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Tragedy in Midtown: Prominent Blackstone Executive Among Victims in Manhattan Shooting

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A deadly shooting at Blackstone’s Manhattan headquarters Monday evening claimed four lives, including that of Wesley LePatner, a respected business executive and prominent figure in New York’s Jewish community. The incident has shaken both the financial world and local residents, drawing renewed attention to the city’s deteriorating public safety environment and the increasing vulnerability of even high-security institutions.

Authorities say the shooter, identified as 44-year-old Shane Tamura, entered the Midtown office tower just before 6:30 p.m. Surveillance footage shows him exiting a double-parked BMW while carrying an M4-style rifle before entering the building. Tamura reportedly opened fire in the lobby, took an elevator to the 33rd floor, and fired again before fatally shooting himself. Police are investigating whether his intended target was the nearby offices of the National Football League (NFL), also located in the same building complex. A note recovered from the gunman referenced grievances related to the NFL and possible references to Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), though details remain under review.

Among the victims was Wesley LePatner, 43, a highly regarded managing director at Blackstone and the Chief Executive Officer of Blackstone Real Estate Income Trust. LePatner, a Harvard graduate and mother of two, was widely respected for her professional acumen and leadership. She had been with Blackstone for over a decade, most recently overseeing Core+ real estate strategies, and received the Alan C. Greenberg Young Leadership Award from UJA (United Jewish Appeal)-Federation of New York in 2023.

Blackstone issued a heartfelt statement Tuesday morning, calling LePatner “brilliant, passionate, warm, generous, and deeply respected within our firm and beyond,” adding that she “embodied the best of Blackstone.” The firm also extended condolences to the families of the other victims, which included NYPD officer Didarul Islam and a yet-identified security guard.

LePatner’s death has sent shockwaves through both corporate and religious communities. She was an active board member at The Heschel School and involved in numerous philanthropic and community causes, particularly through the Altneu synagogue and UJA-Federation. Her loss has left a profound void in the tightly knit network of civic-minded New Yorkers who viewed her as a bridge between professional excellence and community service.

“She was the kindest and sharpest human being,” wrote Avital Chizhik-Goldschmidt, editor of *The Real Deal* and a friend of LePatner. “Daughter, wife, mother, leader in so many ways. A nightmare we can’t wake up from.”

LePatner often spoke publicly about her family and the importance of balance. In a 2023 post reflecting on a company-sponsored family event, she wrote of her deep appreciation for Blackstone’s culture of inclusion and shared how her parents’ example had shaped her own path. “Watching them seamlessly balance demanding professional careers with

our family life was truly inspiring,” she noted. “It showed me that anything is possible with dedication and determination.”

Mayor Eric Adams addressed the press late Monday night, confirming that the gunman had apparently taken the wrong elevator and that investigators were still piecing together a motive. “There’s no more than just a note at this time,” Adams said. “We are taking this extremely seriously.”

Though full details remain under investigation, the incident once again raises troubling questions about security in major metropolitan areas and the motivations behind senseless acts of violence. While many in the city have become resigned to rising crime, this attack pierced the heart of Midtown and left families, coworkers, and communities grieving.

As the city grapples with the aftermath, LePatner’s legacy—both professional and personal—continues to be remembered with reverence. Her dedication to her firm, her community, and most of all, her family, serves as a reminder of what was lost in this tragic act of violence.