



For Immediate Release

For additional information, please contact:

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Monroe County Democratic Party

The Monroe County Democratic Party is heartbroken and outraged by the shooting on Kirkwood Avenue during Little 5 weekend. What should have been a time of joy and community left people shaken and hurting. Our hearts are with the victims and their families, and with everyone who was there and is now carrying the weight of what happened. No one should have to fear for their life at a community celebration.

There is no excuse for gun violence.

And there is also no excuse for the wave of racist rhetoric that has followed. Let's be clear - blaming our Black neighbors for this violence is wrong, it is harmful, and it will not be tolerated. It does nothing to help the victims. It does nothing to prevent the next tragedy. It only spreads division at a time when our community needs care and solidarity.

Little 5 is a time-honored tradition, and it belongs to everyone. Our community is built on people showing up together and looking out for one another. Attempts to exclude or scapegoat have no place here.

If we are serious about keeping people safe, we have to face reality. Large crowds, heavy drinking, and Indiana's dangerously lax gun laws create real risk. That's not about race; that's about responsibility. It's about whether we are willing to take real steps to protect our neighbors instead of pointing fingers.

We can grieve together. We can stand with those who are hurting. And we can choose to reject the hate that tries to divide us. We deserve a community that is safe and welcoming, and we will keep fighting for exactly that.

For additional questions or information, please contact MCDP Chair, Chrissie Geels at chair@monroedems.org

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