

## **The Oregonian**

### **Mayor Pledges More Trash Pickup in Downtown Portland**

*By Gordon Friedman*

*October 11, 2018*

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler pledged Thursday to expand trash pickup from downtown sidewalk receptacles to every day of the week, the first concrete proposal under his new initiative to make Portland the nation's cleanest city.

"I know we can get there," the mayor said, speaking during an event at Director Park.

Andrew Hoan, chief executive of the Portland Business Alliance, said Downtown Clean & Safe, a business-funded downtown cleanup district, will double its commitment to buy additional trash cans for the district, bringing the number to 200 new cans at a cost of \$300,000.

Hoan and Wheeler said they understand residents' clear demand that downtown streets and sidewalks be cleaner. "We heard your challenge," Hoan said. "Challenge accepted."

Wheeler noted Thursday that Portland is growing fast, its economy is booming and its population is diversifying. "That's all good news. ... The bad news is growth comes with growing pains," he said.

One symptom, he said: more garbage.

There are staggering numbers to back that up. Workers who roam the Clean & Safe District collected more than 2.6 million pounds of garbage last year. An even more startling figure: Nearly 350,000 needles were removed from downtown streets.

Installation of the additional garbage cans and seven-day trash collection are scheduled to happen by April 2019, Hoan said. Six-day trash pickup began this week, Wheeler said.

### **Portland Police Defend Hands-Off Approach to Protest that Sparked Viral Video, Outrage**

*By Shane Dixon Kavanaugh*

*October 11, 2018*

Portland police on Thursday defended their hands-off approach to a demonstration where protesters temporarily blocked traffic and were later part of an encounter with a motorist that drew national headlines.

More than 100 people gathered downtown Saturday to protest the death of Patrick Kimmons, 27, who was shot and killed by police Sept. 30 in a parking lot near Southwest Fourth Avenue and Harvey Milk Street.

Authorities say the father of three had just been involved in a fight and a shooting that left two other men wounded when a police officer and sergeant responding to the scene encountered Kimmons armed with a gun.

The cops fired between 10 and 12 shots, striking Kimmons in his legs and torso, sources told The Oregonian/OregonLive.

During a portion of Saturday's demonstration, which officers monitored from a distance, a group of marchers blocked Southwest Fourth and directed traffic away from the area.

Some motorists exchanged words with those standing in the streets, video shows. A couple of protesters can be heard cursing at one driver.

In an emailed statement, the Portland Police Bureau said it had tried to work with protest organizers to establish a route for the march but were unsuccessful.

"This would have helped facilitate a safe route for demonstrators, while also ensuring road users had alternative routes," the statement said.

Later, at Southwest Fourth and Madison Street, a man behind the wheel of a silver Lexus slowly pushed through a small crowd of demonstrators in a crosswalk while they had the right of way, a second video shows.

A few protesters began to hit the man's car and one of them got in front of the Lexus. The driver then sped off down the block before stopping and getting out to survey potential damage.

The man hopped back into his car and drove off as some of the demonstrators caught up to him. A few protesters began to pound on the man's vehicle. There were no reported injuries.

Police chief offers condolences to family of Patrick Kimmons: 'I can't imagine'

The video of that incident went viral, racking up more than 3 million views on Twitter before its author removed it this week. A handful of conservative news outlets including Fox News and The Daily Caller seized on the episode.

"Antifa Takes Over Portland, Harasses Old Man For Disobeying," proclaimed the right-wing site Breitbart. That post alone generated 20,000 comments.

Left-leaning activists, meanwhile, took to social media in an attempt to identify the driver, who some claimed tried to run over the protesters .

"Find him. Ruin him," the group Portland's Resistance tweeted. "Make racists afraid again."

The driver, a retired 74-year-old who lives in Southwest Portland, told police this week his car sustained more than \$3,000 in damages.

He did not respond to multiple calls from The Oregonian/OregonLive seeking comment.

Police "had to make the careful decision to balance the need to clear the street to allow for the flow of traffic versus the risk of officers having to potentially use force and enflame an already tenuous situation," the bureau's statement said.

"We recognize the strong community concern and interest regarding how police officers respond to crowd control situations," Chief Danielle Outlaw said in the statement.

