

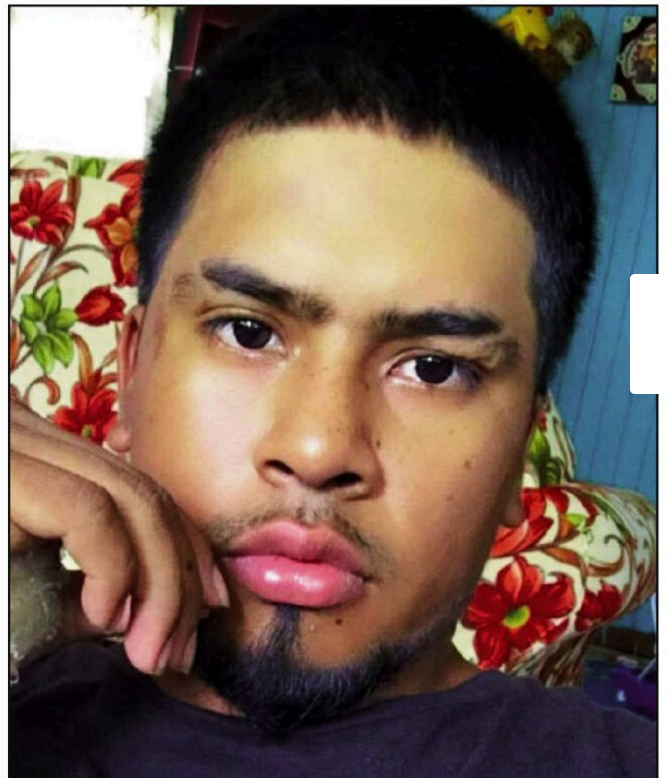


GUYANA NEWS

# Killing of bystander by police triggers Linden protests

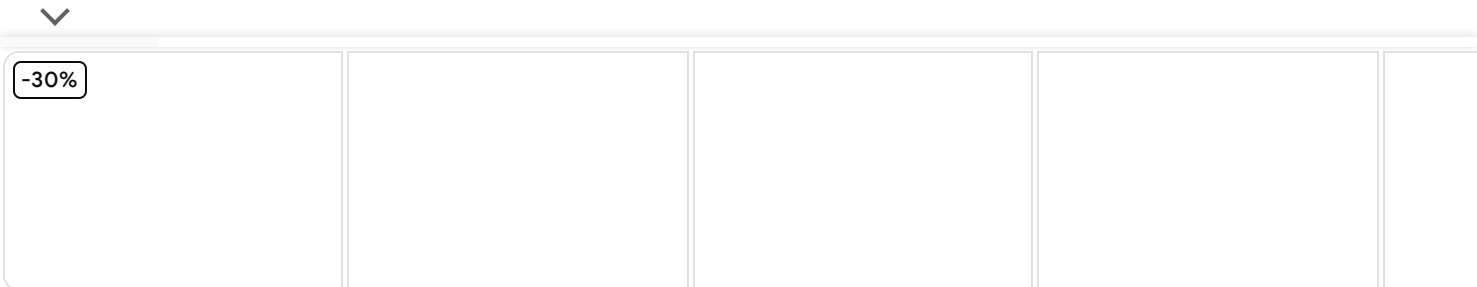


**Dead: Keon Fogenay aka "Dan"**



**Dead: Ronaldo Peters**

By [Stabroek News](#) April 9, 2025



The police killing of a bystander during protests in Linden yesterday over the fatal shooting of a man by a cop on Monday, triggered widespread riotous behaviour during which the Mackenzie-Wismar Bridge was blocked with debris, fires set and missiles hurled at law enforcers.

In a bid to quell the situation, President Irfaan Ali flew to the town by helicopter, met with the aggrieved families and promised a full probe by the Regional Security System (RSS).

Keon Fogenay, a 32-year-old bystander known as "Dan," became the second casualty in Linden's escalating crisis yesterday, fatally shot amidst clashes between protestors and police. His death fuelled further the fiery protests, which had been raging for over 12 hours and which erupted after the disputed police killing of 21-year-old Ronaldo Peters on Monday. The mining town was yesterday gripped by grief and anger, its streets scarred by violence and critical infrastructure paralyzed by the unrest. Both Fogenay and Peters originated from Wismar's Buck Ville area.

Ali arrived in Linden yesterday around 6:00 pm and convened meetings at Watooka House even as unrest continued in another part of town and teargas was fired.

The President first addressed a crowd before meeting privately with the bereaved families. Protests continued after his departure over an hour later.

"I'm here to listen to you, to talk to you, and to assure you on a few things,"

President Ali declared, offering condolences. He made a pledge regarding



Yesterday morning when the police were advancing to the protestors

with those outcomes.” He emphasized the importance of independent oversight to ensure impartiality.

The President stressed his primary purpose was engaging the families directly. “The discussion with the families... that is the most important thing; to listen to the family and for us... to bring calm to our society.” While appealing for calm, he also deplored the destruction: “There is no reason why we must be destroying infrastructure, destroying property – that

does not help people.”

