Pandemonium as media mob ransacks shooters' home on live TV without FBI permission

U.S. News



Networks tour SB shooters' apartment (Twitter)

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Several news organizations toured the apartment shared by the San Bernardino shooters — even though the residence may still be an active crime scene under investigation.

*This story has been updated. See below.

The couple's landlord said reporters and photographers from BBC, CNN, MSNBC and NBC rushed into the apartment Friday when he pried open the front door — and they live-tweeted and broadcast their findings on television.

Video of landlord telling CBS he didn't let cameras into the apartment. "They rushed." Start at 12:30: http://cbsn.ws/1N8x9Q9

— Andrew Katz (@katz) <u>1:00 PM - 4 Dec 2015</u>

We're inside the Redlands home where the <u>#SanBernardino</u> suspects lived.

— Kate Mather (@katemather) 12:31 PM - 4 Dec 2015

Screenshots from MSNBC. I added the redout

— Stephen Miller (@redsteeze) 12:43 PM - 4 Dec 2015

MSNBC just doxed Rafia Farook, mother of a terrorist, on live television. I've blurred the important bits.

— David Boles (@DavidBoles) 12:49 PM - 4 Dec 2015

Investigators said they did not authorize the tours, which could have contaminated the crime scene if it has not been cleared.

SB Sheriff's deputy: "[Feds] told us it's still an active investigation...I don't know why there's people in there."

https://twitter.com/katemather/status/672835539561668608 ...

— Joe Serna, LAT (@JosephSerna) <u>12:54 PM - 4 Dec 2015</u>

It's true. Am sat next to him. CNN's Harry Houck's hands are shaking watching a crime scene contamination on live television.

— Michael Weiss (@michaeldweiss) 12:43 PM - 4 Dec 2015

The media are swarming every inch of the tiny #Redlands home. #SBShooting

— Beau Yarbrough (@LBY3) <u>12:45 PM - 4 Dec 2015</u>

Bizarre feeling going through suspects' house. List of seized materials: box after box of ammo

— Kim Brunhuber (@kimbrunhuber) 1:16 PM - 4 Dec 2015

However, reporters say federal investigators had already cleared out evidence related to the investigation but left behind the couple's personal items.

As <u>@mitchellreports</u> said on <u>@MSNBC</u>: the apt owner permitted the press tour, the FBI has already cleared out useful evidence

— Erika Masonhall (@ErikaMasonhall) <u>12:42 PM - 4 Dec 2015</u>

"Our search is over. We released the scene yesterday." -- Spokesperson for FBI LA, to

me, moments ago. Take it for what it's worth.

— Greg Sargent (@ThePlumLineGS) 1:01 PM - 4 Dec 2015

Random members of the public also apparently may have entered the home.

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Asked FBI Los Angeles if suspects' apartment now open to the media/public: "I don't believe so...it is still an ongoing investigation."

— Brian Ries (@moneyries) 12:31 PM - 4 Dec 2015

Viewers and social media users — and even some media colleagues — were almost uniformly critical of the networks' decision to enter the apartment without apparently clearing the move with investigators.

#SanBernadinoShooting apartment now being ransacked by journalists. So bizarre. Watch @cnn @AC360 to see if cops kick them out. Crazy!

— Drew Griffin CNN (@DrewGriffinCNN) 12:40 PM - 4 Dec 2015

Anderson Cooper almost desperate to get analysts to confirm that it's OK for them to be rifling through this apartment, get CNN off the hook

— Chris Krewson (@ckrewson) 12:45 PM - 4 Dec 2015

CNN journo on scene says no longer just reporters: "There's a woman with a dog walking into the house..."

— David Folkenflik (@davidfolkenflik) 1:30 PM - 4 Dec 2015

*UPDATE: MSNBC has issued an <u>apology</u> for showing footage of unedited identification while filming live inside the Redlands home. The network said the landlord allowed reporters inside.

""We regret that we briefly showed images of photographs and identification cards that should not have been aired without review," the statement read, according to The Hill.

Watch portions of the tour broadcast by MSNBC and posted online by Washington Free
Beacon: