



PASNAP Statement on the Tragic Shooting at UPMC Memorial Hospital in York County

The Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals shares the deep sorrow of the healthcare workers at UPMC Memorial Hospital in York County and their patient community following the heartbreaking mass shooting in the hospital over the weekend. We extend our sincerest condolences to the family, colleagues, and friends of West York Borough Police Officer Andrew Duarte, who was killed in the incident, and we applaud the bravery of the healthcare workers on the scene and all law enforcement personnel who responded.

Three workers at UPMC Memorial Hospital, including a doctor, a nurse, and a custodian, and two other officers were shot and wounded in the attack. A fourth staffer was injured in a fall.

Such extreme violence perpetrated against those whose mission is to care for the community's most vulnerable in a place reserved for healing is singularly horrifying – but it is all too common. In fact, workplace violence is more prevalent in healthcare than in any other industry, and there is every indication – statistically and anecdotally – that the incidence is skyrocketing.

Since our founding 25 years ago, prevention of workplace violence in healthcare facilities has been a core tenet of our Union. It remains an urgent, much-needed priority for healthcare workers in Pennsylvania and across the nation.