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Metro

# Teen shot to death in Cambridge

## Friend is wounded, in critical condition

By **Evan Allen and Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS    JUNE 04, 2012



"I just lost my daughter," the woman said. "She was a beautiful, loving, wonderful person. She was a people person. She loved life."

The woman said the shooting was drive-by.

"She was an innocent bystander," she said in a brief, emotional interview. "I told them not to hang out there."

A message on the Facebook page of the Friends of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School also named Charlene Holmes as the victim. "Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Charlene Holmes, #CRLS sophomore," the posting said. "May they find the strength, courage and patience to bear this tragic loss. RIP Charlene. You will be missed."

Authorities did not release the name of the other victim of the shooting, which is still under investigation.

Police responded to the scene after receiving a 911 call at about 8 p.m. Sunday. Several witnesses described seeing the two girls being treated in front of the house.

Richard Carfagno, 43, said he was watching some of his friends play softball at Donnelly Field across the street, when he and his friends heard four or five gunshots.

He ran over to the scene and said he saw one girl lying on the porch. The other was lying on the sidewalk receiving CPR from emergency medical technicians.

"I feel so bad. It's a bummer," said Carfango, who lives nearby and said he grew up in the area.

The street is a thickly settled residential area of East Cambridge, lined with two-family homes. The King Open School and the Frisoli Youth Center are located on Willow Street, not far from the house where the shooting occurred.

Stacy Moran, 47, said she, too lives nearby and grew up in the area.

"It was generally quiet, but it's gotten worse, a whole lot worse," she said.

She said she tells her to children to avoid the field and the stretch of houses across from it.

"It's not a quiet area at all anymore. Everybody thinks they own the territory," Moran said. "This field is

dangerous, period. They need more surveillance.”

“It’s not gang-related,” she added. “It’s retaliation type stuff ... hot-headed youngsters, fights that escalate to one thing or another.”

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