



Office of the Chief of Police

Alan G. Rodbell

Scottsdale Police Department
8401 E. Indian School Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Phone 480-312-1900

Fax 480-312-1969

Web www.Scottsdalepd.com

July 1, 2020

To: Mayor and City Council
Through: Jim Thompson, City Manager
From: Alan G. Rodbell, Chief of Police
Subject: May 30, 2020 Downtown Scottsdale Debrief

Please find attached a debrief of the incidents that occurred on May 30, 2020 related to the civil unrest in our downtown area. Our intention is to present you with the critical details leading up and shortly following the incidents of this day with a commitment that a more detailed report will follow later. The purpose for the attached debrief is in response to City Council direction for information and specifically the need to address whether or not there was a stand down request and any information pertaining to any stand down order.

Allow me to address the issue of a “Stand Down Order” upfront. There is only one person authorized to give a stand down order on a scene. That is the highest-ranking officer on the scene. I was on the scene on May 30, 2020 and was the highest ranking officer present, and I never gave a stand down order during the entire night/morning of May 30th/31st. In fact, NO stand down order was ever given. As you will see in the attached timeline, on several occasions unit supervisors (Sergeants) and Lieutenants may have given tactical direction to pull back and regroup for both officer and citizen safety reasons. That is not a “stand down”. I certainly support those decisions made in the moment and would not attempt to second guess those tactical decisions.

The Scottsdale PD never gave up the Mall property. In fact, we were present, in full force, until the interior of the Mall was swept clear by our officers and officers from other jurisdictions and the Mall was secure. After that, we still had a contingency on the Mall grounds for the following week as we dealt with intelligence that implied the Mall was still being threatened.

Against overwhelming odds, weapons pointed at Officers numerous times, the police officers, deputies and state troopers who responded, maintained their discipline, their professionalism, protected life and property and quelled a disturbance that could very well have gone on longer, creating more property damage and loss, and ended more tragically. Facing significant threats, the officers never utilized excessive force or overreacted. This is the very definition of courage!

Riots are simply uncontrolled energy masses. If you try to “push” it, it moves somewhere else with the same force. Moving the rioters would have been a huge mistake. To the east, you had the Entertainment

District, where armed citizens sat on rooftops to defend their property. To the south, you had our precious Old Town, with its alley ways and crooked streets to run through and to the North, the Optima property, with its possibly flammable plants and residents. The plan was to contain the rioters to the Mall footprint, as big as it was, confront and control the energy level and allow the energy to dissipate.

We arrested persons committing serious violations on the scene that evening and have followed up with investigations in the aftermath. It was not tactically feasible nor prudent to make arrests beyond what occurred that evening. Our resources were extremely taxed during this event, and reducing our force, was the last thing I was going to do.

All direction and operational decisions were made with the hierarchy of priorities: Life Safety, Incident Stabilization, and Protection of Property in mind. As a result, many attempts by the rioters to push into residential areas were thwarted and events where life threatening confrontations occurred were managed in real time. This approach resulted in virtually no injuries, fires, or catastrophic incidents, and much of the damage was centralized to the area surrounding Fashion Square, and not beyond.

I could not be prouder of the performance of all the responding officers, supervisors, and the leadership in the field.

What follows is an actual timeline of events.

Thank you for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. G. Rodbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Chief Alan G. Rodbell

2020 Civil Unrest

Council Debriefing on May 30, 2020

Introduction

On June 16 2020, the Scottsdale City Council requested a report of the event of May 30-31, 2020 at Scottsdale Fashion Square Mall with a review from the viewpoint of multiple parties involved, including an independent look from the City Manager, and specifically include information on whether or not there was a stand down request and any information pertaining to any stand down order. On June 9th, 2020, following the week of unrest and continued protests, Chief Rodbell had initiated an in-depth after action report authored by Scottsdale Police Command Staff and subject matter experts. This in-depth after action report was directed to produce a candid, accurate, detailed, and public review of the Scottsdale Police Department's response to the events of May 30th and the events that followed. The contents of this briefing will be confined, per the Council directive, to the activities that took place on the night of May 30th in Downtown Scottsdale. The full after action report will follow at a later date with a full scope analysis and review of all events, including May 30th through June 6, 2020.

Methodology

In preparation for this report, Scottsdale Police Command Staff reviewed the following documents to ensure that we had all relevant information for this report:

- Incident Action Plans (ICS Action Plans)
- CAD and Radio transmissions
- Municipal Security Camera Feeds
- Police Reports, Criminal Case Reports, and Damage Reports
- Event Intelligence (Social Media)
- Employee Injury and Equipment Reports
- Fire Reports (See Attached Appendix A)

Background

As of May 26, 2020, the Scottsdale Police Department had 378 fully trained and operational sworn officers (of 400 authorized sworn officers) and 234.06 civilian staff (of 259.06 of authorized civilian staff). On a typical Saturday night, there are roughly 68 officers allocated to work across the city, 26 specifically in District 2 (this includes patrol support personnel).

The Scottsdale Police Department has strong community partnerships with the business community in our city. In our partnership with Scottsdale Fashion Square, they secure off duty officers at the mall who are supervised by a patrol sergeant that allows for a formal liaison with mall leadership and the Police Department. Further, through video technology, we can view the security cameras that are located throughout the mall property in our dispatch center. We have also established collaborative relationships with downtown businesses and those in the Entertainment District. We hold quarterly summits with the bars, nightclubs, and hotels; provide seamless contact methods; and work diligently with them to provide

public safety in these dynamic areas. We attend organized meetings with old town businesses to provide information and utilize the city's list serve to communicate with the merchants.

May 30-31, 2020

National and regional events

Nationwide protests, looting, and rioting began occurring after the in-custody death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, MN on May 25, 2020. Locally, Phoenix saw numerous protests and rioting throughout the week resulting in damage to multiple buildings, as well as multiple Phoenix Police Cars. At the same time, the State of Arizona was under a series of Executive Orders regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic. A recent Executive Order that went into effect allowed the opening of certain businesses after a multiple week quarantine.

