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Jacob Blake Named as Man Shot in Kenosha, Wisconsin, Police Shooting

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By [Jessica McBride \(https://heavy.com/author/jessicamcbridemilwaukee/\)](https://heavy.com/author/jessicamcbridemilwaukee/)

Updated Aug 25, 2020 at 7:02pm



Facebook

Jacob Blake was shot by police in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Jacob Blake was named by Wisconsin's (<https://heavy.com/tag/wisconsin/>) governor as the man who was shot and seriously wounded by a Kenosha police officer (<https://heavy.com/news/2020/08/kenosha-police-shooting-video/>) at close range in a graphic scene that was captured on video. The governor says Blake, 29, was shot “in the back multiple times.”

Governor Tony Evers released the injured man's name, writing on Twitter:

Tonight, Jacob Blake was shot in the back multiple times, in broad daylight, in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Kathy and I join his family, friends, and neighbors in hoping earnestly that he will not succumb to his injuries. While we do not have all of the details yet, what we know for certain is that he is not the first Black man or person to have been shot or injured or mercilessly killed at the hands of individuals in law enforcement in our state or our country.

The Wisconsin police officer fired seven shots that appeared directed at extremely close range into Blake's back as Blake bent into a car, the graphic video shows. The August 23 video captures the sound of seven gunshots. It appears that the officer opens fire while holding the back of the man's shirt. You can watch the video below, but be forewarned that it is very graphic. It's not yet known whether Blake had a weapon or had access to one; it's also not known what words were exchanged, if any, before the shooting.

A woman named Bee Davis wrote on Facebook, "Instead of saying he's dead ... Just continue to pray 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏 ... HIS NAME IS JACOB BLAKE ... Say HIS NAME!!! he's a soldier and still fighting for his life !!! PRAY PRAY PRAY!!! He's NOT DEAD ... STOP SAYING THAT S***!!!" His sister, Dior Lei Blake wrote on Facebook, "Stop the fake news, my brother is still fighting , all we need is prayers 🙏🙏" His father, also named Jacob Blake, wrote on Facebook, "My son is alive and stable."

Blake's father says (<https://chicago.suntimes.com/2020/8/25/21400481/jacob-blake-kenosha-police-shooting-riots-evanston>) his son is paralyzed, although doctors aren't sure whether it's permanent. Blake's lawyer said (<https://apnews.com/62ddb4c23511f0c1959fb4a691a81927>) August 25 that it will take a miracle for him to walk again.

"I want to thank everybody for their prayers and concerns," Jacob Blake Sr. said in his Instagram story, in which he claimed his son was shot eight times during the shooting. "This sh*t out here is real...so matter what the f*** they say doesn't justify shooting my son in the back eight times." He added: "He's still here. You hit him with eight shots. You can't take nothing that's not yours if you're not supposed to get it." In a news conference, Blake Sr. said, "They shot my son seven times, seven times, like he didn't matter. But my son matters. He's a human being and he matters."



Blake's injuries are severe and include a severed spinal cord and broken vertebrae, according to the family lawyer, speaking at the press conference.

The two officers seen in the video are on leave. Their names have not yet been released. The

Wisconsin Department of Justice is investigating. A GoFundMe page (https://www.gofundme.com/f/justiceforjacobblake?sharetype=teams&member=5465216&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=p_na+share-sheet&rcid=7d32595c11004af1a337884ec1ebd0ff) to help Blake has raised more than \$130,000.

Here's what you need to know:

1. The Graphic Video Shows the Shooting Happened at Very Close Range; His Family's Attorney Says Blake Was Trying to 'Deescalate a Domestic Situation'

