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Racine Police Department Chief Alex Ramirez talks Tuesday during a press conference at the City Hall Annex Building. Behind Ramirez are Alder Maurice Horton, from left, John Tate II, Racine Department of Community Safety director, and Mayor Cory Mason.

‘We will be out there’

Officials address recent homicides as investigations continue

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RACINE — Racine Police Department Chief Alex Ramirez addressed the recent spate of gun violence that has left two people dead since Friday during a news conference Tuesday afternoon

at the City Hall Annex Building. Ramirez mentioned the department has identified “persons of interest,” but no one has been charged in connection with either shooting.

He cited irresponsible gun ownership as a catalyst for community gun violence.

“I want people who own guns to be responsible,” Ramirez said. “We have reports of guns being stolen out of cars, irresponsible owners leaving guns available to

children, causing some of the violence in this city. That is simply unacceptable.”

Ramirez also said as of July 15, Racine has had 15 shots fired incidents, two homicides and six people hit by gunfire this month.

However, there were only 47 shots fired through the end of June 2025 compared to 55 shots fired through the end of June 2024, according to Ramirez.

“Even though we’re trending down, we’re going to continue

to combat gun violence,” he said. Racine Mayor Corey Mason attended the news conference and outlined how the city aims to reduce community violence.

“We want to identify the parties responsible; we’re also just as committed to preventing further violence and supporting the neighborhoods that are most affected,” Mason said.

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Homicides

Tuesday morning fatal shooting

Officers responded to the 1200 block of 11th Street at 12:35 a.m. Tuesday after reports of shots being fired and found a 37-year-old woman dead at the scene.

Officers reportedly determined the woman was caught in crossfire between at least two people believed to be shooting at each other.

The department called the investigation “active

and fluid” in a press release Tuesday.

Friday fatal shooting

A 52-year-old man died after suffering a gunshot wound Friday.

Police said the 52-year-old and a 21-year-old man, who survived, were shot during an alleged burglary in the 800 block of St. Patrick Street about 11:26 p.m.

Anyone with information related to either shooting is asked to call the RPD Investigations Unit at 262-635-7756. People wishing to remain anonymous can contact Crime Stoppers at

262-636-9330 or through the P3 Tips app.

Community Initiative

John Tate II, Racine Department of Community Safety executive director, attended the conference to address violence prevention measures through community outreach initiatives.

“We have a team that’s currently out right now trying to engage individuals in the community who may know what happened last night, who may be affected ... who might have feelings about wanting to respond

... to discourage them from taking those actions into their own hands and allow law enforcement to do their job,” Tate said.

When asked about concerns to public safety, RPD Deputy Chief Jessie Metoyer said, “We will be directing resources from our divisions who will be out and about, providing heavy extra attention over the weekend and throughout the summer. We are deploying more resources, and we will be out there, in addition to all of the things that we do behind the scenes.”