

DURHAM



CITY OF DURHAM

Durham Police Department

505 WEST CHAPEL HILL STREET | DURHAM, NC 27701

919.560.4322 | F 919.560.4971

www.DurhamNC.gov

1869
CITY OF MEDICINE



**Statement from Durham Police Chief Jose L. Lopez Sr.
November 22 Disturbance at Durham Police Headquarters**

Friday night a group of people gathered on the plaza near the bull statue in downtown Durham to hold a demonstration about various issues. The demonstration had been advertised on social media and mentioned by at least one local media outlet.

The demonstrators, who did not have the proper permits for such an event on the plaza, were apparently joined by a group of outside protesters who we believe did not share the concerns of the original group of demonstrators. We believe the outsiders joined the protest for the sole purpose of causing disruption and damage.

Approximately 200 people marched from downtown to the front of Durham Police Headquarters at 505 West Chapel Hill Street. Some people in the crowd became unruly and threw road flares, firecrackers and smoke bombs. The side window of an unoccupied patrol car as well as several windows at the front of Police Headquarters were damaged. Some of the demonstrators also attempted to throw lit road flares under parked vehicles. We believe these actions were designed to provoke a response from officers.

Several people in the crowd were wearing masks and multiple layers of clothing which allowed them to slip back into the crowd and remove the masks and top layers of clothing, thus making them harder to identify. According to our investigators, the behavior, clothing, tactics and tools used by these individuals are consistent with persons involved in the anarchist movement.

All of our officers have received training in handling civil disturbances and I must commend the professionalism and restraint shown by our officers during this disturbance. No one was injured and the crowd was brought under control fairly quickly.

DURHAM



CITY OF DURHAM

Durham Police Department

505 WEST CHAPEL HILL STREET | DURHAM, NC 27701

919.560.4322 | F 919.560.4971

www.DurhamNC.gov

1869
CITY OF MEDICINE



We believe that the group of original demonstrators planned to hold a peaceful march since many in the crowd left when the demonstration became unruly.

Two persons were arrested. Shahqeel Alexander McCrimmon, 19, of Durham was arrested and charged with failure to disperse on command, holding a meeting/demonstration while wearing a mask or hood and causing a public disturbance. He was released from jail after posting a \$1,500 bond.

A 14-year-old male was charged with injury to property for causing damage to a police car. He was released to the custody of his parents.

This incident remains under investigation and we are still trying to identify several other people involved in damaging Police Headquarters and the patrol car. Anyone with information about the identities of these people is asked to call CrimeStoppers at (919) 683-1200.