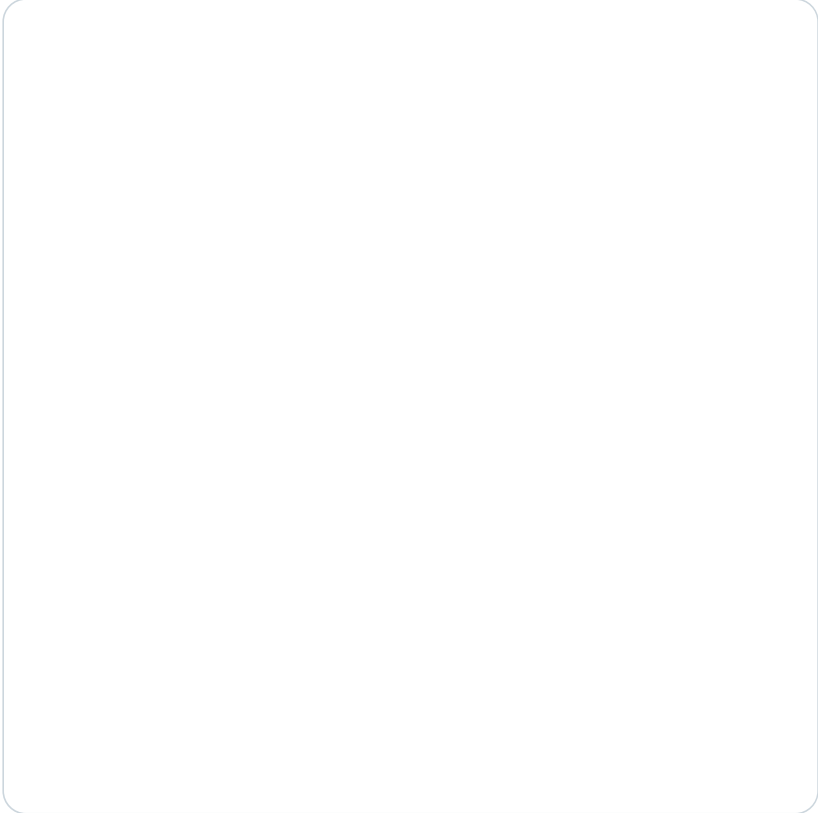
 **Terrence Daniels (Captain Planet)**
@Terrence_STR 


Warning Police Violence
Kenosha #Wisconsin



I've never seen such a casual street execution...

They shot another Black Man 7 times in the back.
Kenosha #Wisconsin. He is in critical condition.

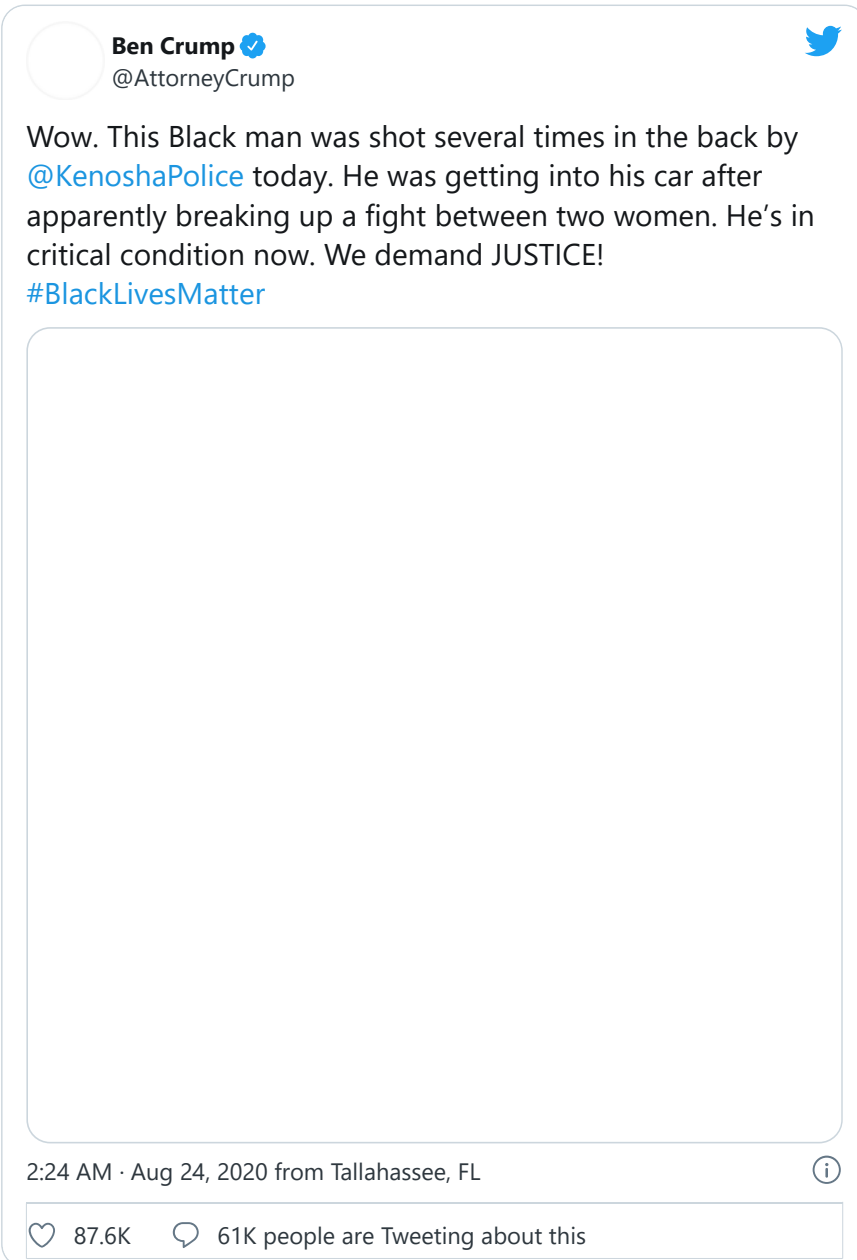
This will not end until we end it! When will it be enough?
#BlackLivesMatter



