

GA Gov declares state of emergency thru 2/9 due to possibility of add'l protests over plans to construct a police training facility in Atlanta.

Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp has declared a state of emergency in response to ongoing violent protests in downtown Atlanta. 1000 GA National Guard troops have been activated, to be called up as necessary by the Adjutant General. The State of Emergency will expire on 2/9 at 11:59 PM unless renewed by the Governor.

Read the full Executive Order here (PDF):

<https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/executive-orders/2023>

Background:

In April 2021, then-Atlanta mayor Keisha Bottoms announced a plan to turn an 85-acre parcel of property, owned by the city of Atlanta, into a future public safety training facility that would include a shooting range, mock village, and burn house. Opponents of the proposed facility in DeKalb County say the project involves cutting down so many trees that it would be environmentally damaging. It was quickly dubbed “Cop City” by protesters.

In January 2022, activists began protesting at the site.

In May 2022, seven protesters were arrested and charged with throwing a Molotov cocktail at officers as police tried to clear protesters from the site.

In December 2022, five more protesters were arrested on domestic terrorism charges. Police say this group threw rocks and bottles at police cars, as well as emergency services personnel outside neighboring fire stations.

On January 18th, 2023, police were clearing people out of the area around 9 AM when gunfire erupted, injuring a Georgia state trooper. The shooter himself was killed by police.

A protest against a law enforcement following the shooting of Miguel TERAN- now referred to as an "environmental defender", turned violent this past Saturday in Atlanta, with demonstrators setting a police car on fire and damaging property. Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens said at a press conference after the protests that some of the demonstrators carried explosives.

Nexus to OHIO:

Within the last several days, several graffiti tags have been identified in downtown Columbus (see attached photos). “Stop Cop City” refers to the new LE training facility in GA. “Tortuguita” was the nickname of Manuel TERAN, the individual who shot the GA State Trooper, and was killed in the ensuing gun battle. He has become somewhat of a martyr to the “environmental defender” movement, with significant social media support and chatter. The moniker is a nod to the Colonial-era indigenous military commander with the same nickname. The “original” Tortuguita led Native American forces to one of their most decisive victories against the U.S. Army in 1791. The following Tortuguita memorial post (with some variation) has been found on at least SIX social media platforms.

Coupled with the pending release of the Memphis body worn camera footage of Tyre Nichols incident (possibly TODAY), the social media catalyst of anti-LE sentiment and civil unrest/protest is increasing.

REST IN POWER TORTUGUITA

APRIL 23, 1996 – JANUARY 18, 2023

MURDERED BY GEORGIA STATE PATROL



INDIGENOUS ANARCHIST, LOVING PARTNER, DEAR FRIEND, FOREST DEFENDER, TRAINED MEDIC, BRAVE SOUL AND SO MUCH MORE.

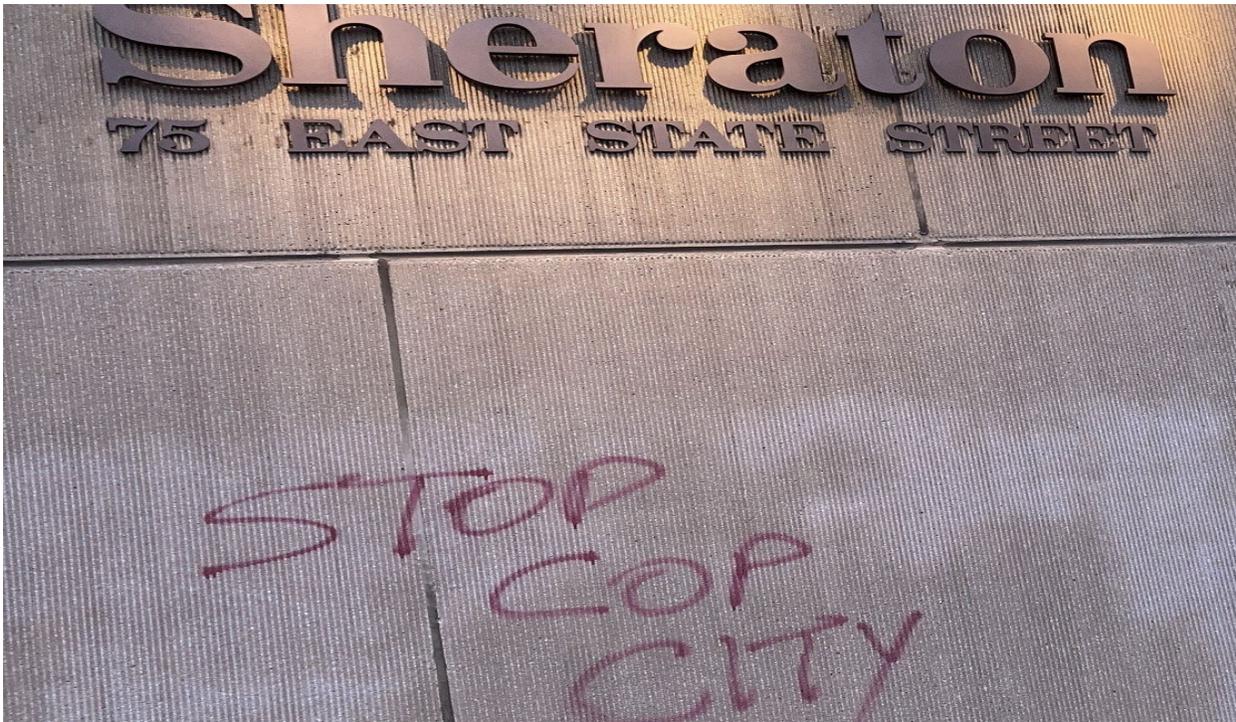
TORT DIED A REVOLUTIONARY DEATH. THEY DID NOT DIE IN VAIN BUT FOR THE MOVEMENT TO END POLICE MILITARIZATION AND PROTECT OUR FOREST. IN TORT'S NAME, WE CONTINUE TO FIGHT TO DEFEND THE WEELAUNEE FOREST AND STOP COP CITY. WITH LOVE, RAGE AND A COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER'S SAFETY AND WELL-BEING.

**JUSTICE FOR TORTUGUITA
FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR THE DEAD AND LIVING
FROM ATLANTA AND BEYOND, WE ARE ALL FOREST DEFENDERS**

DEFENDTHEATLANTAFOREST.COM



Above graffiti located at : 150 N. 3rd St.
Note the Anarchy (or Antifa) circled "A" in the tag.



Above tag at Sheraton, and similar tag at the old United Way building 360 S. 3rd St. (not pictured). Thanks to SID Services for the photos.