

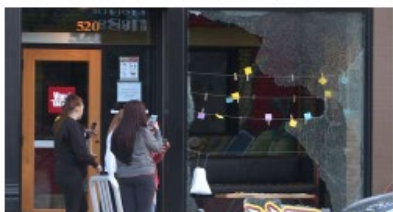
For the record my name is Jesse Jahner and I am the elected Sheriff in Cass County. On May 30th, 2020, the City of Fargo experienced Civil Unrest related to the death of George Floyd. During that unrest, protestors assaulted officers by throwing rocks and bricks at them, and a few sustained head injuries. Several businesses were vandalized by damage to the buildings or by spray painting graffiti on walls. JI Beers and Vinyl Taco were vandalized and looted for no reason other than for the protestors to be destructive. We know some of these protestors were from outside the area and had come to Fargo to instigate the unrest. During the unrest, businesses were vandalized and looted.

The businesses affected did not have anything to do with the protest activity and did not warrant the damage and theft that they had received. As we start to see more possibilities

for civil unrest in the future, I am concerned that our businesses, who typically do not have anything to do with the reason for the unrest, have become targets for damage and looting. I was disheartened to drive through downtown Fargo the morning of the 31st and see all the businesses and buildings that had been damaged.

I would like to see a stiffer penalty for those who want to damage or steal from others and our businesses during protest activity. I understand that theft and criminal mischief can have penalty enhancements from damage or theft amounts. I also know that misdemeanor damage or theft may occur during some of this activity. I do not think that receiving a misdemeanor charge for this type of activity is sufficient. Thankfully in the Fargo unrest, the US Attorney's Office was willing to charge some

of the responsables federally to give stricter penalties; otherwise, penalties for some would have been minimal based on state statute. The Cost to the Fargo Police Department was in the vicinity of \$213,00.00 and approximately \$40,000.00 to the Cass County Sheriff's Office. I know we are talking about private business damage, but it gives you an idea of the destruction that took place that day. I am asking for your help and support in protecting our businesses in regard to these types of events. I ask that you please support House Bill 1378. With that, I would take any questions.





Costs are in on recent march/riot and rally in Fargo



(KVLV)

By Mike Morken

Published: Jun. 19, 2020 at 8:46 PM CDT



Valley News Live did some digging and found out what it cost the city of Fargo and Cass County to deal with the march and riot of last month and a rally that followed a few days later. We asked the city through an opens records law as well as Cass County Sheriff Jesse Jahner.

For the march and subsequent riot in downtown Fargo on May 30th,

the price tag for Fargo was almost 214 thousand dollars (\$213,739.46). A large chunk of that was in overtime for police. Cass County's cost is near a thousand dollars (39,434.43). Again, overtime and staffing make up the bulk of the bill.

The following Friday, there was a rally at Island Park. It was not nearly as involved, but still wound up costing the city, a little over 105 thousand dollars (\$105,275.19).