

U.S. Capitol No Longer Locked Down After Shooting

UPDATE: The security lockdown has now expired.

A person shot him or herself dead near the U.S. Capitol on Saturday, sparking a security lockdown at the complex, **U.S. Capitol** police said.

Police were also investigating a **suspicious package** on the lower west terrace of the Capitol building in Washington, and several nearby streets were closed. Several media reports said it was luggage left by the person.

Police said the **lockdown** was a precautionary measure.

"There are no indications at this point of terrorism," a U.S. official told *NBC News*.

"The Capitol has been locked down because of the **potential security threat**. No one can enter or exit," Capitol Police spokeswoman Kimberly Schneider said in a statement.

"Confirmed: self-inflicted **gunshot** by neutralized subject," she added shortly afterward.

She did not say if the person was a man or a woman.

The incident occurred on a Saturday, and **Congress** is out of session this week, so few lawmakers were in town. But the city was crowded with tourists visiting for the popular annual Cherry Blossom festival.

(Reporting by Sandra Maler and Susan Heavey; Editing by Frances Kerry)