Incident and Response Description

Command staff created an operational plan for the anticipated protest and activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The following are the elements included in this Operational Plan:

- Command Structure:
 - On-scene: Chief Rodbell, Assistant Chief Popp, Mobile Field Force/Rapid Response Lieutenants (3), Police Legal Advisor Luis Santaella
 - At the EOC: Assistant Chief Slavin, Commander LeDuc, Commander Nichols, OSB Operational Support Directors Keran and Bokinsky, Assistant Fire Chief Valliere, and Emergency Manager Troy Lutrick
- Incident Objectives
 - Use the best available intelligence to monitor the protest from its origin.
 - Protect innocent citizens from violence and harm.
 - Protect residential property and occupied structures.
 - Protect all Officers, Firefighters, and other response personnel from injury.
 - Protect all real property.
 - Keep the peace and enforce the rule of law.
 - Return involved units to service as soon as practical
- Priorities
 - Life Safety
 - Incident Containment and Stabilization
 - Property Protection
- Intent

Prepare and implement a plan to monitor this event and respond to any contingencies that may occur. Allow for First Amendment activities and provide for the safety and security of the public.

During the event, and later in the timeline, we identify regional partners that responded to emergency request for assistance. They provided an additional 136 sworn officers from the following agencies:

- Arizona Department of Public Safety (10 troopers)
- Chandler Police Department (53 officers)
- Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (21 deputies)
- Mesa Police Department (40 officers)

- Tempe Police Department (12 officers)

The possibility of National Guard response was considered. However, not knowing their response time, training, policies, and tactics it was determined that the better course for action was to rely on sworn law enforcement officers from neighboring jurisdictions. These are departments that carry similar equipment, have similar policies, engage in similar training together in the past, and can responded immediately to an emergency request.

The National Guard was an excellent partner over the course of the following week as we had to provide additional security to multiple potential targets across the City.

Scottsdale Fashion Square Layout

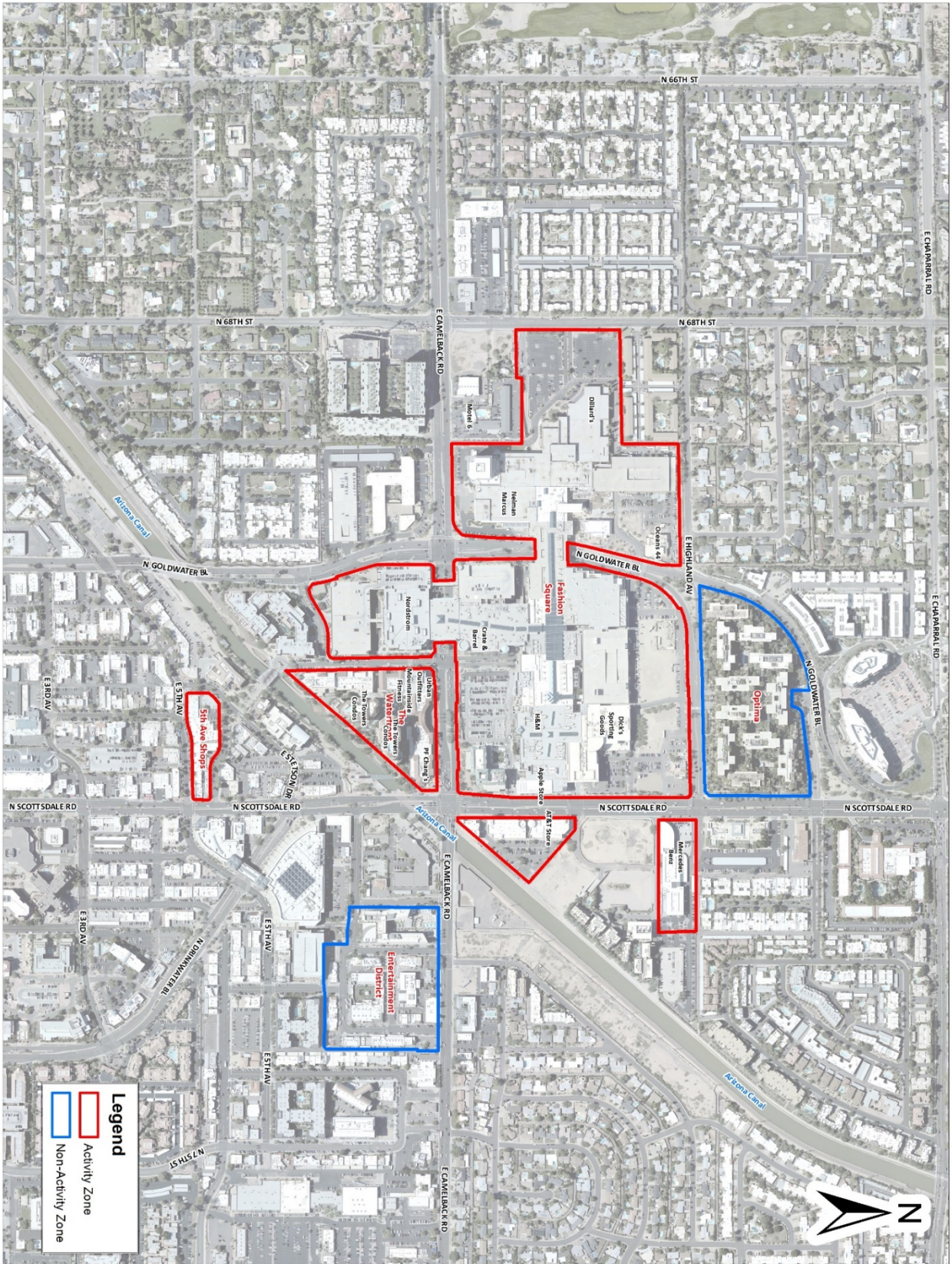
Macerich's owned and operated Fashion Square Mall is a 2.8 million square foot Multi-Level retail center consisting more than 225 retail tenants and restaurants. Hailed as a flagship property, among the largest in the nation, there are 7 distinct concrete constructed parking structures surrounding the center. Each of the parking structures contain interior multi-level accessible doors into the mall, with surface or subterranean driveway entries that are not secured by roll down gates. The center has 20 street level driveway entrances and more than 110 potential entry doors into or out of the mall. Security features include a small compliment of contract unarmed guard security staff and surveillance cameras.