"There is no cookie-cutter response to these events."

# Hostage Taker Fatally Shot by Portland Police Had Past Encounters with Officers

*By Maxine Bernstein*

*October 11, 2018*

An officer with the Portland police tactical squad fatally shot a 30-year-old man who barricaded himself inside a Southeast Portland motel room, holding his girlfriend hostage at knifepoint Wednesday morning, police and witnesses said Thursday.

Police said they had previous contacts with the man killed, identified as Samuel Edward Rice of Portland.

Officers from the bureau's Behavioral Health Unit recently had tried to link both Rice and his girlfriend to community services, but he declined help, according to police. Officers also had taken Rice to area hospitals in the past for mental health treatment, they said.

Officer Kelly VanBlokland, a 24-year bureau veteran and a member of the bureau's Special Emergency Reaction Team assigned to the training division, is on paid leave as detectives continue to investigate the shooting, the second deadly encounter between Portland police and a suspect in as many weeks.

The confrontation started after Rice was reported to have pulled a knife on another customer inside the 7-Eleven store at Southeast Flavel Street and 82nd Avenue. A clerk ordered Rice out and called police, according to another clerk who identified himself only as Shafi.

A short time later, Rice grabbed his girlfriend and pulled her into Room 16 of the Del Rancho Motel across the street on 82nd Avenue about 9:10 a.m.

Police surrounded the motel and evacuated guests in nearby rooms. They also called for the crisis negotiations team and the tactical team to respond.

At one point, the suspect was seen at the door, yelling to officers if they came inside, "she will die," according to police dispatch records.

During the standoff, Rice also called 911, identified himself by a different name and demanded money. He warned that he didn't want to talk to a female officer.

Police negotiators then tried to place a call to him and talk with him.

Rice reportedly continued to threaten to harm his girlfriend and refused to let her go, police sources said.

A sniper with the Special Emergency Reaction Team eventually fired a single shot into the motel room, and other tactical officers moved into the room to rescue the woman.

Rice was pronounced dead at the scene. Police said he died from a single gunshot wound.

He reportedly was shot in the head, according to sources. The woman wasn't harmed, police said.

The motel manager on Thursday morning was clearing out all appliances, the bed and mattress and even the toilet from Room 16. He said Rice's girlfriend had rented the room for about five days, and Rice came and went.

A security guard posted at the nearby state Department of Human Services building said he'd often see Rice come into the building to charge his phone.

Earlier this week, a Multnomah County judge had signed a warrant for Rice's arrest after he failed to show for court on criminal mischief allegations stemming from an unspecified August incident in the 12500 block of Southeast Powell Boulevard. Rice had lived with his girlfriend on Southeast Powell Boulevard earlier this year, but they reportedly had faced eviction from an apartment there.

Rice had a prior conviction in 2012 for attempted assault against a neighbor in Gresham. When the neighbor asked him to lower the music in his apartment and stop screaming and yelling, Rice lunged at the man and cut him with a knife in the back and neck, according to court records. He was sentenced to 90 days in jail and three years of probation and ordered to undergo a mental health evaluation and treatment.

## **The Portland Tribune**

### **Wheeler Hopes New Trash Initiative Will Clean Up City**

*By KOIN 6 News  
October 11, 2018*

**Many Portlanders have complained to the mayor about the overflowing trash bins, and some have even sent in pictures.**

It isn't unusual to see trash overflowing from garbage cans in downtown Portland -- but a solution may be in the near future.

Now Mayor Ted Wheeler has announced a new initiative to tackle all the trash that litters the downtown area.

Wheeler said trash has been a growing problem in Portland — a 2.6 million pound problem.

"We're growing," he said. "We're on the radar. The bad news is that growth comes with growing pains."

One of those pains, he admits, is the litter crisis.

Many Portlanders have complained to Wheeler about the overflowing bins — some have even sent in pictures.

"We're on it," Wheeler said. "We know it's a problem."

Now, trash will be collected six days a week — including Sundays. By April, trash will be collected every day at every location in downtown Portland.

Wheeler announced the initiative Thursday morning at a press conference at Director Park in downtown Portland. Joining him were: Clean & Safe Board Chair Eric Murfitt, the controller for Mercantile; Central City Concern President & CEO Dr. Rachel Solotaroff; and Portland Business Alliance President & CEO Andrew Hoan

The initiative includes an expanded partnership with the Clean and Safe District to complete the dirty work. They'll be installing 200 new garbage cans throughout downtown.

