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Violent Protest Turns on PSU

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the renewal of a pledge last week from PSU officials to disarm campus police.

About 100 demonstrators gathered at Director's Park around 9 p.m. Monday and then marched to the PSU campus nearby while chanting Jason Washington, the name of the Portland father, U.S.

postal worker and Navy veteran who was killed by PSU police while attempting to break up a fight outside a campus area bar in 2018.

PSU announced last Tuesday that it would not meet its fall goal of transitioning to unarmed sworn officers on campus because of the retirements of two officers and the resignation of a



Portland Public Safety Chief Willie Halliburton.

third, but still planned on taking the action without setting a new deadline. The killing of Washington had renewed calls to take guns away from campus safety.

Willie Halliburton, PSU's Black public safety chief is committed to the change, saying he wants to de-escalate situations where police fight aggression with aggression, pledging to lead the nation in a new successful model of campus policing without being armed.

Police said two arrests were made during Monday's protest in which windows were broken at the PSU Campus Safety office and university's Cramer Hall and Smith Memorial Student Union.

Two nights earlier, on Hal-

loween, windows were also broken by protesters at several businesses and a bank branch along Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in the Irvington and the Lloyd districts. It happened after about 150 people gathered at nearby Irving Park for a march with a tagline of "Capitalism is Scary," police said.

Under the plans to revamp public safety at PSU, unarmed campus officers will remain certified as police officers as long as they keep their training up to date, but they will no longer respond to any calls on campus that involve weapons. Portland police would respond to those calls instead.

Second Wave of COVID-19 Declared

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on track to open more schools for in-person instruction for our students — and to continue to reopen, and keep open, our businesses, communities, and economies," Brown said. "Oregon is not an island. Without safety precautions in place, we could quickly see our case counts spike as well."

During October, Oregon has reached grim COVID-19 milestones including surpassing 600 deaths and reaching 40,000 confirmed cases.

The health authority reported a new daily average of over 500 new confirmed COVID-19 cases, the state's largest daily total since the start of the pandemic.

Health officials called the number of cases "troubling" and said based on current COVID-19 modeling, if Oregon remains on

the path it is now, the state could reach capacity in its hospitals by mid-December.

Health officials are already urging people to avoid family celebrations and rethink their plans for Thanksgiving.

As cases continued to climb during October, the health authority again expanded face covering requirements to include all private and public workplaces, including classrooms, offices, meeting rooms, work spaces, outdoor markets, street fairs, private career schools and public and private colleges and universities.

"We must continue to work together and follow the simple steps that have kept us safe throughout this pandemic," Brown said. "Washing our hands, wearing face coverings, watching our physical distance, staying home when sick, and avoiding social get-togethers, especially indoors."

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