

## 2 DETROIT OFFICERS SHOT IN COLD-BLOODED ATTACK YOUTH SMILES AS HE PULLS THE TRIGGER

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In a brazen and cold-blooded attack, a young man smiled, then fired multiple shots at two Detroit police officers who were about to ask the youth and a friend why they weren't in school Friday morning.

One of the officers, **Kelvin Patrick** , 39, was in critical condition with possible spinal-cord injuries. Doctors at Grace Hospital did not know if he will be paralyzed. He was shot once through the right forearm and once in the lower back, where the bullet lodged.

**Patrick** 's partner, **Kathy Warren** , 45, was in good condition. She was shot in the upper right arm.

One suspect apparently dropped a jacket while fleeing. Police tracking dogs traced the scent to two houses in the area. Police took several people at one house into custody. But they continued the suspect search.

"That is extremely cold-blooded and I will be so pleased when we apprehend these individuals," Mayor Dennis Archer said of reports that the gunman smiled as he squeezed the trigger.

Archer, Police Chief Chief Isaiah McKinnon and family members visited **Patrick** , who remained conscious in the emergency room. Outside, grief-stricken officers kept vigil.

McKinnon said the gunman probably used a powerful .357- caliber revolver that a witness said one of the youths pulled from under a long shirt. **Patrick** and **Warren** had no time to return fire.

Neither officer was wearing a bulletproof vest. Police said vests are available, but it's up to the officers whether to wear them.

The shootings took place shortly before noon in the 18300 block of Steel, just south of Pickford on the northwest side. **Patrick** and **Warren** were in uniform and in a cruiser assigned to school patrol out of the 12th (Palmer) Precinct. They routinely responded to trouble in schools or looked for truants.

On Friday, scores of high school seniors failed to attend classes as part of a Senior Skip Day.

"It's terrible," said officer and friend Andrew Smith. "This is something we do daily, trying to keep kids off the street and in school where they belong.

"They're both good officers," Smith said. "Real good officers."

So good that last September, **Patrick** was caught in news footage visibly distraught as a murder suspect fatally shot himself near the Lodge service drive and 7 Mile. **Patrick** had tried for hours to talk the man, suspected of killing his mother-in-law into surrendering.

According to police and witnesses, here's what happened Friday:

**Patrick** and **Warren** were driving north on Steel and spotted two young men walking south on the sidewalk. The officers asked the youths to approach. After hesitating, they began walking toward the cruiser.

By then, **Patrick** , who was driving, had parked the car facing north and got out, apparently followed by **Warren** .

One youth pulled a gun and began firing. After wounding the officers, the pair fled east in the tree-lined neighborhood of bungalow tudors and colonials.

**Warren** calmly used her two-way radio to call for an ambulance.

Quinton Guyton, 43, an off-duty Pontiac firefighter who was installing a window outside a home just one door away from the shooting, said the youth who pulled the gun "did it real nonchalant."

He "got the gun out in a way that I thought he was kidding," said Guyton. "And he had the gun out and the next thing you know he was aiming it. And then you heard the shots. And he shot one officer and then he turned to the other officer and shot."

The youths hesitated for a few seconds, then fled, said Guyton, who ran inside. After they disappeared, Guyton said he went outside and wrapped a towel on **Patrick** 's arm wound. Backup officers arrived in five minutes.

Neighbor Doris Vincent, 58, ran to her front door when she heard the shots and saw both officers bleeding.

She brought out a pillow to put under **Patrick** 's head and some towels to mop up blood.

"He was in so much pain," Vincent said. "He was hollering to call his wife.

"We never have had anything like this happen here," said Vincent, who has lived on Steel since 1984. "It scared me. I started shaking. You know a gunshot when you hear one."

**Patrick** , with 17 years in the department and **Warren** , with 18, had each won several commendations.

**Patrick** is married and has two children. A son is in kindergarten and a daughter attends college.

**Warren** 's brother, Larry **Warren** , said his sister accepted the fact that her job sometimes brought her face-to-face with danger.

"It's a job," said **Warren** . "She's been doing it . . . faithfully."

Friends and neighbors said **Kathy Warren** lives alone and is "a fine Christian lady."

Friday's shootings underscore the hazards of being a police officer, some said.

"It's a sign of the times," said Officer Anthony Wright shaking his head in dismay. "You've got to always be on your toes. For a simple investigation, you get gunned down."

His advice to other officers and the public: "Use extreme caution no matter who you're approaching."

Staff writer Blair Anthony Robertson contributed to this report.

#### HOW THE SHOOTING HAPPENED

1. Two youths walk south on Steel Street.
2. Officers, driving north, see them and stop.
3. The driver, **Kelvin Patrick** , gets out of the car.
4. About the same time, **Patrick** 's partner **Kathy Warren** gets out. Both officers are hit by gunfire.
5. Youths flee east.

Caption: Photo Color KIRTHMON DOZIER/Detroit Free Press; Diagram RICK NEASE/Detroit Free Press

Two grief-stricken Detroit officers are among members of the force keeping vigil Friday at Grace Hospital after the wounding of two officers. "They're both good officers," a fellow cop said. Officer **KelvinPatrick** was in critical condition late Friday. Officer **KelvinPatrick** , who was in critical condition late Friday after being wounded earlier in the day, negotiated with a murder suspect in September on the Lodge service drive near 7 Mile. The man took his own life after **Patrick** tried for hours to talk him into surrendering.

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