Mayor Wheeler believes that with this initiative and help from the community, Portland can become the cleanest city in America.

## Willamette Week

# Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler Pledges Daily Emptying of Downtown Trash Cans

*By Anamika Vaughn  
October 11, 2018*

**“This starts by responding to our litter crisis.”**

Mayor Ted Wheeler today announced a new trash initiative for downtown Portland: As of Oct. 7, all trash cans are being emptied six days a week.

Wheeler also announced that, beginning Spring 2019, this service will increase to seven days a week for all areas of downtown. The service will be provided by Clean & Safe, the nonprofit managed by the Portland Business Alliance.

"We're growing," said Wheeler. "We're on the radar. The bad news is that growth comes with growing pains. And one of the growing pains that comes with growth that we've seen on the streets with the growing amount of litter."

"We know its a problem, and we're on it," he continued.

He says this is just the first in several more announcements to come.

Andrew Hoan, Portland Business Alliance president and CEO, had another announcement to complement the increase trash collection: Starting this week, 100 new trash cans will be placed around the city, with a \$150,000 commitment to the project.

The announcement was followed by the unveiling of two kinds of new trash cans, adorned with cartoon images of doughnuts and bicycles.

To follow, Hoan also announced an additional one hundred cans for next spring, with another \$150,000 commitment.

According to Wheeler, in the last year 2.6 million pounds of trash and almost 350,000 needles were collected by the city. With the growing population of Portland, this number is expected to increase.

"I am committed to upholding my vision for Portland as the cleanest city in America. I know we can get there," said Wheeler. "This starts by responding to our litter crisis."

## An Anti-Trump Protester Sued Portland Police and the Multnomah County Sheriffs Office Over Wrongful Arrest

*By Katie Shepherd  
October 11, 2018*

**In a \$76,000 lawsuit, Martinez alleges that police mistook him for a suspect who had vandalized a car days before.**

Daniel Martinez was walking with a crowd of protesters against President Donald Trump, carrying a Mexican flag shortly after the 2016 election, when police allegedly tackled him and secured his wrists in "zip-strip" handcuffs.

In a \$76,000 lawsuit, Martinez alleges that police mistook him for a suspect who had vandalized a car days before—but the actual suspect was a black man who "bore no resemblance to Mr. Martinez."

The suit says Martinez told officers the handcuffs were too tight, but his concerns went ignored. He says he suffered injuries to his knees, chest, left shoulder and nerve damage in his wrists.

The crowd yelled at the officers, the suit says, but Martinez asked the crowd to remain peaceful and not "over-react."

Martinez today sued Multnomah County, the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, the City of Portland, and the Portland police in Multnomah County Circuit Court.

The suit joins a growing pile of legal challenges to police use of force against protesters.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon took the city to court for kettling hundreds of protesters at a June 4, 2017 protest. The ACLU of Oregon is also representing six protesters who sued Portland police for excessive use of force at a protest in City Hall and several other protests since late 2016. More recently, two protesters have filed tort claims declaring their intent to sue the cops for injuries they suffered after being hit with riot control agents on Aug. 4.

## **City Receives A Flood Of Calls After Fox News Segment Criticizes “Antifa Mob” In Portland**

*By Katie Shepherd*

*October 11, 2018*

**A Fox News panel called the small demonstration an example of "left-wing mob mentality" and declared Portland to be a "looney bin" because "the mayor is a nutcase."**

You may not have noticed the relatively quiet demonstrations in downtown Portland this weekend protesting the shooting of Patrick Kimmons by police.

But Fox News did.

Portland city officials are responding to a flood of calls asking for information about how police responded when protesters blocked traffic and a motorist drove slowly into a crowd walking through a crosswalk.

A Fox News panel called the small demonstration an example of "left-wing mob mentality" and declared Portland to be a "loony bin" because "the mayor is a nutcase."

The segment appears to conflate the weekend's small demonstrations with a 39-day protest camp outside a federal U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement building where Mayor Ted Wheeler instructed Portland police to only respond to calls when someone's life or physical safety was at risk.

