

## **The Oregonian**

# **Bomb Suspect Threatened Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler Online**

*By Gordon Friedman  
October 26, 2018*

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said in a tweet Friday that he may have been threatened by Cesar Sayoc Jr., the Florida man arrested and charged with a spate of attempting bombings targeting Democrats.

"Learning from @verge that the alleged Florida bomber may have sent threats to even more people, including me," the mayor tweeted. "Our security team is aware."

In his tweet Wheeler cited an article from The Verge, a news site that primarily covers technology, reporting a now-suspended Twitter account belonging to Sayoc threatened Wheeler and others online.

A digital archive of Sayoc's account shows he tweeted to Wheeler in the late night hours of Aug. 2, posting a picture of Wheeler and his wife standing with the Portland skyline in the background and calling him "slime scum."

"We will see you real soon," read the mostly incoherent, rambling tweet.

Sayoc also tweeted threats at Gov. Kate Brown.

Wheeler spokeswoman Eileen Park said Friday that the mayor's security team has been monitoring his home and office more closely than usual given the explosive devices mailed to prominent Democrats, including Barack Obama, Bill and Hillary Clinton, Robert De Niro and other critics of President Trump.

No suspicious packages have been received, Park said.

## **Synagogue Shooting Prompts Portland Police to Patrol Jewish Faith Centers**

*By Eder Campuzano  
October 27, 2018*

A shooting that left at least 10 dead in a Pittsburgh synagogue Saturday has prompted police in other cities to closely patrol Jewish places of worship, including in Portland.

The Portland Police Bureau said it's being proactive in its patrols and that officers have not heard of threats to local congregations. The bureau is working with state and local law enforcement agencies, including the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force.

"The Police Bureau is aware of the concern and sadness incidents such as the one in Pittsburgh have on the community in Portland," Chief Danielle Outlaw said in a release. "Our officers are reaching out to leaders of Jewish houses of worship in the City of Portland and will be present to provide security and a sense of safety as community members come together to grieve and begin the healing process."

Congregation Beth Israel in Portland said on Facebook that its leaders are actively communicating with police about the safety of its members.

Rabbi David Kosak of Neveh Shalom, a Conservative Jewish congregation in Southwest Portland, said he learned of the shooting in Pittsburgh as he arrived shortly before services Saturday.

He said the news drew some congregants who attend less frequently, but that it might also have kept some away.

"Those of us who were there today took a lot of strength from being with each other, singing and finding a way to praise through it all," Kosak said. "There were a lot of tears."

The congregation increased its own security, with members sweeping the grounds and limiting access to the building, and police were seen making patrols. Several months ago, the congregation had reported to police that anti-Semitic fliers were left near the grounds, though they did not contain an explicit threat.

"We are a religion of joy and a religion that tries to encourage people to take care of each other," Kosak said. "We know we have a difficult history, where we've been the recipients of a lot of hate and murder and threats. But a part of my faith is that, for all of us who are good-spirited people who are working for the betterment of society, who are teaching love and doing our parts to be positive contributors to the world, it makes a difference."

The Oregon Board of Rabbis and Jewish Federation of Greater Portland announced a community gathering in response to the shooting at 4 p.m. Sunday at Congregation Beth Israel, 1972 N.W. Flanders St. in Portland.

The shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue has also drawn reactions from Oregon's elected officials on Capitol Hill. The shooter left several injured, including four police officers.

President Trump calls Pittsburgh synagogue shooting 'pure evil'

Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley called it an act of terror rooted in anti-Semitism on Twitter.

"No one should face threats of violence, especially based on their religious beliefs, political preference, or any other personal conviction," Rep. Suzanne Bonamici said. "The recent acts of anti-Semitism, hate, racism, and bigotry that our country has seen cannot be tolerated."

Rep. Earl Blumenauer said he'd just visited the city.

