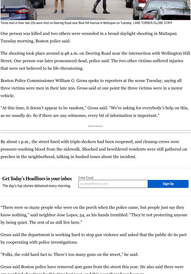
Grandma Attached Outside Store In Roslindale

One dead, two injured in Mattapan shooting

By Jerome Campbell and Emily Sweeney Globe Staff Updated August 28, 2018, 4:55 p.m.



Police were on the scene on Blue Hill Avenue in Mattapan on Tuesday. JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

One person was killed and two others were wounded in a broad-daylight shooting in Mattapan on Tuesday morning, Boston police said.

The shooting took place around 9:48 a.m. on Dorring Road near the intersection with Wellington Hill Street. One person was later pronounced dead, police said. The two other victims suffered injuries that were not believed to be life-threatening.

Boston Police Commissioner William G. Gross spoke to reporters at the scene Tuesday, saying all three victims were men in their late twenties. Gross said at one point the three victims were in a motor vehicle.

"At this time, it doesn't appear to be random," Gross said. "We're asking for everybody's help on this, as we usually do. So if there are any witnesses, every bit of information is important."

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By about 1 p.m., the street lined with triple-deckers had been reopened, and cleanup crews were pressure-washing blood from the sidewalk. Shocked and bewildered residents were still gathered on porches in the neighborhood, talking in hushed tones about the incident.

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"There were so many people who were on the porch when the police came, but people just say they know nothing," said neighbor Jose Lopez, 54, as his hands trembled. "They're not protecting anyone by being quiet. The rest of us still live here."

Gross said the department is working hard to stop gun violence and asked that the public do its part by cooperating with police investigations.

"Folks, the cold hard fact is: There's too many guns on the street," he said.

Gross said Boston police have removed guns from the street this year. He also said there were 131 nonfatal shootings by this time last year, and this year there have been 92.

"We're down go shootings," he said. "But stats are stats. One homicide and one shooting is too many."

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Harold Meyers, who lives across the street from the scene, said he heard at least five shots at the time of the shooting but stayed inside.

"I knew not to move," said Meyers, 67, who was familiar with the sound of gunfire from his childhood in Trinidad. "I waited about six minutes, then looked outside and the police had already arrived."

Meyers said most neighbors keep to themselves, but more vigilance might prevent the shooting.

"People are minding your business will keep you out of trouble, but it seems to have still found us," Meyers said. "If we just looked out for each other more, maybe we could have avoided this."

Gross noted that police recently made an arrest in connection with the homicide that occurred at 34 Charlesmore St. in Dorchester on June 3.

"It does work when people come forward and help us out," he said. "We just hope we can continue that trend, so we can break these senseless acts of violence down."

Gross urged anyone with information about the Dorring Road triple shooting to contact the homicide unit at 617-343-4470 or by sending a text to 1-800-494-TIPS.

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