supporters and counterprotesters that led to an argument between the president and the mayor over who was to blame for the violence. Protesters were back on the streets for a demonstration Sunday night outside a public safety building. Police declared an unlawful assembly and arrested 29 people. Two of those arrested had handguns and others had knives and at least one had an expandable baton, police said.

Many in the group wore helmets, gas masks, goggles and external armor. Police said some carried shields and reflective squares used to reflect police lights back toward officers. Some threw rocks, eggs, and other items at officers and police vehicles.

After Trump called Mayor Ted Wheeler, a Democrat, a “fool” and faulted him for allowing mayhem to proliferate in the liberal city, the visibly angry mayor lashed out during a Sunday news conference, addressing the president in the first person.

“That’s classic Trump. Mr. President, how can you think that a comment like that, if you’re watching this, is in any way helpful? It’s an aggressive stance, it is not collaborative. I certainly reached out, I believe in a collaborative manner, by saying earlier that you need to do your part and I need to do my part and then we both need to be held accountable,” Wheeler said.

“Let’s work together ...



A man is treated after being shot on Saturday in Portland.

Paula Bronstein/AP Photo

‘IF YOU’RE READING ANY FACTS ON
SOCIAL MEDIA — THEY’RE PROBABLY WRONG
BECAUSE WE DON’T HAVE ALL THE FACTS YET.’

Mayor Ted Wheeler

Why don’t we try that for a change?”

Trump on Monday tweeted: “Portland is a mess, and it has been for many years. If this joke of a mayor doesn’t clean it up, we will go in and do it for them!” He did not describe any specifics on how that would happen.

A group of leaders representing various progressive organizations from across Portland on Sunday called for Wheeler and Police Chief Chuck Lovell to resign after Saturday’s fatal shooting.

The testy news conference followed a chaotic 24 hours that began Saturday evening when a caravan of about 600 vehicles packed with Trump supporters drove through Portland and were met with counterprotesters. Skirmishes broke out minutes later after a supporter of the right-wing group Patriot Prayer was fatally shot.

Patriot Prayer founder

Joey Gibson identified the victim as Aaron “Jay” Danielson. He called the victim a “good friend,” but provided no further details. Danielson apparently also went by the name Jay Bishop, according to Patriot Prayer’s Facebook page.

“We love Jay and he had such a huge heart. God bless him and the life he lived,” Gibson said in a Facebook post. Trump retweeted the victim’s name and wrote, “Rest in peace Jay!”

It wasn’t clear if the shooting was related to the clashes, which have become a flashpoint in the national Black Lives Matter protests since George Floyd was killed in May and an increasing centerpiece in Trump’s law-and-order reelection campaign theme.

Police are investigating Michael Forest Reinoehl, 48, in the fatal shooting Saturday night. A family mem-

ber identified him as a man captured in photos and video seen leaving the shooting scene shortly before 9 p.m. Saturday.

He was accused of carrying a loaded gun at an earlier downtown Portland protest. Reinoehl calls himself an anti-fascist and has posted videos and photos of demonstrations he attended since late June, accompanied by the hashtags #blacklivesmatter, #anewnation and #breonnataylor.

Late Sunday, Gov. Kate Brown released details of a plan to address the violence while protecting free speech. She said the district attorney’s office will prosecute serious criminal offenses and the sheriff’s office will work with other agencies to hold people arrested for violent behavior and ensure there is adequate jail space.

Also, Brown said state police will return to Port-

land to help local police, and nearby law enforcement agencies will also be asked to assist.

“We all must come together—elected officials, community leaders, all of us—to stop the cycle of violence,” Brown, a Democrat, said in a statement.

Trump and other speakers at last week’s Republican National Convention evoked a violent, dystopian future if Democrat Joe Biden wins in November and pointed to Portland as a cautionary tale.

Trump is expected to travel Tuesday to Kenosha, Wisconsin, where tensions are still raw after police shot Jacob Blake, a 29-year-old Black man, in the back seven times, leaving him paralyzed.

Trump will be meeting with law enforcement officers and “surveying” the damage in the city, where businesses have been vandalized and some buildings burned during demonstrations, White House spokesman Judd Deere announced.

But Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers, a Democrat, asked Trump to reconsider in a letter Sunday obtained by The Associated Press.

“I, along with other community leaders who have reached out, are concerned about what your presence will mean for Kenosha and our state. I am concerned your presence will only delay our work to overcome division and move forward together,” Evers wrote.

Patriot Prayer is based in Washington state and was founded in 2016. Since early 2017, its supporters have been periodically coming to Portland to hold rallies for

Trump, ratcheting up tensions long before the national outrage over Floyd’s death.

Portland has seen nearly 100 consecutive nights of Black Lives Matter protests and many have ended with vandalism to federal and city property, including the federal courthouse and City Hall. In July, Trump sent more than 100 federal agents from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to safeguard federal property — a move that instead reinvigorated the protests.

Thousands of people clashed with the federal agents each night for two weeks.

Those agents withdrew July 31 but smaller nightly protests have continued in pockets of the city. More than 600 people have been arrested since late May.

On Sunday, Portland authorities urged people to stay away from downtown.

Trump earlier Sunday appeared to be encouraging his supporters to move into Portland in the wake of the shooting. After the shooting, the president shared a video of his supporters driving into Portland and called those in Saturday’s caravan “GREAT PATRIOTS!”

Wheeler begged those who wanted to come to Portland to “seek retribution” to stay away.

“If you’re from out of town and you’re reading something on social media — if you’re reading any facts on social media — they’re probably wrong because we don’t have all the facts yet,” Wheeler said. “This is not the time to get hotheaded because you read something on Twitter that some guy made up in his mother’s basement.”

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