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Metro

1 shot dead in South End, another hurt in Mattapan

By **Matt Rocheleau and Evan Allen** | GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS FEBRUARY 20, 2012

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A young man was shot and killed in Blackstone Square Park on Shawmut Avenue in the South End yesterday, shortly after a woman was shot in a car outside a Mattapan home in a separate attack.

According to an official at the scene of the South End shooting, the victim, about 20 years old, died from a gunshot wound to the face around 9:30 p.m. The official said the victim lived in the nearby Villa Victoria development and had been drinking in the park all evening with about six or seven other people from the complex. Police had stopped in the park earlier in the night, he said.

At around 11 p.m., the victim's body remained near the center of the park, between a fountain and a swing set, draped with a white sheet and surrounded by police tape.

In Mattapan, the woman in the car was shot around 9 p.m. outside an address on Alabama Street. She was taken to Brigham and Women's Hospital with life-threatening injuries, said Officer James Kenneally, a Boston police spokesman.

Police cleared the scene shortly before 11 p.m., after the car, an older-model Cadillac sedan that had been parked in front of the home, was towed away.

Klifton Grace answered the door at the house and said the victim is his friend's girlfriend, whose full name he did not know.

Grace, who lives nearby, said his friend and the victim live at the home along with his friend's mother, who was too distraught to comment, Grace said.

"I don't know why it happened," he said. "These are good people. There's no reason this should have happened to them."


Another neighbor, who declined to identify herself but said she has lived across the street for 18 years, said she went outside when she heard the mother screaming. She said the victim was in the front seat of the car, motionless, and the driver's window was shattered.

Rosa Phinn, 59, said she has lived near the intersection of Almont and Alabama streets for 23 years. She said she heard two gun shots at about 9 p.m.

"It's very quiet, very residential. No problems," Phinn said of the area. "And when you hear stuff like this, you get scared."

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