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DORCHESTER

Two people seriously wounded in shootings

By Matt Rocheleau | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT APRIL 29, 2013

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Two shootings in Dorchester Sunday — including one in broad daylight along a busy street — left two male victims hospitalized with life-threatening injuries, according to Boston Police.

At about 5:15 p.m., officers found a male victim in the 500 block of Washington St. suffering from a gunshot wound, said Officer James Kenneally. The victim was taken to Boston Medical Center. Kenneally said he could not immediately provide more details.

On Sunday evening, police hung caution tape to block off the busy block of Washington Street lined with

businesses, including a post office, a few restaurants, nail and hair salons and a dry cleaners. Officers and detectives went in and out of one store in particular, Caribbean Market. At least one official carried an evidence bag from the shop.

Several onlookers said they had heard a single gunshot.

Melinda Beschen, 43, said she heard “a loud pop,” from her apartment in a building on Washington just outside the crime scene.

She said she went outside to see a male victim on a stretcher being brought out of the Caribbean Market and put into an ambulance by first responders.

Another neighbor, Keith Johnson, 48, said he also heard a single gunshot from his apartment. He said that the block where the shooting happened is often patrolled by police, but did not know whether any officers were patrolling the area at the time of the shooting.

“It’s ironic that that’s where this happened,” he said.

He said he has grown tired of the violence in the area, is worried for the safety of his three young children and plans to move.

“It’s getting senseless,” said Johnson. “We have lives being taken or lives being threatened everyday. Either way, it’s not good.”

A second shooting a few hours later sent another person to the hospital Sunday, authorities said.

At about 7:45 p.m. on Wayland St. in Dorchester, officers found a male suffering from life-threatening gunshot wounds, Kenneally said.

The victim was taken to Boston Medical Center, but no further details were available, he said.

The intersection of Howard Avenue and Wayland Street was blocked off as officers and detectives investigated. A police dog was also on the scene.

Matt Rocheleau can be reached at matthew.rocheleau@globe.com.



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