1:47 AM · Aug 24, 2020 

 183  267 people are Tweeting about this

The video shows three officers standing with Blake before he walks away from them. Then, an officer with a gun drawn follows Blake to the driver's side of his car. There are multiple people in the area. A second officer is right behind Blake. Blake, who is Black, gets in the car. The officer, who appears to be white, at least from a distance, then appears to shoot multiple times into the door at Blake's back. According to the Associated Press, a man named Raysean White recorded the video on his cell phone.



A man who took one of the videos [told WISN-TV \(https://www.wisn.com/article/he-wasnt-aggressive-man-who-recorded-viral-video-of-kenosha-police-shooting/33725162\)](https://www.wisn.com/article/he-wasnt-aggressive-man-who-recorded-viral-video-of-kenosha-police-shooting/33725162) that officers were yelling at Blake to drop a knife but he didn't see one and felt Blake wasn't aggressive. "He wasn't aggressive," the man said to the television station. "The police might say he was resisting arrest but he wasn't attacking the police. They were telling him to drop the knife. I didn't see a knife in his hand. He wasn't coming at them with a knife. And they shot him in the back as they were pulling on his shirt. I don't understand that."

Here's a video from another vantage point. A woman named Chyna Smith posted it on Facebook and wrote, "He was just bbq for his son bday they shot an unarmed black man in front of his sons."



Chyna Smith

Share



The officer who fires appears to be grabbing Blake's white shirt while firing, and it doesn't look like Blake turned to face the officer. A second officer has his gun drawn.

"It is outrageous. Who was he threatening?" Blake's uncle, Justin Blake, [told CNN \(https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/24/us/kenosha-police-shooting-jacob-blake/index.html\)](https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/24/us/kenosha-police-shooting-jacob-blake/index.html). "He had a tank top and shorts on. He had no weapon. He was going back to the car because the children needed to be checked on."

A former Kenosha alderman, Kevin Mathewson, was one of those who shared the video on Facebook. You can also watch it here. (<https://www.facebook.com/aldermankevin/videos/783584535736417/>) "Kenosha Police Shooting man 7 times in back," he wrote. "Why the f*** you shoot him that many times?" a man shouts at the officer in the video. A woman named Telicia Phillips (<https://www.facebook.com/telicia.phillips.3>) appears to have first posted the videos. Heavy has reached out to her for comment.

Here are some screenshots from the video.



A screenshot from the video.



Facebook

A screenshot from the video of the Kenosha police shooting of Jacob Blake.

In a statement posted to his Twitter page, [civil rights attorney Ben Crump \(https://twitter.com/AttorneyCrump/status/1297892142443122690\)](https://twitter.com/AttorneyCrump/status/1297892142443122690) said he is representing Blake's family. His release says Blake is a "Black man who was shot in the back several times by Kenosha police."

