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CITY OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

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Jeffery M. Smith
Mayor

STATEMENT FROM CITY OF WATERTOWN MAYOR JEFF SMITH

As reported by law enforcement officials, an active shooting incident occurred in the City of Watertown this afternoon that resulted in the loss of two lives.

This is the type of thing we far too frequently see on the national news. We never think it could happen in the City of Watertown, but today it did. This is an unspeakable, senseless tragedy, where two innocent people were gunned down in a vicious act of violence. My heart breaks for the victims, their families and our entire community who I know share in my disbelief that this could happen here in Watertown.

I would like to thank our brave law enforcement and emergency responders who responded to the scene earlier today, including members of the City of Watertown Police Department, City of Watertown Fire Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, New York State Police and Guilfoyle Ambulance Service.

At this time, law enforcement continue to search for the suspected shooter, Barry K. Stewart. According to State Police, Mr. Stewart is possibly armed and dangerous. He is believed to be driving a 2020 gray Ford F-150 pickup truck with a New York State license plate HUS5491. Anyone with any information should call 911 immediately.