Scottsdale Police Timeline of Events

This map on the following page illustrates the degree, scope and magnitude of the events that took place in Downtown Scottsdale on the night of Saturday May 30, 2020. The locations that are mentioned throughout the following timeline are all represented for context.

Map of Downtown Scottsdale

May 30-31, 2020 Civil Unrest Areas



Friday, May 29, 2020

2230 hours, downtown patrol and Special Operations Division staff were briefed in reference to the entertainment district in relation to approaching the Center of Disease Control recommendations and the latest Governor's Executive Order regarding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, specific to the liquor establishments. During this briefing, given the local and national events, civil unrest possibilities were discussed. As a result, the Downtown District increased staffing with Mounted, HEAT, the Bike Unit, and an extra Lieutenant.

Saturday, May 30, 2020

0704 Hours Commander LeDuc sent an email to the Day Shift Lieutenant requesting that he meet with Scottsdale Fashion Square Mall (SFSM) to go over security plans in the event of civil unrest. There had not been any intelligence received regarding SFSM being a target; however, this effort had been made as a result of increased violence and looting occurring throughout the nation during the latter part of the week. The email stated, *"Be sure you have a plan in the event you have to respond to SFSM due to civil unrest. Can you touch base with their security today to discuss cooperation, staging, and our response. They should have a solid plan and we should be sharing intelligence. Keep [PD SFSM Off Duty Sergeant] in the conversation as he manages the off duty. Finally, make sure your sergeants are prepared and are discussing the plan in their briefings. I'll call you later today to discuss details. Thanks!"*

1100 Hours As a result of that direction, patrol supervisors met with SFSM leadership. Early in the afternoon, Commander LeDuc contacted SFSM management via the telephone and discussed the idea of meeting early in the week to go over security protocols and plans in the event of any type of civil unrest occurring inside the mall during business hours.

During the Patrol Lieutenant's meeting with SFSM personnel, they discussed staging locations, lock down procedures, evacuations, utilizing the mall PA system, their version of "Reverse 911" to communicate with vendors, security camera systems, radio communications, and minimizing products on the display stores in high end stores. During this meeting, SFSM Management shared nonspecific internet chatter from one user they had found in which the user suggested the rioting and looting should move to Scottsdale from Phoenix, since Scottsdale had more high-end stores. The chatter mentioned SFSM but did not specify a day, date, or time and was just a general suggestion. A Patrol Lieutenant sent this information to the Intelligence Unit around noon, who, after looking into it, responded there was no set plan, and nothing had been organized related to such action. Plans were made to reconnect with the mall on Monday.

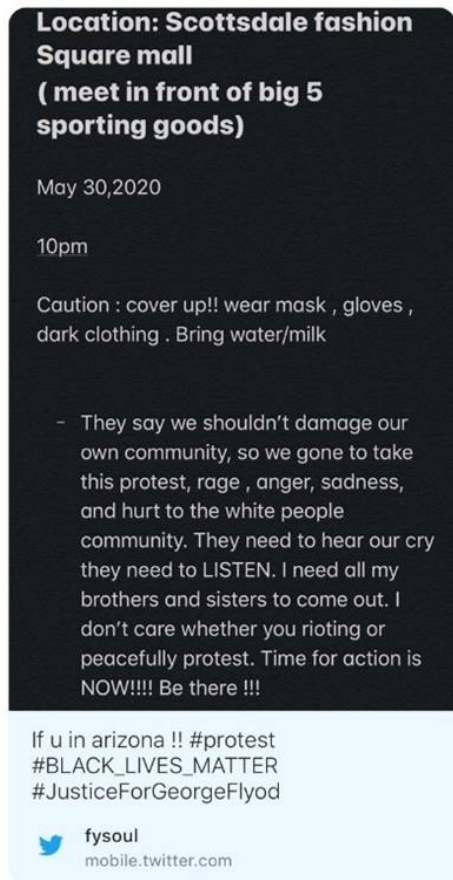
Beginning of event

1500 Hours A Patrol Lieutenant contacted Commander LeDuc and advised him that intelligence had been received about a planned protest to occur at SFSM at 2200 hours. The intelligence stated that someone had posted the plan and requested everyone meet at the "Big 5 Sporting Goods" store. The nearest Big 5 is located at Osborn and Hayden Road. This information was being vetted by the Intelligence Unit to determine its validity.

1507 Hours Commander LeDuc notified Assistant Chief Popp of the intelligence and began calling for additional internal resources.

1519 hours Commander LeDuc sent the social media post to Commander Ciolli and Criminal Intelligence Sergeant.

Illustration A: Initial Social Media Post



Over the next hour the intelligence was analyzed by the Criminal Intelligence Unit. At one point the location was corrected to Dicks Sporting Goods on the East side of the mall as a meeting place. A Patrol Lieutenant communicated with SFSM regarding the intelligence and efforts began to close the mall early. As a result of these communications Apple, Luis Vuitton, and Gucci decided to secure some or all property from the sales floor. Additionally, SFSM made the decision to close at 1700 Hours for the day.

Assistant Chief Popp and Commander Leduc began to plan the operation based on the meeting with mall personnel and their decision to close early in preparation for the 2200 Hour (10 PM) protest. The Operational Plan included identifying and securing additional personnel and resources to focus on the SFSM protest. The following reflects the resources that were activated in anticipation of the call for a riot or protest (tweet) on May 30th at Scottsdale Fashion Square Mall:

The total number of **preplanned personnel dedicated to the SFSM mission was approximately 113**. This included **84 sworn police officers, 3 fire personnel, 1 legal advisor and 25 civilian employees**.