The [statement \(https://twitter.com/AttorneyCrump/status/1297892142443122690/photo/1\)](https://twitter.com/AttorneyCrump/status/1297892142443122690/photo/1) says Blake "was helping to deescalate a domestic incident when police drew their weapons and tasered him. As he was walking away to check on his children, police fired their weapons several times into his back at point blank range."

Blake's Facebook cover photo shows officers in a squad car appearing to wear pig and devil masks.



Jake Blake Facebook cover picture

Blake's most recent visible Facebook post is from May and says, "Will Smith just bodied every new generation rapper....I don't care what anybody say... Y'all n***** stink..... NO TALENT..... NO TALENT." His profile picture is of Chicago's mayor superimposed over a scene with cars. He also posted photos of bongos, writing, "My homie got sum ish here cuZZn"

He posted a selfie in a vape shop, writing, "come get what u need bc they got it."

2. Jacob Blake Is a Father of Six; Three of His Children Watched the Shooting Occur, His Family's Attorney Says



Facebook

Jacob Blake.




A photo shared by WISN-TV and pictures on Facebook showed Blake with multiple children, and posts on Facebook indicated that he is a father. His attorney [told CNN \(https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/24/us/kenosha-police-shooting-jacob-blake/index.html?utm_term=link&utm_source=twCNN&utm_medium=social&utm_content=2020-08-24T08%3A51%3A05\)](https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/24/us/kenosha-police-shooting-jacob-blake/index.html?utm_term=link&utm_source=twCNN&utm_medium=social&utm_content=2020-08-24T08%3A51%3A05) that his children, ages 3, 5 and 8, were in the car at the time of the shooting.

"As we fight for justice and understanding, our family has and will face many trials during this

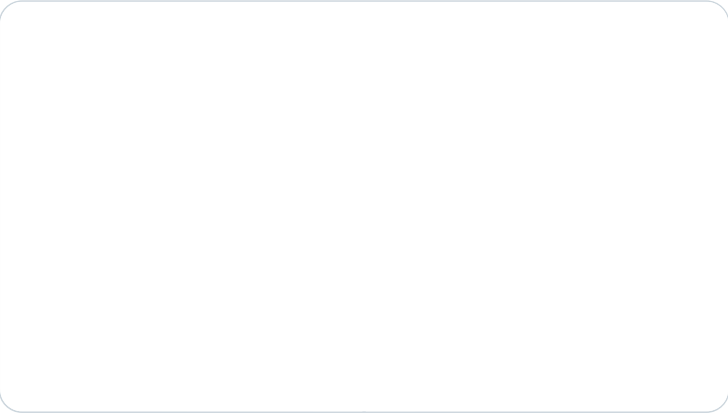
time. Jacob Blake is a loving father of 6 that deserves proper medical attention and legal representation,” the GoFundme page for Blake says. “We are looking to raise funds to supplement the moral support and prayers we have been receiving. These funds will go toward Jacob’s medical bills, legal representation, support for his children and therapy costs. This is the only official go fund me created by the family of Jacob Blake.”



The Kenosha News (https://www.kenoshanews.com/news/local/watch-now-neighbors-man-shot-by-police-at-40th-street-and-28th-ave/article_f1adbd13-3a15-5cdd-bd4e-95113ca36de4.amp.html?fbclid=IwAR2Zmr9UMCu-0E7PvEzd69Q-UZa91Z2gtjk3L_mUExFVSVQAYFBf1kguNwY) also reported that the shooting occurred in front of the man’s children.

Crump confirmed that in his statement. “Blake’s three sons were only a few feet away and witnessed police shoot their father,” he wrote. “His three sons witnessed their father collapse after being riddled with bullets. Their (Kenosha police officers’) irresponsible, reckless, and inhumane actions nearly cost the life of a man who was simply trying to do the right thing by intervening in a domestic incident. It’s a miracle he’s still alive.”

