Article Side

Violence mars Black Friday shopping across US by Ritika Sharma

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A string of violent incidents marred Black Friday sales, the annual bargain hunting ritual that kicks off the traditional Christmas shopping season after Thanksgiving.

Shootings, brawls, stabbings and a pepper spray attack were reported from across the nation as throngs of unruly shoppers scrambled to grab the best Black Friday deals.

Spicy 'competitive shopping':- In a case of â€œcompetitive shopping,â€• a woman whipped out a pepper spray and doused other shoppers in the video game aisle of a San Fernando Valley Walmart.

At least 20 people, including kids, suffered minor skin burns and eye irritations from the incident. As chaos prevailed, the woman, so far described as Hispanic and in her 30s, managed to slip out of the store before police arrived on the scene. In a case of â€œcompetitive shopping,â€• a woman whipped out a pepper spray and doused other shoppers in the video game aisle of a San Fernando Valley Walmart. A shopper was critically wounded in a shoot-out in the parking lot of the San Leandro, California-store at around 1:50 a.m. after he refused to hand over his merchandise to a group of robbers. The attackers fled the spot after Robbins' companions pulled out a revolver and fired three warning shots into the air. Another incident saw a couple of thieves shooting 55-year-old Tonia Robbins in the foot while trying to steal her purse outside a Walmart in Myrtle Beach

Los Angeles Police Department Sergeant J. Valle said, â€˜â€˜It was chaotic, just crowded and weâ€™re tr to see whether this person was on the (surveillance) video or whether she made any purchases.â€•

If caught, the woman could face felony battery charges, with jail time and fines.

Shot for resisting robbery:- In a separate incident at another Walmart, a shopper was critically wounded in a shoot-out in the parking lot of the San Leandro, California-store at around 1:50 a.m. after he refused to hand over his merchandise to a group of robbers.

Family members of the victim pinned one assailant to the ground until police arrived, but the others managed to flee the crime scene.

â€œIt looks like these guys were looking for a crime of opportunity,â€• Sergeant Mike Sobek of the San Leandro Police Department told ABCNews.com.

Another incident saw a couple of thieves shooting 55-year-old Tonia Robbins in the foot while trying to steal her purse outside a Walmart in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina shortly after 1 a.m.

The attackers fled the spot after Robbins' companions pulled out a revolver and fired three warning shots into the air, the police report stated.

Violence mixed with bargain hunting:- Early Friday morning, shoppers got into a scuffle in front of Macyâ€™s at a Sacramento mall and a man received â€œnon-life threateningâ€• injuries after being stabb the midsection. Elsewhere, two people were hospitalized with minor injuries after a brawl in the electronics department of a Walmart in Rome, New York, shortly after midnight.

A Florida man was arrested for taking a swing at police officers after a fight broke out at a jewelery counter in Walmart in Kissimmee.

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