- HEAT Unit (6 Officers)
- Canine Unit (6 Officers)
- Mounted Unit (3 Officers)
- Bike Units (8 Officers)
- Repeat Offender Unit (8 Officers)

- The Special Assignment Unit and Technical Operations (14 Officers + 1 Medic)
- Criminal Intelligence Unit (3 Officers)
- Traffic Enforcement Section (13 Officers)
- District 2 Crime Prevention Officer – Grenadier
- 3 Additional Lieutenants – Mobile Field Force Lieutenants (2), Rapid Response Lieutenants (1)
- 2 Commanders – LeDuc and Nichols
- Fire Command (2 Fire Employees)
- Dedicated 2 Relief-1 Squads (14 Officers)
- Detention Unit – 2 Vans (5 Detention Staff)
- 2 Assistant Chiefs – Slavin and Popp
- 1 Crime Prevention Officer
- 2 Police Aides
- 1 Legal Advisor
- Communications (9 Employees)
- Technology Services Division for EOC stand up (5 Employees)
- Logistics (2 Employees)
- Municipal Security (2 Employees)

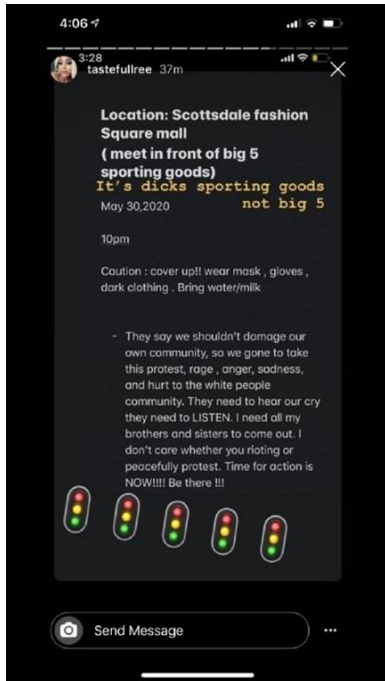
Remaining patrol staffing for the City to respond to calls for service: 1 Patrol Lieutenant, 2 Relief-3 Squads, 2 Relief-1 Squads and 4 D Squads to

- 2 Relief-3 Squads (16 officers, 2 sergeants, 2 police aides)
- 2 Relief-1 Squads (12 officers, 2 sergeants)
- 4 D Squads (21 officers, 4 sergeants, 4 police aides)

1600 Hours Assistant Chief Rich Slavin was briefed on the known intelligence by Assistant Chief Popp and Commander LeDuc. Plans to open the Emergency Operations Center and conduct an initial meeting at 1830 hours were discussed and began moving forward, with a briefing to the above listed employees at 2000 hours.

1707 Hours Commander LeDuc received information about an updated social media post where the location was corrected from Big 5 Sporting Goods to Dicks Sporting Goods at SFSM. This information was being reviewed through the Department’s intelligence staff. Intelligence was still being vetted as to the possible number of protestors and the posting was being tracked. Further, resources were being gathered and information was being shared leading up to the meeting/briefing.

Illustration B: Updated Social Media Post



1800 Hours the EOC was activated and as part of the activation process for technology start up, there were technical failures which did not allow staff to receive usable video feed.

1830 Hours Assistant Chief Slavin, Commander LeDuc, Commander Nichols, the Mobile Field Force Lieutenant, and the Rapid Response Lieutenant met at the District Two Station to draft the Operations Plan.

1833 Hours Police Intelligence staff advised that they expected **45 - 55 participants** to attend based on their intelligence estimate and review of social media. While drafting the Operations Plan, the following factors were considered:

- Protection of citizens
- Officer safety
- Defend property that may be attacked
- Less than lethal force to be used on active aggression
- Not using less than lethal efforts for passive/defensive resistance
- Use of chemical munitions to defend property
- Announce dispersal order if group became violent/damaged property
- Traffic restrictions
- Trespass order
- Contacting other agencies as a contingency (DPS is primary)
- Established grenadiers for chemical munition deployment
- Scottsdale Fire Department Deployment plan (response to hot zone)
- Crowd movement plan
- Defending neighborhoods
- Contacted Scottsdale Police Department 911 Communications in anticipation of need for other agencies, working radio channel (G4 for interagency ability)
- Advised Honor Health

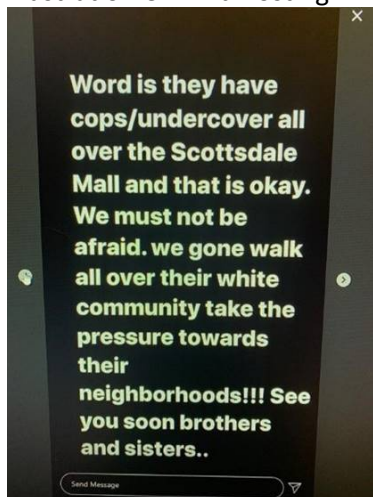
2000 Hours Formal briefing with supervisors to include fire command. This occurred in the District 2 Briefing Room and was conducted by Commander LeDuc and the Mobile Field Force Lieutenant (operations). During this briefing, the supervisors were notified of the plan. The Criminal Intelligence Unit and Repeat Offender Unit had already taken up positions at the mall, and at the conclusion of the briefing all other personnel were told to be on scene.

2100 – 2130 Hours All police response teams were on scene (teams referenced on pages 6-7).

2100 Hours Assistant Chiefs Popp and Slavin, Commanders LeDuc and Nichols, OSB Operational Support Directors Keran and Bokinsky, Assistant Fire Chief Valliere, and Emergency Manager Troy Lutrick reported to the EOC.

