



NEWS



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San Bernardino School Shooting: Man Kills Wife Then Himself; 1 of 2 Students Wounded Has Died

Tracy Bloom, Kareen Wynter, Melissa Pamer and Mary Beth McDade, KTLA 5 News

Posted: April 10, 2017, 10:50 AM



Children are evacuated from North Park Elementary School in San Bernardino after a shooting on April 10, 2017. (Credit: Gina Ferazzi / Los Angeles Times)

After being admitted onto the campus of North Park Elementary School in San Bernardino, a 53-year-old Riverside man went to his estranged wife's special education classroom and opened fire Monday, fatally shooting her and striking two students before killing himself, police said.

One of the students, an 8-year-old boy named Jonathan Martinez, died after being rushed to the hospital.

The teacher was identified as Karen Elaine Smith, 53. Her husband, the shooter, was identified as Cedric Anderson of Riverside, also 53.

Without saying anything, Anderson quickly opened fire with a large-caliber revolver, killing Smith and striking two students who were standing behind her, according to San Bernardino Police Department Chief Jarrod Burguan.

He reloaded at least once, the chief said.

Fifteen students between first and fourth grades were in the special education classroom, as were two adult aides.

Authorities responded to the elementary school, located at 5378 N. H St., to a report of an active shooter just before 10:30 a.m., according to San Bernardino City Unified School District spokeswoman Maria Garcia.

When officers arrived, they found a man and a woman dead in a classroom, as well as two injured students, Burguan said. The gunman was among those who were down, according to the chief, who said there was no further threat to the school.

The two students who received gunshot wounds were taken to Loma Linda University Medical Center's trauma center; both were initially listed in critical condition. Martinez died shortly after arriving at the hospital.

Burguan later said the surviving student was a 9-year-old boy who was in stable condition.

The motive for the shooting was not immediately known. The couple had only been married for a few months and had been separated for a month or so, Burguan said.

Anderson has a criminal history, including domestic violence, weapons and possible drug charges, according to the chief. It's not clear what charges, if any, Anderson has been convicted of.

Before the victims were identified, San Bernardino police Capt. Ron Maass said at an early afternoon news conference that the gunman had gone to the classroom to visit the adult female victim.

The children were not the gunman's targets, the captain said.

"We believe the two children were the unfortunate recipients of injuries by being in the proximity to the female at the time of the incident," Maass said.

The parents of both student victims have been notified.

"This is a tragic incident that has befallen our city," police Lt. Michael Madden said at the news conference.

Before going to the classroom, the shooter checked in at the school's front office, which is the only point of entry to the campus while classes are in session, school district Superintendent Dale Marsden said. About 500 students attend the school.

Burguan noted that it's not uncommon for a spouse to come onto campus and request to drop something off with a teacher, which is what Anderson did.

The elementary school does not have uniformed police officers or campus security, unlike the district's middle and high schools, according to Garcia.

"Our middle schools have campus security and all of our high schools have uniformed police officers," she said.

Garcia explained that the district re-examined its security measures after the Dec. 2, 2015, terror attack that left 14 dead at the Inland Regional Center, which is about 7 miles south of North Park. All district principals have had lockdown training and know "exactly what to do" if there's an active shooter report, she said.

"Especially after Dec. 2 we actually took a closer look at all of our campuses and what we can do to increase student security and campus safety. The majority of our principals have participated in lockdown training ... They know exactly what to do and what they need to do to keep students safe," Garcia said.

The first units arrived on scene within seven minutes of getting the call, Burguan said. Within minutes, eight officers were at the school.

The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** first confirmed there were multiple victims at approximately 10:45 a.m., but did not provide a count.

Students at Cal State University San Bernardino, which is not far from the elementary school, were asked to shelter in place amid the active shooter report, the university tweeted. The shelter in place order was removed about an hour later.

North Park parents and guardians were asked to go to Cajon High School and have a picture ID in order to pick up their students, the school district tweeted. Some parents expressed confusion after contradictory information was released about where students could be picked up.

“If parents are looking to reunite with their children, all kids are being transported to Cajon High School,” Garcia said.

All students were evacuated from the North Park campus by noon, according to the district spokeswoman.

Some students may need to be interviewed by authorities, which could take up to three hours, authorities said. Police urged parents who were going to pick up their children to be patient.

