



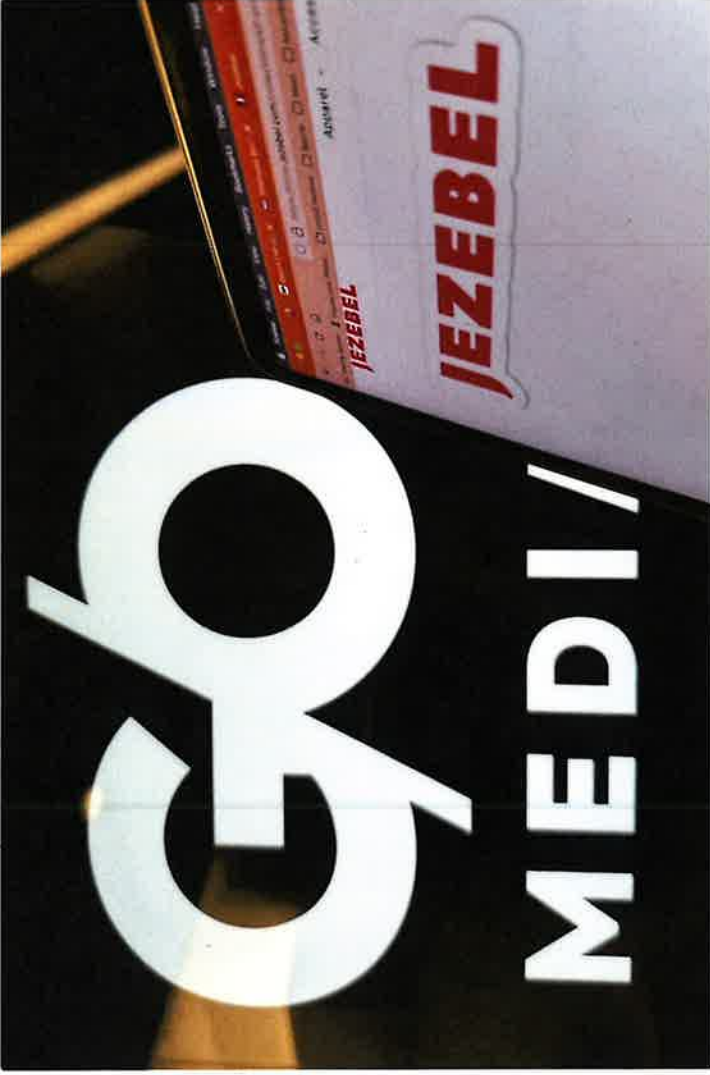




Protester critically injured after setting self on fire outside Israeli consulate in Atlanta







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Brian Spears, an attorney for the family, called Christian's report "a rubber stamp of the GBI's version of events without any critical analysis."

The troopers who fired on Paez Terán were not wearing body cameras, and [Paez Terán's family](#) and other activists have expressed skepticism from the start about law enforcement statements about the shooting.

Specifically, they've pointed to the [results of an independent autopsy](#), commissioned by the family that concluded the activist was sitting cross-legged with their hands in the air at the time of the shooting. Separately, the DeKalb County Medical Examiner's Office said the activist's body had at least 57 gunshot wounds. The coroner also said gunpowder residue was "not seen" on Paez Terán's hands, though investigators said forensic tests later "revealed the presence of particles characteristic of gunshot primer residue."

Protesters have also singled out the comment of a responding officer who, [seemingly reacting to the radio traffic](#), had said, "You (expletive) your own officer up." The activists have said on social media that it supports assertions some made from the beginning that the trooper was shot by friendly fire. Christian's report says the bullet that wounded the trooper came from Paez Terán's gun.



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Also according to the report, when the first two troopers arrived at Paez Terán's tent, the tent door flap was open about a foot (30 centimeters) and troopers saw movement inside. A trooper identified himself as police and told Paez Terán to exit the tent. After a minute or two, it became clear the activist wasn't going to come out, and Paez Terán zipped up the tent flap.

One of the troopers radioed to ask that a pepper ball launcher be brought in, and while waiting on that continued to tell Paez Terán to come out. As more troopers arrived, Paez Terán partially unzipped the tent and told the troopers he wouldn't come out and wanted them to leave before closing the tent again. That's when one of the troopers warned Paez Terán he would use a chemical agent and began firing pepper balls into the tent.

Within seconds, Paez Terán began firing at the troopers from inside the tent, the report says. Troopers returned fire. They reported hearing a loud boom and seeing white smoke coming from the front area of the tent, causing them to believe Paez Terán had deployed an explosive device.

Troopers involved said they clearly identified themselves as police and told Paez Terán to come out multiple times. They said they told him he was trespassing and was under arrest and warned him before using the pepper balls. Other officers confirmed hearing troopers identify themselves and issue warnings.

Christian, citing Carr's ongoing racketeering case, said no other records will be released for now. Spears objected to that. He said there is "no possible reasonable justification" to not release all records given that Christian's investigation is complete.

Paez Terán's mother, Belkis Terán, echoed that view in a written statement.

"We have waited eight months for the truth," she wrote. "We are in pain. We want to hear the interviews. We want our experts to review the lab tests. We want our questions answered. This report does not answer our questions. How long must we wait?"



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