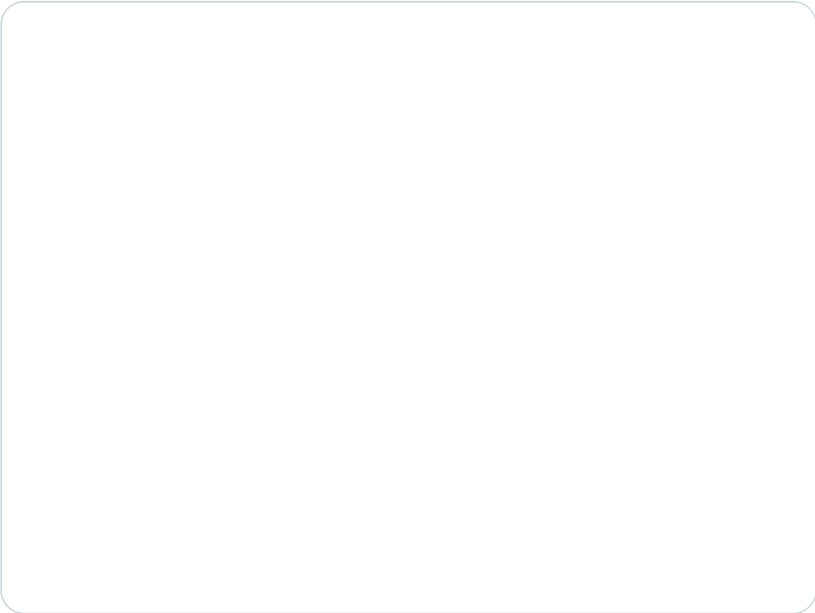
 **Sarah Thamer**  @SarahThamerWISN · Aug 24, 2020 


On scene of an officer-involved shooting in Kenosha. We're at 28th ave & 40th street working to gather more information.





 **Sarah Thamer**  @SarahThamerWISN

This is 29-year-old Jacob Blake who was shot by Kenosha police. His fiancé shared this picture with us.



1:59 AM · Aug 24, 2020 

 47.3K  28.2K people are Tweeting about this

Governor Evers' statement on Twitter continued:

We stand with all those who have and continue to demand justice, equity, and accountability for Black lives in our country—lives like those of George Floyd, of Breonna Taylor, Tony Robinson, Dontre Hamilton, Ernest Lacy, and Sylville Smith. And we stand against excessive use of force and immediate escalation when engaging with Black Wisconsinites. I have said all along that although we must offer our empathy, equally important is our action. In the coming days, we will demand just that of elected officials in our state who have failed to recognize the racism in our state and our country for far too long.

The Kenosha Police Association wrote that, (https://www.kenoshanews.com/news/local/kenosha-professional-police-association-issues-statement/article_9f8a0de6-0a6c-5145-b180-2071bea07333.html?fbclid=IwAR37L_ScLl1z9hDRzKbyyXIBTWxXKyX99X_H3sZow5NTTbKXACESfknkzpE#tracking-source=home-top-story-1) until the DOJ investigation is completed, “we ask that you withhold prejudgment about the incident and please the let process take place. Governor Evers’ statement on the incident was wholly irresponsible and not reflective of the hardworking members of the law enforcement community, not to mention the citizens of the City of Kenosha...As always, the video currently circulating does not capture all the intricacies of a highly dynamic incident. We ask that you withhold from passing judgement until all the facts are known and released.”

A woman named Lacey January wrote on Facebook:

As soon as you think police brutality is over, it strikes again. This time is personal.

Not Jake 🙏🙏

We love you Jake Blake.

They said you were just breaking up a fight.

They said you had your kids in the car.


The Police shot you 7 or 8 or 9 times and you were unarmed.

Is this even real?!


#JusticeForJacob

🙏🙏 Death has not been confirmed so please continue Praying 🙏🙏 I know he can pull through by the grace of God 🙏🙏

3. Police Say They Were Dispatched to a Domestic Incident & Then an Officer-Involved Shooting



Kenosha Police Department
on Sunday



Lieutenant Joseph Novak
1000 1st Street, Kenosha, WI 53140
Phone: 262-465-5216 Fax: 262-465-5249
Email: jnovak@kenosha.org
www.kenosha.org

Media Release

August 23, 2020

At 5:11pm Kenosha Police Officers were sent to the 2800 block of 40th Street for a domestic incident and were involved in an officer involved shooting.