The President’s arrival, however, revealed underlying tensions regarding the impetus for his visit. Linden Mayor Sharma Solomon publicly challenged the President’s narrative. While Ali stated he came immediately upon hearing the families wished to see him (“I said I’m dropping everything and I’m coming”), Solomon asserted that the visit only occurred after the families, supported by him, refused an initial offer relayed by Deputy Com-missioner Simon McBean and a GDF representative for them to travel to Georgetown. “At the

## Keep the peace

Following the private meetings, a live-streamed statement featured Ronaldo Peters' cousin expressing cautious optimism: "We are fully engaging with His Excellency and you guys should keep the peace in Linden here... the President has pledged his full support... and justice will be served." President Ali later reaffirmed his commitment to an independent probe and ensuring support for the families and injured officers.



A protester with a police shield

The unrest, which began simmering on Monday evening and boiled over violently throughout yesterday, transformed familiar Linden streets into volatile confrontation zones. Enraged residents, demanding accountability for Peters' death, erected barricades across key roadways in Wismar and other areas. Debris – tires, wood, and refuse – was piled high and set ablaze, sending plumes of acrid smoke into the air while effectively severing access, most notably blocking the critical Wismar-Mackenzie Bridge. The trestle being used for the construction of the second Wismar to Mackenzie bridge was also rendered inaccessible. As a consequence of the instability, SN understands and witnessed through live broadcasts that workers from the China Railway



One of the shotgun cartridge recovered by the protestors

Throughout Tuesday, chaotic scenes unfolded as protesters clashed repeatedly with police officers attempting to clear the blockades and restore order. The Guyana Police Force reported that its ranks were met with a barrage of "missiles," including rocks and other projectiles, witnessed by a Stabroek News (SN) reporter, hurled at both officers and police vehicles. Several police vehicles sustained visible damage, including shattered windows and dents. In a dramatic turn, protesters reportedly managed to seize a police riot shield during one skirmish. Amidst the turmoil, reports surfaced of damage occurring at the Mackenzie Hospital, though the extent remains unclear.

The human cost of the clashes mounted significantly. Beyond the two fatalities, numerous civilians and police officers sustained injuries. Reports indicated civilians suffered wounds consistent with buckshot or pellets fired by police. The police force confirmed that Gazetted police officers were

Police Station Sergeant received intelligence that Peters – allegedly wanted for questioning related to an alleged statutory rape reported between December 2024 and January 2025 – was present at Shabba Bar, One Mile, Wismar.

According to this police account, the Sergeant, accompanied by another rank,



One of the 9mm shells recovered by the protestors



proceeded to the location. The Sergeant carried his 9mm service pistol, the other rank a .38 service revolver, and both were, according to the release, “fully dressed in uniform.” Upon spotting the officers, Peters allegedly fled, attempting to scale a nearby fence. The Sergeant claims he intercepted Peters, pulling him off the fence. It was allegedly “in the process of subduing him” that the Sergeant’s service pistol, held in his right hand, discharged, striking

undergoing treatment. A subsequent examination found a single circular wound on the right side of his lower abdomen.

This official sequence of events, however, stands in stark contrast to the accounts provided by distraught family members and purported eyewitnesses, raising serious questions about the police report's accuracy, particularly the claim officers were in uniform. Available CCTV footage reportedly contradicts the police assertion regarding uniforms.

### **Just pull up**

A cousin of Peters provided SN with a harrowing alternative account: "The police just pull up in a black Lethem bus today, without any police clothes or anything... The young man was sitting outside a bar next to one mile school opposite the nursery school. They just shot him drag him and just put him in the vehicle." This witness further alleged the police vehicle circled the area with the wounded Peters inside before finally proceeding to the hospital, by which time, the witness believed, it was too late. "They didn't even identify themselves," the cousin lamented. "It had no reason for him to shoot he... Just in a black bus and shoot he, that was the behaviour."





Debris from burnt tyres

Peters' family expressed profound shock and disbelief, particularly regarding the alleged rape accusation, which they stated they had never heard before the police report. "Me stepson is nah no rape man," insisted Keeno Glasgow to SN yesterday, Peters' stepfather. "I never hear duh yet... why the police didn't put it out?" Glasgow, a small businessman, recounted the devastating moment the news arrived. His wife, Peters' mother, was peeling plantains when the phone rang. "She just holla and drop down... she pregnant and she drop down and wasn't catching herself... saying something happen to my son." The shock sent her to the hospital with dangerously high blood pressure. Glasgow described his stepson as a "cool person," a painter who worked every day and wasn't involved in trouble. "He should have arrested him, they didn't need to shoot him... they could have shot him on his foot... I gotta get justice for this."

