

In case you have not seen it, WJZ in Baltimore has a two minute video of the celebration online at <http://wjz.com/local/arrest.obama.baltimore.2.857079.html>.

People gathered at the intersection of Saint Paul and 33rd Street. I'm not sure when people began to gather but by the time I arrived about 10 minutes after the end of Barack Obama's speech there were probably about 100 people present, mostly on the sidewalk and street at the northwest corner of the intersection (in front of the JHU bookstore), with some across the street at the northeast corner (in front of the Bradford Hall dormitory). Some people were in the streets but did not appear to be blocking traffic—they moved back toward the sides when directed to do so by Hopkins security and when a car needed to pass.

When I arrived I did not see any police, but soon after (around 1 AM), police cars began to block the streets leading to the intersection, first blocking the eastbound lane of 33rd street west of St. Paul, then somewhere around the 300 block of E. 33rd St, then north of the intersection on St. Paul. After police blocked the intersection people moved off the sidewalks and into the street, but never blocked it entirely—there was still some traffic coming from on St. Paul and Union Memorial Hospital. Nevertheless it was unclear to me—and others around me—what the police wanted. The intersections were blocked, and it seemed at first that this was to ensure the safety of the celebration, but soon after the police made more concerted efforts to clear the streets. As they blocked the intersection, at least one police car drove through sounding its horn in a show of celebration similar to that of other drivers. In general, the police appeared to enjoy the celebration, too—some were laughing and smiling as they motioned to move those present off the streets.

At around 2 AM about 20 police officers began marching in a column to move people out of the intersection. First they moved a group standing on the median in the 200 block of E. 33rd Street south on St. Paul, and then worked to disperse the groups gathered on the sidewalks of the St. Paul Street north of 33rd. At street level I saw 4 arrested (A JHU undergraduate, Bhriugu Singh, Aaron Goodfellow, and one other) and pushed into a police van. The reasons for these first arrests were unclear—there will still many people in the intersection, mostly on the sidewalks. From an upstairs window I saw at least 8 more arrested, but there were many fewer people in the streets when these later arrests occurred.

Through the entire time I was there (approximately 1.5 hours), the people gathered were peaceful, if loud—laughing, celebrating, chanting "Obama" and "Yes We Can", etc. The loudest noises were from car horns, though.

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