Wheeler's office declined to comment on the segment.

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"When determining whether or not take law enforcement action at protest events, the most critical factor the Bureau takes into consideration is whether or not a police response would escalate or deescalate tension," a spokesman for the Portland Police Bureau said in a statement. "Escalation can lead to community members and officers getting injured or worse."

Locally, Portland police have been under heightened scrutiny for their response to protests—both for over-policing and under-policing large rallies where the threat of violence between protesters set the city on edge.

"We recognize the strong community concern and interest regarding how police officers respond to crowd control situations," Chief Danielle Outlaw said in the statement that was issued after the Fox News segment and the avalanche of public inquiries about the protest. "There is no cookie-cutter response to these events. The complexity of each demonstration/protest is different and requires thoughtful decision-making."

In this case, a few hundred people attended the Kimmons rally—leading to two interactions between motorists and protesters.

The outcome from the biggest traffic incident, depending on your point of view, was a protester being bumped by a Lexus at low speed or the Lexus suffering scratches, dents and a cracked window.

## **The Portland Mercury**

### **Man Fatally Shot By Portland Police Had Long History of Mental Illness**

*By Alex Zielinski  
October 11, 2018*

The Portland Police Bureau (PPB) has identified 30-year-old Samuel E. Rice as the man who was fatally shot by an officer on Wednesday morning.

Rice was shot in the head by PPB Officer Kelly VanBlokland during a perceived hostage scenario at the Del Rancho Motel on SE 82nd. Officers said Rice had attempted to stab a woman and was holding her hostage in a hotel room. It's still unknown if the officers entered the room or if Rice opened the door, but "at some point during the incident, an officer fired a shot, striking and killing the suspect," according to PPB spokesperson Chris Burley.

Ken Hansen says he was not surprised to hear of his former client's death.

Hansen is the state director of a program that contracts with local governments to provide support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He asked the Mercury to not mention the name of the program and noted he was speaking solely on his own behalf. Hansen

says he and his colleagues worked closely with Rice for a five-month period earlier this year, and that Rice suffered from a developmental disability and mental illness. Hansen says he's certain that at the time of his death Rice was in the midst of a mental health crisis.

"What police didn't know was [that Rice was] living completely outside of reality, in a mental psychosis," Hansen says. "He had no idea what was going on or who he was talking to. That's the story missing from the reports so far. It's easier for the community to handle a bad-guy versus good-guy story."

Hansen alleges that Rice had been dealing with extreme mental health issues for many years. Hansen also said he was present when those issues turned violent, like the time Rice threw a cinderblock through Hansen's car window. Hansen says he and his coworkers have called PPB at least a dozen times in an attempt to get Rice long-term help.

"It's the unfortunate reality that we have to go through the police," says Hansen. "There aren't other options."

PPB data supports Hansen's claims. In a press release sent this afternoon, Burley notes that in the past, PPB sent out Behavioral Health Unit officers to connect Rice with mental health services. But, Burley notes, Rice declined PPB's assistance. As an adult, Rice had the right to do so, but Hansen says PPB should have done more.

"He was declining services, but he wasn't understanding what that meant. He was too deep into a state of psychosis," says Hansen, who witnessed a number of Rice's interactions with PPB officers. "He needed to be arrested, placed on a police hold, and then placed in psychiatric care."

According to PPB directives, an officer can forcibly detain someone when, "as a result of a mental health crisis, a person may lack the capacity to make sound judgments about their personal situation."

A Multnomah County Grand Jury will determine whether or not VanBlokland's shooting was justified next month, Burley estimates.

"No police officer wants to use lethal force, and it is with great responsibility that we accept this authority," PPB Chief Danielle Outlaw said in the press release.

Rice's death is the second time this year a PPB officer fatally shot a man perceived to be in a mental health crisis. In April, police shot and killed 48-year-old John Elifritz in a Southeast homeless shelter. Witnesses describe Elifritz stabbing himself in the neck and acting in a state of mental crisis before police opened fire. A Multnomah County grand jury later ruled that all involved officers were justified in shooting Elifritz.

"These situations are not unusual anymore," says Hansen. "And as long as we continue putting people with mental illnesses in jail and treating them like criminals, that won't change."