"My heart goes out to the victims of the horrific attack, members of the Jewish community, and all those subjected to hate & fear," he said.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown also denounced the shooting on Twitter, saying: "Places of worship should be places of safety and and refuge. But today, yet another has become a place for tragedy. While we grieve for these families, we must also resolve, as a nation, to take the bold steps necessary to end gun violence."

## The Portland Tribune

# 25 E-Scooter Related Injuries Reported in Portland so Far

By Zane Sparling

October 28, 2018

### **Bureau of Transportation releases survey showing who rides electric scooters and why.**

At least 25 e-scooter injuries have been reported since Portland opened its streets — and sidewalks — to the upright electric vehicles more than 90 days ago.

Staff at the Bureau of Transportation collected 17 reports of injuries from the police and fire bureaus as well as media accounts, plus four more related by eyewitnesses. The three companies responsible for the electric scooters — Bird, Lime and Skip — submitted an additional four crash reports.

Officials believe that number is only the tip of the iceberg.

"We're certain that this is not the total universe of crashes or injuries in Portland," said PBOT spokesman John Brady.

The most severe injuries involved broken legs, while the least severe were scratches caused by people tripping over e-scooters. In the future, the agency wants to coordinate with state and county public health authorities to cull injury data from local hospitals and urgent care centers.

"A broken leg is significant," Brady noted.

For context, the state Department of Transportation reports that 391 people have died this year on Oregon's roads as of Oct. 25, including 29 traffic-related deaths in Portland.

There's still about a month to go until PBOT's electric scooter trial period ends, but officials have already released a snapshot of scooter data based on 4,500 responses to surveys sent to 75,000 riders.

### **Here are the highlights:**

- 45 percent of local residents "never" use a helmet, while just 17 percent "always" wear one. About 59 percent of tourists also don't wear headgear.
- 49 percent of tourists said they "sometimes" ride an e-scooter on the sidewalk, compared with 39 percent of locals.
- 78 percent of Portlanders know helmets are required by law, and about as many know they are forbidden from piloting e-scooters on the sidewalk. About 65 to 67 percent of tourists know these rules.
- 41 percent of local respondents said they used e-scooters less than once a week, while 26 percent said they use e-scooters one to three times a week.
- 61 percent of residents "never" use an e-scooter to access other forms of public transit such as a bus or MAX line.
- 37 percent of Portlanders would have walked to their destination had an e-scooter not been available. An additional 19 percent would have driven or hailed a car.
- 6 percent of locals claim to have reduced the number of cars owned by their family because of e-scooters, and another 16 percent are considering it.

- 69 percent of out-of-town visitors are "extremely likely" to recommend riding an e-scooter to a friend.
- 62 percent of local riders are men.
- 42 percent of e-scooter riders who were visiting Portland reported income above \$75,000 annually.

Some 472,069 trips on e-scooters had been recorded by Oct. 11. The average trip length was 1.2 miles. The Bureau of Transportation trial period for e-scooters ends on Nov. 20.

"This is one of multiple ways we're going to be evaluating the scooters," said Brady. "This is the first step."

## **Willamette Week**

### **Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler Says He Received Threats from MAGAbomber**

*By Rachel Monahan  
October 26, 2018*

He's been the target of right-wing rancor since telling police not to get involved in anti-ICE protests.

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler says his security team is aware of him getting Twitter threats from the Florida man who allegedly sent bombs to a range of President Trump's critics earlier this week.

Tech website the Verge first reported on "veiled death threats" by a Twitter account associated with mail-bomb suspect Cesar Altieri Sayoc.

The Verge says Sayoc "sent veiled death threats to liberal 'slime scum,' including Vice President Joe Biden, former New York attorney general candidate Zephyr Teachout; actor Jim Carrey; Portland, Oregon mayor Ted Wheeler; MIT Media Lab founder Nicholas Negroponte; and New York Times journalist (and former Verge writer) Sarah Jeong." (Jeong is also based in Portland.)

