

Police Investigating Bombs Planted in 3 US Churches

Who was responsible for bombs exploding at two churches earlier this month? Authorities don't know, but insist they will get to the bottom of the case.

The blasts detonated at two New Mexico churches on August 2, rattled believers, but no one was injured. Authorities later found a third bomb at another church that failed to explode, according to the *New York Times*.

In spite of ongoing investigations, the Las Cruces Police Department is no closer to determining who planted these bombs or why.

"We're still connecting the dots," Las Cruces Police Chief Jaime Montoya tells the *NYT*.

While no firm evidence has been discovered as to why these churches were targeted, the Las Cruces police department tells *NYT* the city has been a landmark for abortion-rights discussions. Some suspect that "extremists" or "zealots" planted the bombs in response to abortion debates.

"Just the fact that they were at churches the same day a half an hour apart or so, that leads us to believe it could be something related," says Las Cruces police spokesman Dan Trujillo.

Within the last several weeks, more bomb threats have been reported across the city, though none have proved incendiary.

To speed up the investigation, the FBI is offering a \$20,000 reward for information leading to an arrest, the *NYT* reports.