



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Columbia Mall shooting investigation ongoing

The Howard County Police Department is providing a synopsis of today's events regarding the ongoing investigation into the shooting deaths on Jan. 25 at the Mall in Columbia.

Howard County Police Chief William J. McMahon and Howard County Executive Ken Ulman met with more than 300 mall employees on Monday morning, updating them about recovery and safety efforts that have taken place since the shooting and making available crisis counseling resources. Chief McMahon encouraged anyone who might have additional information to contact police.

The Mall in Columbia reopened for business at 1 p.m. Howard County Police will provide additional police presence inside and outside the mall, in partnership with the mall security team, for at least a week.

Following the employee meeting and the mall reopening, some employees and patrons have provided police with additional information related to the shooting. That information is being investigated. Police also received information from the public after the release of a photo of the suspect, Darion Aguilar, Sunday evening.

Investigators continue their efforts to determine a motive in the shooting. No motive has been established at this time.

Regarding the weapon used in the shooting, police have confirmed that Aguilar made two visits to the United Gun Shop in Rockville in December 2013, during which he purchased one Mossberg 12-gauge shotgun and ammunition.

Police served a search warrant at the suspect's home in College Park after the shooting and obtained a journal in which he expresses dissatisfaction with his life. Due to the ongoing investigation, detectives have not yet been able to release specific details about the journal's contents. Only information released by the Howard County Police Department is verified.

Updated information related to the investigation will continue to be released via the Howard County Police Department's twitter account, @HCPDNews.

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