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Authorities on heightened alert after Boston Marathon explosions

Apr 15, 2013



City News Service

Security stepped up

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Southland law enforcement officials were on heightened alert today as they

monitored the investigation into bombings at the finish line of the Boston Marathon that killed two people and injured nearly two dozen more.

“While the cause of the explosions this morning at the Boston Marathon are still under investigation, our vigilance has been raised,” Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca said. “The heightened alert of the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department includes increased patrols to create a more visible presence where people congregate, such as government buildings, shopping centers, athletics events and public transit.”

Baca said the department was working closely with other public safety agencies, although county officials said the Los Angeles County Emergency Operations Center had not yet been activated.

Los Angeles Police Department officials said they were keeping close tabs on the situation in Boston.

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units, according to Marc Littman, a spokesman for the transportation agency.

“There is a heightened police presence,” Littman said.

He said there was no disruption to any service, but passengers will see more officers on patrol. As usual, Littman urged passengers to report any suspicious activities on buses and trains or at stations.

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Rundown of updates

Three people, including a Chinese student at Boston University, were killed and more than 180 others were injured by two bombs that exploded near the finish line of the Boston Marathon on Monday afternoon, officials said. Below are updates as we get them.

There have been no arrests in the Boston Marathon bombing investigation, according to Boston police and the Justice Department.

There is conflicting information as to whether someone has been arrested in connection with the Boston Marathon bombings.

- [What we know about the Boston Marathon bombing and its aftermath -](#)

New developments:

- [Explosions rock Boston Marathon -](#)

BOSTON, Mass. — At least two explosions rocked the finish line at the Boston Marathon on Monday afternoon, injuring at least a half-dozen people, a CNN producer at the scene said.

The blasts occurred a few seconds apart on opposite sides of the street, CNN Producer Matt Frucci reported.

The first left “a big plume of smoke” hovering over the area, around Boston’s Copley Square; the second occurred perhaps 10 seconds later, he said.

- [Distracted drivers to receive tickets not warnings Wednesday -](#)

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — As part of distracted driving month, which starts today, police across Southern California will be ticketing for texting drivers, those holding a cellphone to their head or drivers whose attention wanders for any reason.

Dozens of police agencies have planned targeted operations for April 3-16, which has been designated a

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maximum enforcement period. Wednesday will be zero-tolerance day, when officers will give tickets only — no warnings.

Fines start around \$160. A second offense can cost about \$280.

- [Federal Judge Halts “Stop and Frisk” in Bronx, N.Y. -](#)

NEW YORK—U.S. District Court Judge Shira A. Scheindlin last week issued a preliminary injunction, prohibiting the New York Police Department’s practice of stopping and frisking innocent people outside of private apartment buildings in the Bronx, one of five New York City Boroughs.

Donna Lieberman, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, said the practice known as “Operation Clean Halls,” placed most African American and Latino New Yorkers under siege in their homes in thousands of apartment buildings.



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