

Baltimore, Maryland: Mainstream Media Ignores Shooting that Injured 7 People Who Were Waiting in a Line at A Hookah Lounge

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Seven people, including three teenagers, were shot outside a downtown hookah lounge on Sunday morning by two unidentified men. According to investigators, four people in a blue car parked near the lounge walked up on people waiting in line to get in and started firing. A top law enforcement official commented, "The criminals are just brazen. This guy gets out of a car with a rifle, not even a handgun, walks up the street and just opens fire on the line of people." This shooting outside of the iVilla Hookah Lounge was part of a violent weekend that consisted of 10 incidents with 16 victims. There is a massive rise in violence after the 2015 riots. Since that time, police have been increasingly reluctant to confront criminals lest they be accused of police brutality or racism. GEG

Another violent weekend was capped off with seven people getting shot outside of the iVilla Hookah Lounge early Sunday morning.

According to Baltimore City police, officers responded to the 200 block of Park Avenue just after 2 a.m. for the reported shooting.

Now, police and city leaders are once again trying to figure out ways to stop another wave of violence.

Police told 11 News they have good surveillance video concerning the iVilla Hookah Lounge shooting.

They said a group of people pulled up in a car and began firing at people standing in line, one of the shooters using a rifle.

"The criminals are just brazen. This guy gets out of a car with a rifle, not even a handgun, walks up the street and just opens fire on the line of people," Col. Rich Worley, of the Baltimore Police Department, said.

According to investigators, four people in a blue car parked near the lounge, walked up on people waiting in line to get in and started firing.

"There was three males, two of the males shot. One of them was brazen enough to get out of the vehicle with a rifle fired into the crowd with a rifle, the other one had a handgun. There were 19 rounds fired and there was a female with them and another male with them, but did not shoot," Worley said.

The ages of the victims shot ranged from 17 to 22. All the victims are expected to survive.

"The level of violence in the city is unacceptable," Mayor Jack Young said.

Young, once again on the offensive, said the way to make the violence stop is more people coming forward.

"We need to stop the 'No snitching' and start telling what we see so we can curb the violence and crime in the city of Baltimore. It's as simple as that," Young said.

This shooting outside of the iVilla Hookah Lounge was part of a violent weekend that consisted of 10 incidents with 16 victims, three of those were homicides, while 13 were non-fatal.

According to the Baltimore City Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 3 on Twitter, officials are claiming some of the people seen in a video taken in October in O'Donnell Heights showing young people pointing guns at a camera were involved in the shooting.

One tweet reads, "...there was an attempted mass murder that injured 7 people. Some of them have been identified as having appeared in this video. Where is the plan? Where is the urgency? #CityinCrisis"

The FOP would not comment on camera about the comments, and the police department could not confirm or deny the allegations.

City Councilman and public safety chair Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, is disheartened by the latest violence and said more police resources are the key.

"We really need to focus on things like the crime lab, double down on that. We need to double down on the amount the district detective's units we have are actually solving crimes that are affecting our communities," Schleifer said.

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