The students are being "well cared" for at Cajon, according to police spokeswoman Lt. Vicki Cervantes. She tweeted that the children had snacks, played games and watched a Disney movie as they waited to go home.

In addition to North Park, Cajon Elementary School and Hillside Elementary School were also initially placed on lockdown, according to the school district.

North Park Elementary will be closed for at least the next two days. Parents with questions are urged to call the district office at 909-381-1100.

The county's Department of Behavior Health tweeted that it was monitoring the situation and was preparing to deploy health crisis teams to the school, as needed.

A team of 12 victim advocates are assigned to help parents and students, San Bernardino County District Attorney Mike Ramos said. Any parent who needs help should call the DA's victims' services department at 909-382-3846.

<http://ktla.com/2017/04/10/multiple-gunshot-victims-at-elementary-school-in-san-bernardino-amid-report-of-active-shooter-officials-say/>

San Bernardino school shooting leaves North Park teacher, student dead, another student wounded

Beau Yarbrough, The Sun

Posted: April 20, 2017, 10:53 AM



SAN BERNARDINO >> Two adults and an 8-year-old child are dead and another child was wounded in an apparent murder-suicide Monday at North Park Elementary School.

Cedric Anderson, 53, of Riverside came to the school shortly before 10:30 a.m. on Monday, police say.

“He simply said he was there to drop something off there with his wife,” San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan said at an afternoon news conference.

Anderson went to his wife’s classroom. Karen Elaine Smith, 53, was there with two aides and 15 special-needs students between first and fourth grades. The pair had been married since Jan. 28, but had already been separated for several weeks, Burguan said.

“Without saying anything, armed with a large caliber revolver, he opened fire on his wife,” Burguan said. “She was killed in the exchange.”

Anderson emptied the six-shot .357 Magnum revolver and reloaded using a speed-loader firing at least one additional round.

Student Jonathan Martinez, 8, and another student, who has not been identified, were behind the teacher and were also shot. Jonathan was airlifted by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department to Loma Linda University Medical Center, where he later died of his injuries. The second child, a 9-year-old boy, was in critical but stable condition as of 3:30 p.m. Monday.

Police do not believe Anderson intentionally targeted the children. And, San Bernardino City Unified School District Superintendent Dale Marsden said, all district policies were complied with when Anderson was let onto campus.

"After that exchange, the suspect turned the gun on himself and killed himself," Burguan said. The school, at 5378 H St., was locked down.

About 150 police officers from the San Bernardino Police Department, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, San Bernardino City Unified school police, Rialto Police Department and California Highway Patrol responded to the shooting, along with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

North Park students were evacuated to Cal State San Bernardino and then shuttled to Cajon High School, after their parents arrived and showed proof of identification.

In the meantime, North Park students were made comfortable in a university gym, with sandwiches, movies, games and glow sticks, as well as Sherlock, the San Bernardino Police Department's community affairs dog. North Park educates about 531 students, according to the California Department of Education.

"I am still a little shaken up," school board vice president Abigail Medina said. "A lot of (school board members) have our children in the school district, so it hits home. It's a terrible incident."

Medina said she has three children attending schools in the district, none of them at North Park.

Former San Bernardino City Unified school board member Judi Penman said the school's police department "is very well prepared" for situations such as the shooting Monday.

"It is one of the most organized and well-prepared police departments around," she said. "It interacts and trains with the city police department, and they are well prepared for this type of situation."

School police previously worked with city officers in the Dec. 2, 2015, San Bernardino terrorist attack. Echoing that day, a call came from the White House and Gov. Jerry Brown called to offer condolences and aid, San Bernardino Mayor Carey Davis said during the news conference.

North Park Elementary will be closed for at least Tuesday and Wednesday. All other district schools will remain open.

Also, connected to Monday's school shooting, a Riverside home was surrounded by a police SWAT team early afternoon Monday. The unit used a loudspeaker to draw out any occupants, then left with one person who came out of the Mt. Wasatch Drive home in the Orangecrest gated community, a neighbor said.

Superintendent Marsden has a message to parents at the district.

“I would like you to work with your young child to keep things as normal as possible,” Marsden said. “Be willing to listen to their story as many times as possible. And be ready to model for them a healthy response.”

