

Richmond Times-Dispatch

July 10, 2000

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POLICE KILL MAN WHO SHOT OTHERS

OFFICER CHASES HIM ON FOOT AFTER FOILED ROBBERY

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Article Text:

A Richmond police officer shot and killed a man who had shot and wounded four men on the porch and in the yard of a house during an attempted robbery early yesterday, police said. Police were patrolling Broad Street when they heard several shots about 3:15 a.m. in the 500 block of West Marshall Street, police spokesman Ronald Brown said. Officers discovered the man shooting at the crowded porch. Brown said the man had an accomplice who appeared to be unarmed.

Police chased the armed man, who was carrying a semiautomatic weapon and fled on foot, to the 500 block of West Clay Street. The man then confronted one of the officers, who shot the man in the chest. <cmfired once into the suspect's chest.km> The man was transported to Virginia Commonwealth University's Medical College of Virginia Hospitals, where he died about two hours later.

Police are looking for the second man, who fled in a different direction.

The four victims, all males in their 20s, were also taken to MCV. Their injuries were not not life-threatening, Brown said. Authorities have not released the names of the victims or the slain man, who was not carrying identification.

Police said the officer who shot the suspect is Rapid Mobilization Team Patrol Officer R. Shane Barlow, a five-year department veteran. Barlow has been placed on administrative leave, pending a review by the commonwealth's attorney's office.

Neighbors along West Marshall Street said yesterday the house where the men were shot has a reputation for attracting weekend late-night crowds that congregate on the porch, which is about 6 feet by 10 feet, and in the small fenced-in front yard, both of which were littered yesterday with empty beer containers.

The house, said one neighbor who did not wish to be identified, is the exception on a block that has seen a recent resurgence in home renovations.

"The house has had a history of disturbances, but other than that it's a wonderful neighborhood," said the neighbor, who has lived on the street for seven years.

"There's been some rowdiness there, a lot of drinking, but I guess when you have landlords who don't care what's going on, it was a problem waiting to happen. One neighbor has called the landlord several times, and they have just not been responsive."

A woman who answered the door yesterday at the site of the shooting declined to comment.

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