Officers provided immediate aid to the person. The person was transported via Flight for Life to Froedtert Hospital, Milwaukee. The person is in serious condition.

Kenosha Sheriff's Department and Wisconsin State Patrol were requested immediately so that the scene could be turned over to an agency, other than Kenosha Police.

The Wisconsin Department of Justice (D.O.J.), Division of Criminal Investigation (D.C.I.) will be investigating this officer involved shooting. Further media releases will come directly from D.C.I. Inquiries should be directed to dojcommunications@doj.state.wi.us

###

August 23, 2020
Media Release
At 5:11pm Kenosha Police Officers were sent to the 2800 block of 40th Street for a domestic incident and were involved in an officer involved shooting.... [See more](#)

213 **1K** **1K**

Kenosha police have released very few details about how the shooting unfolded. Here's the full statement released by Kenosha police about the August 23 shooting:


At 5:11 p.m. Kenosha Police Officers were sent to the 2800 block of 40th Street for a domestic incident and were involved in an officer involved shooting.

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On August 24, police released a follow-up statement, but it didn't say much else. The city declared a state of emergency and curfew.



Kenosha Police Department
on Monday



Josh Kaul
Wisconsin Attorney General P.O. Box 7837
Madison, WI 53707-7837

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 24, 2020

Update: Kenosha Officer Involved Shooting

KENOSHA, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) is investigating an officer involved shooting (OIS) in Kenosha, Wis. that occurred on the evening of Sunday, August 23, 2020.

The shooting occurred when Kenosha police officers responded to a reported domestic incident in the 2800 block of 40th Street.

Law enforcement immediately provided medical aid to the person who was shot. Flight for Life transported the person to Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee. The person is in serious condition.

DCI is leading this investigation and is assisted by Wisconsin State Patrol and Kenosha County Sheriff's Office. All involved law enforcement are fully cooperating with DCI during this investigation. The involved officers have been placed on administrative leave.

DCI is continuing to review evidence and determine the facts of this incident and will turn over investigative reports to a prosecutor following a complete and thorough investigation.

If members of the public have any further information regarding this incident, please contact law enforcement.

When DCI is the lead investigating agency of a shooting involving a law enforcement officer, DCI aims to provide a report of the incident to the prosecutor within 30 days. The prosecutor then reviews the report and makes a determination about what

Page 1 of 2

DOJ Communications Office DOJCommunications@doj.state.wi.us (608) 266-1229

charges, if any, are appropriate. If the prosecutor determines there is no basis for prosecution of the law enforcement officer, DCI will thereafter make the report available to the public.

There has been speculation on social media about the identities of those involved in this incident. The public is advised to await identifying information from an official source.

No additional details are currently available.

Please direct all media inquiries regarding this incident to DOJ.

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 24, 2020
Update: Kenosha Officer Involved Shooting... [See More](#)

150
769
398

There was a press conference on August 24.



LIVE: Kenosha News conference
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel was Live • [Follow](#)

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Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul said in a statement, “As with all investigations we conduct, we will unwaveringly pursue justice in this case.”



Facebook

Jake Blake

According to Wisconsin Circuit Court Access online records (<https://wcca.wicourts.gov/caseDe->

[tail.html?caseNo=2020CF000736&countyNo=30&index=0&mode=details](https://www.judicialbranch.wisconsin.gov/court_records/court_records.html?caseNo=2020CF000736&countyNo=30&index=0&mode=details)), a Jacob S. Blake, same age and with an address in the same block where the shooting occurred, had a warrant issued for him on July 7 on pending accusations of misdemeanor criminal trespass to a dwelling with domestic abuse as a modifier; felony third-degree sexual assault with domestic abuse as a modifier; and misdemeanor disorderly conduct with domestic abuse as a modifier. A support action was dismissed, and the only other case that comes up is for not having a driver's license.

A 2015 story in Racine Eye described (https://racinecountyeve.com/police-k9-dozer-helps-subdue-man-who-pulled-gun-at-bar/?fbclid=IwAR2sJUHqIAUaZqEvzW_Anfx24M_QzhEpYEQafEsub3iUaYhhikVidND8fTg) how “Racine police say K9 Dozer had to help officers take a man into custody when the man refused to go quietly into custody after he pulled a gun at a local bar.” The man was described as Jacob Blake, 24, of Racine, which makes him the same age as the man shot by police on August 23. The Racine Eye story said he was charged with “one felony count of resisting arrest causing a soft tissue injury to a police officer and one misdemeanor count each of carrying a concealed weapon, carrying a firearm while intoxicated, endangering safety-use of a dangerous weapon, and disorderly conduct.” Those charges don't show up on the circuit court website though.