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20170410/san-bernardino-school-shooting-leaves-north-park-teacher-student-dead-another-student-wounded>

Man, Woman, and Child Dead After San Bernardino School Murder-Suicide

24/7 **Headline News**

Posted: April 10, 2017

SAN BERNARDINO – A man, a woman, and an 8-year-old child are dead after what police are saying was a murder-suicide at the Northpark Elementary school in the City of San Bernardino on Monday.

San Bernardino Police responded to the school located at 5378 North H Street to find that two students, a man, and a woman shot. Authorities said that the man later identified as 53-year-old Cedric Anderson of Riverside, who staff was familiar with came to the school to visit his estranged wife, 53-year-old Karen Smith, a special education teacher. The couple had only been married for a little over two months prior to the shooting. Authorities said that Anderson signed in at the school office then proceeded to the classroom.

Although the shots fired were aimed at Smith, two students standing behind her were struck by the gunshots before Anderson turned the gun on himself. One student identified as Jonathan Martinez airlifted and died at the hospital, while the second, a 9-year-old was taken to a local hospital by ground ambulance. The unidentified 9-year-old student remains in stable condition.

Students were evacuated to Cajon High School located at 1200 West Hill Street. Parents were to pick up their children using a valid identification. A crisis hotline has been established, the number is (909)386-8256. Northpark Elementary school officials said that the school will remain closed for at least two days.

San Bernardino County Fire Department responded with six medic engines, 1 medic truck, 1 medic squad, five chief officers and multiple ambulances. “Our hearts and prayers go out to those impacted by the shooting at North Park Elementary in San Bernardino,” San Bernardino County Fire officials said. “We stand united.”

<https://247headline.com/man-woman-and-child-dead-after-san-bernardino-school-murder-suicide/>

Crews quickly douse fire in field near Scandia Family Fun Center

Matthew Cabe, Daily Press

Posted: April 10, 2017, 11:27 AM



Two men were detained early Monday after San Bernardino County Fire Department personnel extinguished a fire in a field east of Scandia Family Fun Center. [Matthew Cabe, Daily Press]

VICTORVILLE — Fire personnel quickly extinguished a blaze in a field east of Scandia Family Fun Center early Monday, authorities said.

The fire reportedly started just before 9 a.m. Monday in a field located between Mariposa Road and Balsam Avenue. **San Bernardino County Fire Department** officials said the blaze began when a debris pile caught fire.

The flames were quickly doused, but a few flames and plumes of black smoke could be seen from distance Monday morning. San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Deputy Rigsby told the Daily Press officials believe the fire was part of a homeless encampment.

"Usually it's either a warming or a food fire," Rigsby said. "The Fire Marshal will have to determine (the official cause), and they haven't indicated whether it was intentional."

Two men were seen walking away from the area of the fire, according to Rigsby, and both were detained in separate locations at approximately 9:15 a.m. Deputies made contact with one man in an undisclosed location while the second was detained near the corner of Locust Avenue and Pahute Street, a dead-end road just south of the blaze.

However, officials ultimately determined the men weren't connected to the blaze, Victorville Sheriff's station spokeswoman Mara Rodriguez said.

The blaze appeared to be contained by approximately 9:30 a.m. Monday. No injuries were reported.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation by the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20170410/crews-quickly-douse-fire-in-field-near-scandia-family-fun-center>

Child Playing With Lighter Starts House Fire In Twentynine Palms Monday

Z107.7 News

Posted: April 11, 2017

A child playing with a lighter is responsible for a house fire in Twentynine Palms Monday afternoon. According to County Fire Battalion Chief Mike Snow, a 16-year-old was babysitting two younger siblings at home in the 6100 block of Morongo Road when one of the younger children found a lighter and lit a paper bag on fire in a rear bedroom. The fire spread and firefighters from Twentynine Palms, Wonder Valley, and the Combat Center were called about 4 p.m. Snow said firefighters arrived to smoke and flames showing from the rear of the house, but were able to contain most of the damage to the rear bedroom and contents. The fire was under control and basically out by 4:30, according to Snow. All the occupants made it outside safely, but Snow said firefighters gave oxygen to a cat in the home who suffered from smoke inhalation.

<http://z1077fm.com/child-playing-with-lighter-starts-house-fire-in-twentynine-palms-monday/>