



Medical Center: 13 shooting victims at hospital



Odessa and Midland police and sheriff's deputies surround the area behind Cinergy in Odessa where one shooter who stole a mail truck 08/31/19 was detained and killed. Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Medical Center Hospital CEO Russell Tippin updated members of the media on the condition of the gunshot victims receiving treatment at MCH's Odessa location following a mass shooting Friday afternoon.

He also clarified that 13 victims have received treatment at the hospital; in an earlier press conference, he said there were 14.

Tippin said eight people have had surgery; seven people are in critical condition, with two of those being in serious condition, and one person died. He said two people have been treated and released. One patient under 2 years old was transferred to another hospital, he said.

Trauma doctor with MCH Sudip Bose said during the press conference that the hospital was prepared for a mass casualty situation.

An incident commander with MCH, Matt Collins, said the hospital is fully staffed and returning to regular operations.

He said there's not a need for additional blood donations at this time and for those in the community wanting to help, they can pray for victims.

"The community needs your prayers. Victims need your prayers. Families need your prayers. The hospital staff needs your prayers," he said.

Collins said the hospital is not releasing names or any information regarding victims at this time. He said the hospital will stay under lockdown until 10 p.m. as a precaution.

Tippin said a family reunification center has been set up at the Ector County Annex Center.

Medical Center Hospital CEO Russell Tippin said in a press conference this evening that 14 gunshot victims are receiving treatment at the MCH Odessa location after a mass shooting earlier in the day.

The Odessa Police Department confirmed in an earlier press conference that 21 people were shot and five were killed by a white male in his 30s following a traffic stop.

Tippin encouraged everyone watching the press conference to keep loved ones close.

"If you are listening to my voice, grasp onto loved ones and hold onto them and pray for this town and family and victims involved," he said. "This is a scary incident, and no one is guaranteed tomorrow. Give thoughts and prayers to families and victims in this tragic incident."

Tippin said the hospital has staged an area on-site with grief counselors and social workers to assist families of victims.

He said the hospital has enough supplies and blood to treat victims at this time. All locations of MCH are under lockdown as a precaution, he said.

Read more at: <https://www.mrt.com/news/article/MCH-14-shooting-victims-at-hospital14404993.php#photo-18191040>