2123 Hours A social media post was shared with Command regarding the large presence of Officers deployed at the mall. It read, *“Word is they have cops/undercover all over the Scottsdale Mall and that is okay. We must not be afraid. we gone walk all over their white community take the pressure towards their neighborhoods!!! See you soon brothers and sisters..”*

Illustration C: Third Posting – Deployment of Police



2125 Hours Report that 3 - 4 subjects were walking the perimeter of the mall taking pictures of the doors and were walking westbound.

2130 Hours Security camera video for Fashion Square Mall was experiencing an outage and as a result of not being able to fully evaluate the premises of the mall via technology a decision was made for Command to forward deploy to SFSM.

2138 hours People began to congregate near or on the mall property. These locations included north of Camelback by the Yard House and H&M. A contingent of Bike Unit Officers were deployed to contact and trespass them. At this time, all subjects who were contacted were respectful to the officers.

2142 hours A group of approximately 24 subjects with face shields/coverings were south of Highland, walking south on Scottsdale Road. They stopped on the sidewalk off of mall property. This group had grown to approximately 35 subjects by **2146 hours**. This group was contacted by officers and asked to

relocate off of mall property to avoid any trespassing issues. The subjects were respectful, and they immediately obeyed the requests of the officers.

2148 Hours Protesters arrived and were staging near Motel 6. This group arrived in 6 - 7 vehicles and began donning masks. Resources were being deployed to respond to groups and give trespass orders as they arrived. Due to subjects arriving in numerous locations simultaneously, assigned teams of officers were separated while attempting to interdict people while they were illegally gathering on the mall property.

2150 Hours Subjects were seen walking east on Camelback wearing masks and gloves. A Sergeant asked for barricades or cones, which were said to be on the way at **2153 hours**.

2155 Hours A group of subjects were congregating in a lot east of SFSM.

2157 Hours It was announced the Mounted Unit would be staging in the northeast corner of SFSM property.

2159 Hours More subjects were seen donning masks south of the south entrance of SFSM and approximately 20 subjects were seen running west bound into the service garage on SFSM property. The Mobile Field Force Lieutenant requested the deployment of pre-defined resources (Relief-1 Squad South). Concurrently, the crowd at Dick's Sporting goods had grown to approximately 80, were noncompliant and verbally aggressive.

2200 Hours Assistant Chief Popp, who was at the EOC, made a call to the Department of Public Safety requesting assistance, and the request was denied due to demands on DPS at the State Capitol and Interstate 10 and 7th Ave. from being overtaken by rioters.

2201 hours Large groups of individuals began arriving from all directions on mall property.

2203:58 Hours Comments on the radio stated *"Need officers over here, crowd getting erratic"* at the East Side of the mall, Dick's parking lot.

2204:15 Hours the Mobile Field Force Lieutenant requested the deployment of pre-defined resources. (Relief-1 Squad North). The crowd at Dick's was becoming extremely aggressive. They were donning masks and armed with improvised weapons such as baseball bats, crow bars and other blunt instruments.

2204:24 Hours crowd begins advancing on to mall property and announcements are made declaring an unlawful assembly. Rioters begin to spit on officers, were belligerent, and defiant to police commands. Officers were extremely outnumbered.

2213 Hours A Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) request was made *"SPD to any surrounding East Valley agencies that can assist with either personnel or mobile field force reference our Fashion Square Mall..."*

2215 Hours MCSO responded to the PSAP request and agreed to send 10 Deputies and 2 Lieutenants.

2215 Hours Vehicles were seen around the perimeter of the mall, slowing down, and allowing people to be dropped off. This continued to occur throughout the night which allowed the amount of people to surge in a short period of time. Large numbers of rioters were massing on all four sides of the mall. They

were constantly using strategic tactics to avoid contact with law enforcement and to attack targets of opportunity.

2217 Hours Mesa Police responded to the PSAP request with their air unit.

2218 Hours DPS advised they were calling in State Troopers to assist with an unknown arrival time.

2218 Hours SPD officers observe rioters carrying rifles. The rifle and shotgun carriers used the tactic of concealing themselves in the large crowd upon any police attempt to approach them. They also “leveled” their weapons at officers’ multiple times from within the center of the crowd.

2218:42 Hours Call for service received stating “*Shake Shack door broken, rioters flooding in*”.

2221 Hours SPD Officer reports additional rioter with shotgun.

2223 Hours Rioters begin to detonate fireworks, shooting bottle rockets at officers.

2224 Hours Rioters surge on traffic positions and SPD Officer states “*Camelback and Scottsdale, vacate because of southwest corner large crowd; taking whole intersection*”. This continued to occur throughout the night which effectively interfered with our ability to close roads and created numerous issues. It prevented the Mobile Field Force Lieutenant from deploying chemical munitions where needed out of concern for rioters retreating into traffic and concern for innocent motorists being affected and losing control of their vehicles. These coordinated and sophisticated tactics prevented the police from effectively closing the intersection. This afforded rioters the ability to advance on the mall and allowed their own support vehicles to enter the area of operation.

2225 Hours Mobile Field Force Lieutenant made a request that everyone (except SPD Officers responding to armed rioters) to return to Dick’s Sporting Goods. Officers were scattered while dealing with crowds on all sides of the mall. Rioter numbers in each of those locations had grown to a level that made these small deployment officer teams ineffective and jeopardized officer safety. The order to regroup was made to increase safety for all and to increase officer ability to interdict the rioters.

2225 Hours Public Information Office tweets about property damage at SFSM and to avoid the area.

2226 Hours Rioters began attempts to make entry to the Apple Store but were not successful at this time.

2227 Hours It was decided to not deploy chemical munitions because there were too many unrelated bystanders and normal traffic that would be impacted along Scottsdale Rd, creating an unsafe environment for motorists and pedestrians.

2229 Hours H&M breached by rioters, at the other side of the mall, the Apple Store was also breached by rioters. By this time, numerous orders to disperse had been given.

2230 Hours SPD evacuated SFSM security from the property. Thomas Title (corner building of Northwest corner of Scottsdale and Camelback) was breached.

