

The death of Tamir Rice No charges for officers



LISA DEJONG | THE PLAIN DEALER

Demonstrators lie down at East Ninth Street and Lakeside Avenue, blocking traffic, on Tuesday to protest a grand jury's decision not to indict two Cleveland officers in the shooting of Tamir Rice.

Demonstrators march throughout downtown

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The second day of outcry over a grand jury's decision not to indict two police officers in the shooting death of Tamir Rice saw more than 100 demonstrators close the streets of downtown Cleveland.

"It could have been my child," said one protester, who only described herself as a lifelong Cleveland resident.

The woman vowed not to vote for Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Timothy J. McGinty, the man whose office oversaw the final leg of the shooting investigation that ended Monday with the an-

nouncement the officers in the shooting would face no criminal charges.

McGinty is seeking re-election in 2016. The woman's declaration drew cheers from the crowd.

The protests began about 3 p.m. outside the Justice Center. At times, activists hurled words like "pigs" and "racists" at police. Chants of "Unacceptable!" began when one man blocked a police car and thrust a photo of Tamir at the car's windshield.

While there was no clear organizer to the protest, members of the Black Man Army and other activist groups provided a platform for community members to air

grievances and speak their minds.

There were no physical confrontations between demonstrators and police like those that marred the spring protests that followed the acquittal of a Cleveland police officer in the shooting death of two unarmed black motorists. No arrests were made Tuesday night, Cleveland police spokeswoman Sgt. Jennifer Ciaccia said.

The demonstrators marched through the downtown streets starting about 4 p.m. Officers directed traffic and prevented the protesters from entering certain areas of the city. A helicopter monitored the demonstration from above.

The first tense moment between police and protesters came when officers blocked the marchers as they headed along East Ninth Street toward the entrance to the Shoreway.

Protesters formed a human chain at the Lakeside Avenue and East Ninth Street intersection. Many lay in the street for several minutes, which protest leaders explained was intended to mimic the four minutes Tamir lay without medical attention after he was shot.

A human chain formed at every major intersection on East Ninth between Lakeside and Carnegie avenues. Protesters waited outside Progressive Field for about

30 minutes for the arrival of Alicia Kirkman, the mother of Angelo Miller, who was killed by a Cleveland police officer in 2007.

"All they want to do is pay us off," Kirkman said to the marchers. "Enough is enough."

Police formed another barricade to prevent protesters from entering the highway at the Interstate 90 West/Interstate 71 ramp.

Marchers turned toward The Q, where the group stayed for nearly an hour.

Chants of "He was only 12 years old, how do you justify that?" rang through the intersection of Huron Road and Ontario Street. Tension between protesters and police rose

outside the arena as protesters circled around two police cars and refused to let them move.

A smaller number of marchers wound their way down Huron and through Playhouse Square on Euclid Avenue. A human chain formed at the intersection of East Fourth Street and Euclid Avenue, where a fight had erupted during protests of the Michael Brelo verdict in May.

Tuesday's protest concluded about 8:30 p.m. outside Tower City Center in Public Square. Group leaders have announced plans to march again today beginning at 3 p.m. outside the Justice Center.