

Politics

Man arrested in Phoenix-area shooting that killed 1, wounded 5

By Associated Press March 18

MESA, Ariz. — A gunman killed one person and wounded five others Wednesday in a rampage that included a motel shooting, a carjacking and a home invasion and ended with an arrest at a nearby apartment in suburban Phoenix.

The suspect was taken into custody after officers spotted him on an apartment balcony and shocked him with a stun gun. Numerous officers later led a handcuffed man to a truck parked outside an apartment complex.

Police later identified the suspect as Ryan Giroux, 41, an ex-convict who has served three stints in the state prison since 1994.

A mug shot from the Arizona Department of Corrections shows Giroux with several face and neck tattoos, including the word “skinhead” where his eyebrows normally would be.

The incident started with an argument inside a room at a motel and spilled outside, leaving three people wounded, Mesa Detective Esteban Flores said. The gunman then shot a man working at a nearby restaurant. That victim, an adult student at nearby East Valley Institute of Technology, was able to run across the street to emergency responders already at the motel, Flores said. The student was treated at a hospital and released. The gunman got away by hijacking a car.

Two more people were wounded at separate apartment complexes, including one during a home invasion.

The shootings prompted an intense hunt for the gunman as Mesa police searched the trunks of cars, interviewed witnesses, and brought in SWAT and canine units from other agencies. Flores warned people in the neighborhood to remain indoors.

Several locations in the area were placed on lockdown amid a heavy law enforcement presence.

East Valley Institute of Technology officials said the school went into lockdown as soon as gunshots were heard. Nearby Mesa Community College also went under lockdown.