



NEWS



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Looters Set Fire To DMV In San Bernardino, Ransack Stores

Staff Writer, CBS 2 KCAL 9 News

Posted: June 1, 2020, 7:50 am



An arsonist sets fire to a DMV in San Bernardino, Calif. May 31, 2020. (CBSLA)

SAN BERNARDINO (CBSLA) – The unrest that hit the Los Angeles metro area over the weekend, sparked by the death of George Floyd, also spread to the Inland Empire Sunday, where a DMV in San Bernardino was set ablaze and several stores were looted.

Protests in San Bernardino turned violent when a DMV on Waterman Avenue and 13th Street was set on fire. A man was caught on video breaking inside and using some type of torch to set items ablaze.

San Bernardino Fire Department crews were able to extinguish the flames before they destroyed the building. California Highway Patrol officers also responded, but by the time they got on scene, the arsonist had escaped.

Looters Sunday night also ransacked a Walgreens and several other stores located just a few blocks away from the DMV. Several buildings sustained smashed-out windows and busted doors and panels.

The city of San Bernardino declared a state of emergency at issued a curfew that began at 8 p.m. Sunday and ran through sunrise on Sunday. The city said the curfew will continue until the state of emergency is lifted.

“Right now, our major focus is restoring order in the city and also making sure we can continue to function as we move forward from this incident,” San Bernardino police Lt. Michele Mahan told CBSLA Sunday night.

Meanwhile, a group used rocks to smash glass doors and break into the Hemet Valley Mall, located 2200 W Florida Ave. It’s unclear how many businesses were damaged inside or if there were any arrests.

<https://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2020/06/01/looters-set-dmv-on-fire-in-san-bernardino-ransack-stores/>

San Bernardino police order curfew after George Floyd protest

RICHARD K. DE ATLEY and JOE NELSON, The Press-Enterprise / SCNG

Posted: May 31, 2020, 5:42 p.m.



About 300 demonstrators hold signs and shout as they march down 2nd St. in Downtown San Bernardino during a protest for the death of George Floyd Sunday, May 31, 2020. (Photo by Watchara Phomicinda, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

Hundreds of chanting demonstrators marched through downtown San Bernardino Sunday, May 31, as what started as a protest over the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis ended with broken windows, graffiti and rock-and-water-bottle throwing.

As night fell, the gathering turned increasingly violent as small blazes ignited and firefighters asked for police protection to respond. The San Bernardino Police Department announced a curfew that went into effect at 8 p.m. and was to last until sunrise, June 1.

“If you are a resident in San Bernardino, near the protests, please stay inside,” the San Bernardino County District Attorney’s Office tweeted just after 8 p.m.

Among the targets for looting was the Waterman Discount Mall, 999 N Waterman Ave., with the DA’s Office asking via Twitter for it to be spared.

“People make their livelihood at the Waterman Discount Mall. Please tell those trying to destroy it to make this a peaceful march. San Bernardino doesn’t deserve this.”

The death of Floyd, 46, an unarmed black man who died on May 25 in police custody after a Minneapolis officer knelt on his neck, has sparked violent protests across the country. The officer was arrested Friday and charged with murder. Three other officers, who were involved in the arrest, were also fired from the Minneapolis Police Department.

Cities and counties around the country and here, in Southern California, ordered curfews to help quell days of violent protests. A state of emergency came from Gov. Gavin Newsom Saturday night for LA, and the National Guard moved in.

During Sunday’s demonstration in San Bernardino, protesters gathered outside City Hall, the county government center and law enforcement agencies, including the San Bernardino Police Department and the federal Department of Homeland Security office on Rialto Avenue. Chants of “No justice, no peace! No racist police!” came from group that continued to grow.

The group of hundreds were met by California Highway Patrol officers when they marched to the 215 Freeway and the Second Street off-ramp. No demonstrators got on the freeway lanes.

Vandals smashed out a window at the Bank of America at 303 N. D St. and someone wrote “black lives matter” on one of its walls. A broken window was also seen at the nearby American Sports University.

Firefighters asked for law enforcement protection. “There have been several small fires throughout the city, throughout the night,” **San Bernardino County Fire** Department spokesman Jimmy Schiller said by phone.

The fires were in a “very unstable area,” he said. The cause of the fires was under investigation. One was near the exterior of a home, and several others were burning in fields, he said.

Water bottles and rocks were thrown at CHP officers along Fifth Street between Mountain View and Sierra avenues and sirens wailed across downtown as police and CHP vehicles lined Fifth Street.

No injuries or reports of arrests were immediately available Sunday night.

Mac Medina, 41, of Rialto, sat on the steps outside City Hall in the evening with friends

“It’s not just Mr. Floyd. There’s too many people dying and getting shot. Look what just happened in Hayward,” Medina said, apparently referring to the recent shooting and wounding of a 61-year-old man by police in that city. Police said the man was armed with a knife.

He expressed disappointment in the vandalism that occurred Sunday night in downtown.

“That stuff just can’t happen,” said Medina. “The very people who want justice are causing injustice. Then the media starts focusing on that, and it takes everything away from the purpose.” Medina said he had decided to show up to show his support

The march began outside City Hall and moved south on D Street to Rialto Avenue then west on Rialto, with a cacophony of blaring car horns that could be heard for blocks. The protesters chanted, “I can’t breathe!” and “Black lives matter!”

During the early part of the march, a law enforcement helicopter circled over City Hall, but police presence on the ground was not significant, with just a few cruisers on the street in the marcher’s vicinity.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2020/05/31/hundreds-march-through-downtown-san-bernardino-in-george-floyd-protest/>

COUNTY FIRE HAS SET UP A COVID-19 SURVEY

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News

Posted: May 31, 2020

The **San Bernardino County Fire** Department has set up a survey to gauge how well residents are informed about the virus. Rebecca Havely has more information about how you can participate...

The San Bernardino County Fire Department has an informational survey set up on its website, sbcfire.org. The survey is short, with only six questions, and is followed by links for resources, videos, and more. There is also an opportunity for residents to email the fire department directly with questions and concerns. A direct link to the survey is available below.

<https://virtualcrr.com/survey/san-bernardino-co-fire-covid-19-awareness/>

<http://z1077fm.com/county-fire-has-set-up-a-covid-19-survey/>