2231 Hours rocks were being thrown at SPD Officers.

2234 Hours SPD Officer reports that rioters are damaging police vehicles.

2235 Hours Mesa Police Air unit is on scene.

2236 Hours SPD Officer reports that militia and 150 rioters are engaging off mall property on 5th Avenue and resources are reallocated to engage in standoff with weapons. The 150 rioters began to chant "Shoot Them, Shoot Them". SWAT arrived on scene and the rioters ran away.

2240 Hours rioters breach Nieman Marcus, 150 people enter through the store.

2245 Hours rioters breach Mountainside Fitness.

2247 Hours rioters breach Urban Outfitters.

2248 Hours rioters break windows along Goldwater Ave.

2250 Hours rioters breach P.F. Changs.

2252 Hours Public Information Office shares tweet declaring an *"unlawful assembly, anyone who refuses to disperse risks arrest"*.

2252 Hours 5 Officers arrive from Tempe Police Department at staging.

2253 Hours rioters breaking into businesses along the south side of Camelback

2254 Hours rioters breach AT&T and Riverton Piano on East side of Scottsdale Rd.

2257 Hours advised there are patrons at Oceans 44 and unable to leave safely.

2258 Hours 3 Scottsdale Officers and 5 Tempe Officers are sent to rescue citizens from Oceans 44.

2258 Hours SPD officers report rioters attempting to breach at Mercedes dealership.

2259 Hours SPD officer responds *"We are pushing back towards Mercedes Dealership"*

2302 Hours Air unit reports of large group in Apple Store and at Mercedes Dealership.

2303 Hours SPD sergeant makes request to deploy chemical munitions.

2304 Hours SPD officer's deployment of chemical munitions by the Apple Store.

2305 Hours officers arrive at Oceans 44 for rescue.

2305 Hours rioter was seen by officers to be hit by vehicle; Fire was enroute but cancelled because rioter left on foot. (No report was made by anyone claiming to be struck by a vehicle during or after the event.)

2311 Hours Emergency call for assistance by a SPD officer (907) reporting they were being hit by rocks from rioters.

2311 Hours call received reporting rioters are breaching the Mercedes dealership.

2312 Hours chemical munitions are deployed in response to rocks being thrown in front of Apple Store.

2313 Hours SPD officers report hearing gunfire inside SFSM.

2314 Hours reports of vehicles driving around barricades into unsecured parking garages of SFSM.

2318 Hours DPS troopers deployed from staging to eastside of SFSM.

2327 Hours SPD officer reports of rioter in Optima garage with a gun.

2329 Hours SPD officer reports 25 cars driving into the unsecured mall parking garage off of Highland.

2325 Hours Air unit reports that groups are dispersing at 5th Ave.

2332 Hours armed militia is staging in South Garage, dressed in full fatigues and body armor.

2333 Hours rioters enter Shake Shack through previously breached doors.

2336 Hours caller states there is going to be a shootout at 5th Ave. and Craftsman Ct.

2340 Hours MCSO deputies arrive on scene. The Mobile Field Force split around this time and marched from the Dick's lot in both directions around the mall pushing rioters West and securing breach points and territory along the way.

2356 Hours SPD officers report hearing additional gunfire inside SFSM.

Sunday May 31, 2020

0021 Hours SPD officer reports that a woman was being attacked at Mercedes dealership.

0023 Hours assault was resolved but additional resources requested at Mercedes dealership to address the crowd.

0028 Hours report of a stabbing in the Neiman Marcus garage (**determined to be a false report**).

0034 Hours SPD SAU arrive on scene at Mercedes dealership from 5th Ave deployment.

0036 Hours Chandler Police SWAT arrive.

0045 Hours Mercedes employees leave the Mercedes dealership.

0047 Hours Group of rioters at Goldwater and Camelback were observed lighting something.

0048 Hours Officers report clearing the second level exterior of Neiman Marcus; Another SPD Officer reports 10 subjects with ballistic vests; Another SPD officer reports 10 militia and rioters were surrounding their location.

0049 Hours Mesa reports a large crowd gathering on the eastside of Scottsdale Road and people inside the piano store, while a crowd was heading south

0050 Hours reports of employees inside the piano store; SPD officer request help getting rioters away from the businesses along Scottsdale Road and that a large crowd was heading back towards Camelback.

0051 Hours Mesa SWAT team was preparing to stage on eastside of mall.

0052 Hours Mesa SWAT requested to assist with vehicle protection for DPS.

0052 Hours SPD officer requests Field Force assistance and permission to push the crowd off the corner of Camelback and Scottsdale Rd. Command granted permission and Mesa SWAT assisted.

0055 Hours DPS officers and Chandler SWAT report to staging.

0057 Hours Report that a large group is reconvening and looks like they are going back towards the mall.

0101 Hours Large group reported inside Neiman Marcus.

0102 Hours Fire reports group moving towards Camelback.

0104 Hours Crowd at Motel 6 is dispersed, with 10 people observed heading in different directions.

0106 Hours SPD officer sees white pickup truck with laser and multiple 5-gallon gasoline cans.

0108 Hours Officers request units to Camelback and Scottsdale Rd as they are being hit by rocks.

0108 Hours Chandler SWAT team arrives at Dick's Sporting Goods.

0111 Hours Request made for teams to the West side of SFSM; Officers state they are just east of Neiman Marcus and ask if they should hold their location, response is to go west as the rioters are pushing that direction

0115 Hours Request made for teams at the mall, sergeant sends a team north and the bike unit west.

0116 Hours Mesa Command officers are directed to handle clearing Comerica

0118 Hours Mesa reports they are having more officers arriving within a few minutes, SPD asks for them to arrive to the Apple Store.

0019 Hours SPD Officer reports Urban Outfitters is being confronted.

0120 Hours Officers report that rioters are at Camelback and Scottsdale Rd. trying to bait officers

0121 Hours SPD Officer requests resources to make their way to the west side of Dillard's

0122 Hours SPD supervisor requests a van to stage at the Apple store; Mesa officers report Comerica is cleared but there is one employee on site; MCSO deputies report watching a car move into the plot next to them

0123 Hours Mesa officers report businesses along Camelback are being looted; Officers state they have arrived at the west side of Dillard's.

