

ABC's *Good Morning America*

01/22/23

8:01:06 a.m. [TEASE]

8 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New Overnight; Violent Protests]

WHIT JOHNSON: Violent protests. Chaos erupting overnight on the streets of Atlanta. Authorities making arrests after a peaceful protest takes a turn.

(...)

8:10:49 a.m.

1 minute and 33 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Developing Story; Protests in Atlanta; At Least Six Arrested After Demonstrations Turn Violent]

JOHNSON: Now to the violent night in Atlanta. Protests over a proposed police training facility and the fatal police shooting of an activist erupting into chaos. ABC's Elwyn Lopez is in Atlanta with the latest. Elwyn, good morning.

ELWYN LOPEZ: Overnight, chaos erupting in downtown Atlanta. [EXPLOSIONS] Firecrackers set ablaze. This police car in flames. [EXPLOSIONS] Police arresting six people. The protest against a new police training center and the killing of an environmental activist started peacefully, but took a turn when some rioters smashed windows and set a cruiser on fire.

ATLANTA POLICE CHIEF DARIN SCHIERBAUM: A group inside that marching crowd decided to start committing illegal acts, which included the breaking of windows and also attacking police cruisers that were in the area.

LOPEZ: At least three businesses damaged before authorities restored order. This just days after officers shot and killed a protester in a forest where the training center will be built. Demonstrators had occupied it for months. Authorities say that protester shot first, but fellow environmental activists claim the camp was peaceful and unfairly attacked.

ATLANTA MAYOR ANDRE DICKENS (D): We continue to protect the right of peacefully protest. We will not tolerate violence or property destruction.

LOPEZ: No officers or citizens were injured. The Atlanta mayor saying that several of those arrested were from out of state. The governor here saying that those crimes won't be tolerated and fully prosecuted. Guys?

JANAI NORMAN: Elwyn, thank you for that update.