WW first reported earlier today that Sayoc had shared right-wing memes attacking Oregon Gov. Kate Brown.

Mayor Ted Wheeler announced via Twitter that he learned the news of the veiled threat from the Verge story.

Alleged Florida bomber may have sent Twitter threats to Joe Biden, Zephyr Teachout, and others

The alleged Florida bomber may also have sent threats to enemies on Twitter.

Wheeler has been a target of right-wing media since this summer, when he told Portland police not to intervene in a protest blockade of a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement building. The rancor against him intensified when several ICE employees claimed police, acting on Wheeler's orders, didn't respond to their calls for help. (Wheeler denies this.)

The bomber's Twitter account was suspended today, but an archive of his tweets shows him responding to one of the mayor's tweets in early August by calling Wheeler "slime scum" and insulting the the state as "meth head Oregon."

The alleged threat includes an "air boat tour" into the Everglades.

Sayoc's account was responding to a Wheeler tweet on July 30 supporting sanctuary cities for immigrants. "Portland is and will remain a sanctuary city committed to the protection of all residents," the mayor had tweeted in Spanish. "No family in our community should have to live in fear of separation or be discriminated against."

In later replies to Wheeler on Twitter (which can be found [here](#)), Sayoc sent photos of a snake, a bloodied corpse in a swamp, a decapitated sheep, and a still of the adolescent heroes from the Netflix series *Stranger Things*. (The dad in that series is also named Ted Wheeler.)

## **Portland Police Send Officers to Synagogues as Elected Officials Decry "Pure Evil" in Pittsburgh**

*By Aaron Mesh*  
*October 27, 2018*

**Oregon elected officials reacted with horror and disgust to the slaughter by an anti-Semitic gunman.**

In the wake of a mass shooting in a Pittsburgh synagogue that killed 11 people Saturday morning, Portland police say they will add more patrols around Jewish houses of worship in this city.

"The Police Bureau is aware of the concern and sadness incidents such as the one in Pittsburgh have on the community in Portland," Police Chief Danielle Outlaw said in a statement. "Our officers are reaching out to leaders of Jewish houses of worship in the City of Portland and will be present to provide security and a sense of safety as community members come together to grieve and begin the healing process."

Oregon elected officials reacted with horror and disgust to the slaughter by an anti-Semitic gunman. The suspect, Robert Bowers, believed Jews were conspiring to bring more refugees to the U.S., and told his fellow right-wing extremists on the social media platform Gab that he had decided to do something about it.

It is the latest in a series of hate attacks marking the rise of white nationalism in the United States following the election of President Donald Trump. The president regularly rails against immigrants, media and "globalists"—a commonly known term disparaging Jews. Right-wing media has encouraged the conspiracy theory that prominent Jewish people, like the philanthropist George Soros, are trying to replace the nation's white population with immigrants and other people of color.

Among local officials, U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-Oregon) came the closest to linking today's killings to the rantings of President Trump. "The recent acts of anti-Semitism, hate, racism, and bigotry that our country has seen cannot be tolerated," she said in a statement. "The hateful rhetoric we are hearing on a daily basis must end, and Congress must pass and implement policies to reduce gun violence. Enough is enough."

"Antisemitism persists & is on the rise," U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Oregon) wrote on Twitter. "Acts of terror against people in their places of worship are particularly heinous and must receive the strongest possible response. My heart goes out to the victims, their families & the Tree of Life Congregation."

Oregon's junior U.S. senator, Jeff Merkley (D-Oregon), echoed those sentiments. "This is a tragic act of terror," Merkley wrote. "This antisemitic attack in Pittsburgh while people are in a place of sanctuary observing the sabbath is pure evil."

And U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-Oregon) said he had recently visited Pittsburgh. "My heart goes out to the victims of the horrific attack, members of the Jewish community, and all those subjected to hate & fear," he wrote.