



Rochester Police Department

Office of the Chief

Michael L. Ciminelli



Media Release

February 7, 2016

547 State Street

At about 2:02 a.m. Rochester Police Department (RPD) officers heard shots fired in the vicinity of State Street and Lyell Avenue. Officers immediately responded and determined that a fight had started inside the Mexican Village, a bar located at 547 State Street. The fight moved outside, and numerous shots were fired. We have currently identified eight persons who were shot during this incident, seven males and one female, ranging in age from 21 to 30. One male victim, 29 years of age, was pronounced dead at the scene. Another male victim, 26 years of age, is in guarded condition at Strong Memorial Hospital. The other persons shot suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

Our preliminary information indicates that this shooting incident stemmed from a dispute that started inside the bar, and at this time we have no reason to believe the general public is in any danger relating to this incident.

RPD immediately commenced an intensive investigation into this crime utilizing every available resource. In excess of forty persons were present and are currently being interviewed. RPD is also processing the crime scene and analyzing various items of physical evidence. A number of other investigative steps are also in progress.

This is a very active investigation and the information we can release is very limited at this time. We will continue to release additional information as soon as we are able to do so. We ask that anyone with information regarding this crime contact us immediately at 911, or at CRIMESTOPPERS at 423-9300.

For more information or media requests please contact the Rochester Police Department
Public Information Officer – Investigator Jacqueline Shuman at 585-370-4575

mediarequest@cityofrochester.gov

Respect – Dedication - Professionalism



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Page 2 of 2

Statement from Mayor Warren:

Yet again, someone in Rochester reached for a gun to resolve a conflict. And yet again, another life is lost, innocent people are injured, families are devastated and our entire city is suffering. Yet again, one senseless act makes us ask: Why?

Why is it that some people can only use violence to cope with a situation? Why is a gun the tool of choice to settle a dispute that certainly cannot be worth the cost of so much suffering?

We know the answers to these questions are buried deep in a myriad of issues we are trying to resolve. But none of those issues – not one – offers an excuse for an action like this. As we strive to make our city better, all of our efforts begin with a love and appreciation for human life and the knowledge that every man, woman and child has a right to reach their full potential. We cannot and will not tolerate this level of depravity and wanton disregard for human life.

My heart aches for the friends and families of the victims, and I ask our entire city to join me as we keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

To the perpetrator or perpetrators of this crime: Make no mistake. The Rochester Police Department and all of our partners in law enforcement will not rest until you are apprehended and brought to justice. You have forfeited your right to walk free in society. Your arrest will make our streets safer -- and you will be arrested. Anyone who tries to hide you or help you escape justice will also be arrested. You will not find a safe harbor in our city. You ended your own life as you know it when you reached for that gun.

Finally, I want to once again offer my deep appreciation for the men and women of the Rochester Police Department for their rapid response to last night's incident, which brought calm to a chaotic crime scene and preserved valuable evidence in those crucial moments. Your dedication to the citizens of Rochester is beyond measure.

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February 9, 2016

547 State Street Update

Homicide Victim:

Ernesto Ayber, 29 of Rochester

Assault Shooting Victims:

Jeffrey Benson, 21 of Rochester (Treated and released)

Jorge Colon, 26 of Rochester (Treated and released)

Jose Lugo, 21 of Rochester (Treated and released)

Elsie Berrios, 25 of Rochester (Treated and released)

Robert Garcia, 30 of Rochester (Admitted-Satisfactory Condition)

Dominic Rosario, 23 of Rochester (Admitted-Satisfactory Condition)

David Rosario, 26 of Rochester (Admitted-Guarded Condition)

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