

# Trump vows he won't 'let Seattle be occupied by anarchists,' will 'straighten it out' if local leaders don't

President Trump told Fox News' Harris Faulkner in an exclusive interview Thursday that his administration is "not going to let Seattle be occupied by anarchists."

"If there were more toughness, you wouldn't have the kind of devastation that you had in Minneapolis and in Seattle. I mean, let's see what's going on in Seattle," Trump told Faulkner. "I will tell you if they don't straighten that situation out, we're going to straighten it out."

The full interview will air on "Outnumbered Overtime" at 1 p.m. ET Friday.

## **SEATTLE LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERTS URGE POLICE TO TAKE BACK 'CHAZ' BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE**

After days of protests following the death of George Floyd, Seattle police left the boarded-up East Precinct building Monday night as a crowd of anti-police protesters set up barricades in the surrounding area, declaring six blocks in the city's Capitol Hill neighborhood to be "autonomous" and a "cop-free zone."

The president also described Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan's handling of the situation as "pathetic," and asked, "Has she ever done this before?" He also called on Washington Gov. Jay Inslee to send in National Guard troops to restore order.

"He's got great National Guard troops so he can do it," Trump said of Inslee. "But one way or the other, it's going to get done. These people are not going to occupy a major portion of a great city."

Faulkner also raised the unrest following Floyd's death, asking Trump to explain what he means when he describes himself as a "law and order president."

"Well, we are going to do lots of things, good things, but we also have to keep our

police and our law enforcement strong,” the president answered. “They have to do it right. They have to be trained in a proper manner. They have to do it right. Again, the sad thing is that they are very professional.

“But when you see an event like that, with the more than eight minutes of horror — that’s eight minutes truly of horror, a disgrace,” Trump said of video showing then-Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin kneeling on Floyd’s neck on May 25.

“Then people start saying, ‘Well, are all police like that?’ They don’t know,” he added. “Maybe they don’t think about it that much. It doesn’t make any difference. The fact is they start saying, ‘Well, police are like that.’ Police aren’t like that. I mean, I’ve seen so many incredible things that they do. But you don’t see that ... You don’t put it on television.

After playing a clip of the interview on “Special Report,” anchor Bret Baier asked Faulkner if Trump understood the “frustration, the anger, the fear” in the African-American community.

“He watched the eight minutes and 46 seconds, he said, of George Floyd’s death,” Faulkner said. “He, he taps into the loss and the hurt and the pain, and he understands that.”

However, Faulkner added that the traditional presidential role of “consoler-in-chief” didn’t appear to be as important to Trump.

“He thinks that fixing the economy is how you bring everybody together and bring them forth. He wants to restore the markings of black wealth and that rise that was happening in black communities economically,” Faulkner said. “And that’s how he wants to go for it.”

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Elsewhere in the interview, Faulkner pressed Trump on his controversial “when the looting starts, the shooting starts” tweet during last month’s riots following Floyd’s death.

“Why those words?” asked Faulkner, who later explained that the phrase was first uttered by then-Miami police chief Walter Headley during the 1967 race riots.

“He was cracking down and he meant what he said,” Faulkner told Trump. “And he said, ‘I don’t even care if it makes it look like brutality. I’m going to a crackdown. When the looting starts, the shooting starts.’ That frightened a lot of people when you tweeted that.”

“It means two things, very different things,” Trump responded. “One is if there’s looting, there’s probably going to be shooting. And that’s not as a threat. That’s really just a fact because that’s what happens. And the other is if there’s looting, there’s going to be shooting ... very different meanings.”

*Fox News’ Michael Ruiz contributed to this report.*

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