

## **POLICE INVESTIGATE RACE-LINKED SHOOTING RAMPAGE;**

### **SUSPECT HAS HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS**

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### **Body**

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As **police** continued **investigating** Saturday the man who they say fatally **shot** five people - including three immigrants - in an apparent **rampage** of hate killings, a picture of a reclusive and alienated immigration lawyer began to emerge.

Authorities said Saturday that there may be further clues in a two-page note found in Richard Baumhammers' home. Investigators declined to say what was in the note, which they believe Baumhammers typed.

Baumhammers was arrested Friday after allegedly **shooting** and killing a Jewish woman who lived next door to him; an Indian man at a grocery; two Asian men at a Chinese restaurant; and a black man at a karate school.

Baumhammers was described by his lawyer Saturday as deeply troubled psychologically and under medication. "He clearly has an extensive **history of mental illness**," William Difenderfer said.

The 34-year-old **suspect** is the son of Latvian immigrants.

He was reared in affluence in a Pittsburgh suburb of judges and doctors and business leaders.

Nevertheless, he led an unassuming life, had an unspectacular legal career, and in his well-to-do community was a recluse whom people say they hardly remember.

They know him now as the man **police** say lost control Friday during a 72-minute killing **rampage** across a 20-mile stretch of southwestern Pennsylvania.

In addition to the five people killed, another man of Indian descent was **shot** in the neck and critically injured.

His **rampage** surprised some who knew him who said it once appeared he had a bright future.

After post-college sojourns around the country and abroad, he returned to live with his parents in their tranquil Mount Lebanon neighborhood.

He jetted to places such as Russia and the Balkans. He studied at Cumberland Law School in Birmingham, Ala., spent a semester at University of Heidelberg in Germany and earned a master's degree in transnational business practice from the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, Calif.

After returning home, he quit practicing law. The promising life became one of seclusion and mystery.

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Some neighbors said they didn't even know he was back in town.

"We asked for friends. We got none," said an Allegheny County police homicide detective who requested anonymity. "He was a person who did things alone."

Baumhammers' parents, both prominent dentists, have not commented publicly on Friday's shootings.

This report includes information from the New York Times.

## Graphic

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Photo

Baumhammers

## Classification

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