---



had already laid the foundation for a house for himself and his child's mother. His baby is just one year and three months old. "Who is going to take her to day care? Who is going to take care of her? Who is going to help?" Benjamin cried, emphasizing Ronaldo was only 21 years old, correcting earlier reports stating different ages. "He has no criminal record... If he was a bad person I wouldn't have had him staying here... I could row with Naldo one hour straight he would never answer me back." The manner of his handling after being shot particularly horrified her: "When they done shoot my nephew they drag him like an animal, like a dog... he is not a dog." The sentiment in the neighbourhood, she added, reflected this view: "The neighbour, the pastor wife said man Ronaldo? Everybody everybody, loved him." His father was desperately trying to make his way out from the interior (Cuyuni/Bartica) to reach Linden.



As protests raged yesterday, the violence claimed its second victim: Fogenay, 32. His brother, Joshua George, conveyed the shock and circumstances surrounding his death to SN. Fogenay, George explained, had only just arrived in Linden from Georgetown that day. "Meen see me brudda long now... we deh up here all morning and meen see he," George said, indicating Fogenay likely encountered the unfolding protest shortly after arriving. "He mussy see wuh going on and he stop by twin head corner and like he jump off the bike... All they tell me is that the police shoot me brother and he's dead."

Fogenay was reportedly shot in the right eye. George alleged the fatal shot came from a specific officer. He noted that 9mm casings, suggestive of live ammunition rather than pellets or rubber bullets, were found on the ground near the scene. George asserted there was no pre-existing conflict between his brother and the cop in question. He also shared that earlier in the day, before the fatal shooting, he had witnessed the policeman "shooting up" and had personally tried to ease tensions by offering water to the police, an offer Primus allegedly discouraged others from accepting. Fogenay, a father of four, was described as simply being in the wrong place at the most tragic time. "I need justice and the police dem need to go to jail," George demanded, expressing frustration with a system where officers implicated in wrongdoing are often merely transferred. He pointedly questioned how the officer involved in Peters' death was even present, alleging that officer had previously killed someone in Georgetown. "Is shoot he kill a person in town and is how he reach up hay, and (he) come and shoot up me brother," he stated bitterly.

---

✓ The Guyana Police Force facing mounting pressure and escalating violence.

Speaking with SN, MP Amanza Walton-Desir, having engaged with police on the ground earlier, continued to call for de-escalation tactics and an end to the use of lethal force.

As night fell over Linden on Tuesday, the intensity of the protests seemed to subside somewhat, but the situation remained volatile. The Wismar-Mackenzie Bridge was still reported blocked up to press time.

Yesterday's protest was reminiscent of an eruption in July 2012 when the police shot three protesters dead leading to a weeks-long blockade of the bridge.



## TRENDING

---

1 Duo freed over Double Day Hotel murder charge





---

**3 House of Tuschen hotel owner set on fire**



---

**4 Tuschen hotel set on fire after body of missing girl found in pool**



---

**5 Girl who went missing found dead in Tuschen hotel pool**



---

**6 Three women shot dead on highway, shooter dies by suicide**



---

**7 Police acknowledge errors in original statement on missing girl**





Fredericks



Zaheer Mohammed Sheriff



Donovan Was

## 9 Three cops remanded over theft of cocaine from station



## MORE IN GUYANA NEWS

---

Tuschen erupts after body of missing girl found in pool 7 h ago

---

'She tried to get away'... family friend speaks out after triple murder-suicide h ago

---

Friendship labourer gets 10 years, 4 months for 2020 manslaughter 7 h ago

---

Charity Pump Station project facing engineering challenges – gov't 7 h ago

---

Police mishandling of missing girl at Tuschen encouraged disorder – GHRA 7 h ago

---

Gov't to invest \$8b in 29 bridges linking Regions 8, 9 7 h ago



ALSO ON STABROEK NEWS

**Three cops remanded over theft of cocaine ...**

a day ago · 15 comments

Three serving members of the Guyana Police Force, Latchman Singh, Grenville ...

**Tuschen erupts after body of missing girl ...**

6 hours ago · 8 comments

-hotel, owner's residence set afire -police admit errors in original statement ...

**China's new ambassador accredited**

a day ago · 8 comments

President Irfaan Ali yesterday accepted the Letters of Credence from ...

**Poli  
disa**

a day

The j  
the d  
of a



## Important Update

When you log in with Disqus, we process personal data to facilitate your authentication and posting of comments. We also store the comments you post and those comments are immediately viewable and searchable by anyone around the world.

Please access our [Privacy Policy](#) to learn what personal data Disqus collects and your choices about how it is used. All users of our service are also subject to our [Terms of Service](#).

**Proceed**

















## RELATED COVERAGE

---

# Joint probe of killing of Linden men underway

April 13, 2025

# Probe into police fatal shooting of Ronaldo Peters has concluded

April 22, 2025

## Sign Up For The Morning Brief

A FREE roundup of top news from Guyana you might otherwise miss. Delivered every morning.

Sign up



About Stabroek News  
Archive Contact Us

Become a Subscriber  
Place An Ad

Subscriber Help

Newsletter

Mobile Apps

© 1997 - 2025 Stabroek News 46-47 Robb Street, Lacytown, Georgetown, Guyana. Terms of Service Privacy Policy