0124 Hours Chandler SWAT, Tempe officers and Mesa Mobile Field Force begins clearing the Apple store.

0125 Hours DPS reports they are with 2 transport vehicles by Dick's Sporting Goods; report of an arrest made and need for detention vehicle by Apple Store; report from Mesa air unit that there are 50-60 people on the northeast corner of Camelback and Scottsdale Rd. with signs.

0127 Hours SPD supervisor reports an arrest was made and requests a detention vehicle.

0131 Hours Chandler officers arriving to the Apple store.

0133 Hours Another Mesa Field Force Unit is arriving.

0135 Hours Report that the crowd from PF Changs is by Tempur-Pedic and fighting.

0136 Hours SPD Officer reports fight at Urban Outfitters.

0140 Hours Report of vehicle almost hitting pedestrians and turning on southbound on Fashion Square

0141:04 Hours Mesa Police Officers report being hit by rocks from rioters.

0141:14 Hours Mesa Police requests chemical munitions, however, there are no chemical munitions to deploy to this area as we had depleted our supply by this time.

0141:24 Hours Report that 30 people are entering at the unsecured parking garage (red entrance) and requesting resources to respond.

0144 Hours DPS attempts to stop Honda driving through mall property

0148 Hours Reports rioters going back towards Neiman Marcus; report of 6 rioters near the bank.

0149 Hours Report that group of rioters by Yogurtland is regrouping; bank group is fleeing; report of one detained.

0150 Hours request made for detention transport on the north east corner of Motel 6

0150 Hours request for additional detention transport on Northside.

0154 Hours reports of looters by Tempur-Pedic.

0155 Hours DPS Field Force Arrived.

0200 Hours DPS gives dispersal order at the intersection of Highland and Scottsdale Rd in attempt to remove people from the roadway.

0203 Hours report that Highland group has dispersed.

0206 Hours report of Alarm and SWAT is clearing

0208 Hours report of 9 mm shell casing inside building

0211 Hours report that it is calming down on Scottsdale Rd; 20 people on southeast corner.

0213 Hours Command issues order to hold all positions and states will do a roll call when everything is clear.

0214 Hours Mesa Police reports shots fired to the west of Highland, 3-4 shots.

0215 Hours Chandler Police SWAT and Mesa Police K9 begin clearing SFSM. This was ordered after all mall breach points were secured by adequate resources.

By 0230, an additional 136 officers arrived on scene from outside agencies.

0234 Hours Chandler reports that north side is clear, beginning to clear Macy's and Neiman Marcus.

0235 Hours Officers clearing Dillard's.

0237 Hours Officers clearing Mountainside Fitness and Urban Outfitters.

0239-0246 Hours report of people on east side of mall running towards the food court; on Goldwater; could not locate in parking garage.

0250 Hours report of man in ballcap with a gun at Scottsdale and Camelback.

0251:32 Hours Mesa Police take armed subject into custody.

0300 Hours report of officers pushing south from Nordstrom to food court.

0322 Hours Report that Dillard's is clear

0353 Hours SFSM clearing declared temporarily complete. After SFSM was cleared the mobile field force teams were dispatched to clear and secure all effected businesses in the area. SPD Dispatch contacted the responsible parties for each business.

0513 Hours adjacent buildings declared clear, including the Mercedes dealership. It was at this time that command resources began to organize a handover of the scene to investigations and to day shift for security. Multiple face to face and phone meetings occurred between PD and Mall officials and a recovery plan was set in motion.

0530 Hours SPD Investigations take over crime scenes.

Observations

Tactics used by rioters:

During the evening of the Fashion Square Riot we experienced numerous atypical tactics being used by the rioters. The tactics employed by a large segment of the overall group were obviously planned, well-coordinated, strategic, and considered law enforcement rules of engagement and policy. The dedicated, aggressive groups took advantage of the large crowds as protection from arrest teams. These tactics have been used nationwide and exploit every limitation of police response. The following dynamics and actions challenged our methods and countermeasures:

- The group would not gather to confront larger contingents of officers, but instead would scatter in all directions, regroup, and then attempt to flank to assault officers with rocks or other objects. As the line would move to address the threat, the group would scatter again. This movement made diminished effective delivery of impact munitions. It also defeated any use of a traditional skirmish line.
- The rioters arrived in an organized and timed fashion that simultaneously attacked multiple points of a large geographical area. Their numbers grew rapidly and gathered in multiple locations. This overwhelmed our officers' capacity to interrupt their arrival and their collective aggression while staying in safe numbers. Additionally, the rioters immediately began to riot upon entry onto mall property and the surrounding area to draw resources to them and thin out our ranks. They systematically attacked numerous breach points on all sides of the mall.
- When the rioters anticipated police use of force was eminent, they would meld into the crowd, take a knee, put a fist in the air and yell, "I can't breathe," thus deterring any use of force. This tactic was also strategically applied when media was present.
- Mass arrest plans were not prudent as they would render a large number of our officers unable to respond to priority and emergency situations.
- Numerous rioters possessed open-carry rifles and/or shotguns. While using the crowd for cover, rioters would point their weapons in the direction of officers, throw rocks and frozen water bottles, and shoot fireworks at officers. This eliminated our ability to use impact munitions on those committing aggravated assaults against officers. Again, the crowd served as a means for rioters to disappear and blend in to avoid arrest.
- Subterfuge was used by the rioters. The initial arrival began well before the preset start time of the event. As a result, pre-staged officers contacted numerous subjects gathering on mall property and advised them of the trespass restrictions. The dozens contacted responded with respect and deference moving to public property immediately. Once their numbers grew larger than officer ranks, the group donned masks and displayed improvised weapons such as bats, crowbars, and bricks. They marched belligerently yelling, swearing, casting slurs, and spat on officers. Attempts to effectively confront them resulted in them scattering as described earlier.
- Some rioters were using two-way radios to communicate and coordinating surges with whistles.
- The use of laser pointers was also reported by officers. They were used intermittently to effect officers' ability to see.

