

2 shot, killed at Giant supermarket in Prince George's County: police

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Authorities are investigating after two people were shot and killed at a Giant supermarket in the Oxon Hill area of Prince George's County on Friday morning.

OXON HILL, Md. - Authorities say two people were shot and killed at a Giant supermarket in [Prince George's County](#) Friday morning after a woman shoplifting pulled a gun from a backpack and fired multiple shots.

Officers responded to the shooting around 10:25 a.m. at the store in the 20 block of Audrey Lane in the [Oxon Hill](#) area.

At the scene officers found a man and woman who had been shot.

The woman was taken to a hospital and later pronounced dead. The man was pronounced dead at the scene.



Prince George's County Police Major Zachary O'Lare of the department said the female shoplifter was confronted by a security guard inside the store.

Employees told FOX 5 the security guard, who many knew by his last name "Tate," gave the woman multiple orders to return the items and the woman began to fight him.

PGPD did not go into detail but did confirm the suspected shoplifter pulled a gun from a backpack and fired multiple shots. That's when the security guard returned fire.

"To go from stealing something to pulling out a gun to defend yourself, I think that's just incomprehensible to me," said Ken Davis, who described the security guard killed as friendly.

Others tell FOX 5 that the security guard encouraged his co-workers and would often treat his colleagues to lunch.

"Tate was a good guy. And we're all like family in Giant, you know? So, when you hear one of your co-workers dying, it hurts," said Steven Matthew, who tells FOX 5 he is a Giant Floor Tech. "It's out of hand, it's out of control. But they know that they got to do something about it. It shouldn't have to take this to clean it up. If you see that it's repeated behavior, you got to clean it up."

Matthew says the staff has previously asked for two-armed security guards due to issues that have happened at the store.

Giant has not responded to FOX 5's requests for comment.

The store remained closed for much of the evening, and it's not clear when they will reopen. A contractor boarded up a window FOX 5 was told that was from one of the bullets fired inside.

Police have not yet officially released the name of the two people killed.

This double shooting happened in the same shopping center where a man was fatally stabbed the other day. The three deaths all took place in the same shopping center, where the Prince George's County Police's 4th District is also located.

"We're asking the community to partner with us even more to try and stop these violent attacks, brazen attacks that are occurring in our shopping centers," said PGPD Major Zachary O'Lare in part of a response to FOX 5.

Other employees tell FOX 5 security can't really make arrests. We're told they have to wait until the suspect passes the point of sale and then approach the person asking they to return or drop the item. Some employees tell FOX 5 more people have been combative in their response.

FOX 5 also reached-out to the security company we're told employed the man killed.

This is a developing story

The two victims have not yet been identified as police are still notifying next of kin.