Defendant owes the court: \$0.00

Count no.	Statute	Description	Severity	Disposition
1	943.14(2)	Criminal Trespass to Dwelling	Misd. A	
Modifier:	968.075(1)(a)	Domestic Abuse		
2	940.225(3)(a)	3rd Degree Sexual Assault	Felony G	
Modifier:	968.075(1)(a)	Domestic Abuse		
3	947.01(1)	Disorderly Conduct	Misd. B	
Modifier:	968.075(1)(a)	Domestic Abuse		

[View history and details of charges/sentences](#)

Defendant

Defendant name Blake, Jacob S.	Date of birth 04-30-1991	Sex Male	Race African American
Address (last updated 07-06-2020) 2805 40th Street, # D, Kenosha, WI 53140	JUSTIS ID	Fingerprint ID	

Court record

A Wisconsin Circuit Court Access page showing charges against Jacob S. Blake.

That story further alleged, “Blake and two women were at the Brass Monkey tavern, 1436 Junction Avenue, Saturday when Blake got into an argument with another patron and pulled a black handgun. Blake pointed the gun at the other man, and the magazine fell to the floor. The bartender told Blake to leave, and he did but then pointed the gun through the window at patrons inside the bar before walking south on Junction Avenue.”

Police stopped Blake in a “high risk traffic stop” but he “exited the SUV and started walking toward officers and ignored commands to get down on the ground,” the story said. That’s when of-

ficers forced him to the ground and used a K9 when he kept resisting, the story added.

4. Blake's Reverend Grandfather Was Involved in the Civil Right's Movement



Jacob Blake.

According to CNN (<https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/25/us/who-is-jacob-blake-trnd/index.html>), Blake was raised in Evanston, Illinois, and moved to Kenosha for a “fresh start.” The cable news network reported that his grandfather, Rev. Jacob Blake Sr., “led the fight for fair housing in Evanston throughout the 1960s and ’70s and led the Ebenezer AME Church congregation.” He focused on racial discrimination in housing, organizing marches after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, CNN reported.

In the wake of Blake’s shooting, outrage is erupting in the southeastern Wisconsin community, which is located in between Milwaukee and Chicago.



There were reports that an officer was knocked out with a brick. In the days after the shooting, businesses were torched, cars smashed and burned, and graffiti, including “kill cops” sprayed. At least 34 fires were started with 30 businesses destroyed, according to AP. Blake’s mother has called for peace.

5. Neighbors Said Blake Was Trying to Break Up a Fight & Was Tasered First



Facebook

Jacob Blake

According to the Kenosha News, neighbors said “police tasered and then shot a man several times.”

Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes said, according to CNN (<https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/24/us/kenosha-police-shooting-jacob-blake/index.html>), “The irony is not lost on me that as Jacob Blake was actually trying to deescalate a situation in his community, but the responding officer didn’t feel the need to do the same.”

The Kenosha News reported (https://www.kenoshanews.com/news/local/watch-now-neighbors-man-shot-by-police-at-40th-street-and-28th-ave/article_f1adbd13-3a15-5cdd-bd4e-95113ca36de4.amp.html?fbclid=IwAR2Zmr9UMCu-0E7PvEzd69Q-UZa91Z2gtjk3L_mUExFVSVQAYFBf1kguNwY) that neighbors said the man was “trying to break up a fight between two women.”

Crump, the attorney for Blake’s family, gave a similar account, writing on Twitter, “He was getting into his car after apparently breaking up a fight between two women.”

[READ NEXT: Radio Exec ‘Paddy Duke’ Fired After Past Accusations Of Murder Exposed \(https://heavy.com/news/2020/08/paddy-duke-yusef-hawkins/\)](https://heavy.com/news/2020/08/paddy-duke-yusef-hawkins/)

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