- The participant routinely assaulted traffic officer positions who were trying to close roadways. This had the simultaneous effect of restricting police use of force options due to crowded roadways, as well as leaving them avenues of personnel and supply delivery.

Technology

On the evening of May 30th, the mall security dispatch center was experiencing technical difficulties with camera feeds. While the onsite security staff was able to view their own footage, linking those feeds into the SPD Communications Center was not possible. Although every effort was made to get the interior camera feeds up and running, they did not become available in the Comms center or EOC until long after the rioting had begun. This problem has since been addressed and corrected by mall management.

Intelligence

The events of May 30th introduced a new intelligence paradigm. Previously the size of a large gathering could be reasonably estimated by the controlled posting of the event on social mediums. During this event, the counter electronic surveillance tactic of copying and posting original screen shots made it impossible to accurately track the true number of persons planning on attending the event, in this case the preplanned riot of Fashion Square. Most of these posts were posted on individual stories where one must be a follower/friend of the poster to view the post. Furthermore, stories are deleted within 24 hours, where normal demonstration gathering tactics would advocate creating an event page or being promoted by an organized group page for the purpose of trying to garner the most publicity and attendance for the event possible.

The aims of this new tactic were clearly meant to conceal information from the authorities. In this tactic, the original post was made a screen shot was taken and then sent out by group leaders to their groups. The posts then appear to be totally independent and must be discovered on an individual basis. It is also important to mention that while we can perform keyword searches, these search functions do not work when dealing with images. This limited our ability to predict the attendance exponentially. This intelligence “blind spot” has been experienced by jurisdictions throughout the nation during these most recent events.

Follow up

Investigations

The investigation into the civil unrest event at Scottsdale Fashion Square Mall and surrounding area around the Scottsdale Waterfront began Sunday morning May 31st at approximately 7:00 am. Detectives from Property and Persons crimes bureaus were utilized to complete an initial canvas of the area to determine a preliminary understanding of the complexity of the investigation, collaborate with Scottsdale Fashion Square Mall management to establish points of contact, collect physical evidence from the interior of the mall, parking garages, and surrounding businesses. Physical evidence included but not limited to spent ammunition casings, blood evidence, personal property abandoned by rioters of the civil unrest, and video for various sources. The investigative units also recovered thousands of dollars’ worth of store merchandise located throughout the mall property. Mall staff took custody of the merchandise and later returned the items to the appropriate stores. Lastly, the investigative units assisted with the in-custody packets for those offenders arrested by officers/detectives during the civil unrest incident and began organizing tips that were being received from citizens and stores. Twelve offenders were arrested during the civil unrest incident.

Since initial investigation on Sunday May 31st, Property Crimes has taken the lead for the civil unrest investigations with significant contributions from all units in the Investigative Services Division. To date, 40 investigative arrests have been made with over \$214,000 in stolen merchandise recovered through the use of warrants, subpoenas, social media tips, and other investigative techniques for misdemeanor charges of trespass and unlawful assembly to felony charges of rioting, trafficking stolen property, burglary, and weapon violations. Substantial collaboration with the FBI, U.S. Attorneys' Office, Maricopa County Attorney's Office, and City of Scottsdale Prosecutor's Office has resulted in successful charging of the arrested offenders from several investigations. The crime analysis unit is tracking and analyzing all investigations, arrests, and tips from the civil unrest incident and is producing a daily report detailing the progress of the investigations. There are several related on-going investigations that are anticipated to lead to additional apprehensions. Scottsdale detectives and the FBI continue to conduct video analysis recovering additional evidence and conduct on-going canvases of Scottsdale Fashion Square Mand the surrounding area to obtain additional evidence from the stores. It is anticipated the civil unrest investigation will continue for several more months.

Business and community outreach

In our commitment to community, the day after the incident we had extensive outreach to the business community, local merchants, and city leadership. To provide the most current information to the public, the Mayor and Chief of Police participated in a press conference on Sunday May 31st at Police Headquarters. Frequent conversation has continued with not only the impacted business owners but others in the community. In the days following, updates were provided to the public by the Public Information Office, the City Office of Communication, and the Mayor's office to provide updates and calm fears. Social media was used to provide these updates and respond to inquiries related to the national dialogue calling for police reform.

Conclusion

The Scottsdale Police Department remains committed to protecting free speech and facilitating protests, regardless of the message being expressed while at the same time protecting the public and property. In the period of a single week we experienced a riot, planned for several potential locations of a second riot, and three peaceful protests that occurred without incident. The Department remains committed to protecting the community from civil unrest and lawlessness. As many jurisdictions across the nation have experienced, it is difficult to effectively balance the protection of free speech and protests safely when faced with riotous violence and opportunistic looting and vandalism. As I mentioned in my transmittal letter, the objective of the Scottsdale PD was to stem the violence and lawlessness that arose during the riots, something we had not previously encountered. There are many lessons we will draw from this experience. The Department did many things right over the course of the protests and riots, but the experience does merit a larger, comprehensive review of our tactics, equipment, and deployment strategies. As we complete our after action Report, we will identify many opportunities for improvement.

I will make myself available to you if you have any questions or concerns.

Appendix A - Fire plans

Saturday May 30, 2020

- FD Notified of PD intel for concern of crowd at Fashion Square for that evening by PD at 3p (same day)Initial callout-Scottsdale Fashion Square
- Supported PD South Command Operations in Fashion Square area
- Upstaffed FD Fire apparatus 1 Engine and 1 Fire Command vehicle to support PD, and for potential medical or fire related emergencies.
- Assistant Fire Chief Valliere and Emergency Manager Troy Lutrick staffed the Emergency Operations Center
- Calls for service- 4