

## **Phoenix Police Department**

Public Affairs Bureau 620 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



## MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: October 2, 2024 Incident: 2024-1453850

Location: Sierra Linda High School, 3434 South 67th Avneue

## Social Media School Threat

(October 2, 2024) Phoenix Police investigate a thread of school threats aimed at Sierra Linda High School.

On October 2, 2024, Phoenix Police officers were made aware of multiple threats made on a social media platform. The school administration began to receive information from students of several messages going around the school from social media posts. Around 10:15 a.m., the school resource Sergeant was called to the school to assist with the investigation. During this investigative stage around 11:00 a.m., a message emerged with a photograph of an area that resembled a common space at the school. Out of an abundance of caution the school was placed in lockdown so all students could be accounted for in their classroom. Multiple police resources were brought in to secure all the common spaces. Once the school was deemed safe around 12:00 p.m., the students were released from school. Normal school release is at 12:00p.m., on Wednesdays.

Detectives are working to identify the origins of the school threats and those who created them. We have a zero-tolerance for anyone who threatens and disrupts our education establishments. Everyone involved will be arrested and booked into jail on serious felony charges. It should also be understood that anyone convicted of the charge of Making a Terroristic Threat can be held financially responsible for the costs related to the incident and investigation.

Arizona Revised Statutes 13-2308.01, subsection D states, "A person who is convicted of a violation of this section is liable for the expenses that are incurred incident to the response to or the investigation of the commission of the terrorist threat or the false report of terrorism." In the event that the person convicted is a juvenile, these costs can be subject to the parent or guardian of the juvenile.

As a reminder to all involved in these types of scenarios, if you encounter a threat of any kind please report it to the police and in these cases school staff. Do not repost the threat to any social media platform. Reposting these threats complicates the totality of a criminal investigation and can cause misinformation to be spread throughout social media. When authorities are contacted, school administration and law enforcement work hand in hand to ensure the safety of those involved and to begin the investigation into the threats. School staff will contact parents with information related to the threat and what parents and students need to know. These are the times when parents and their students should communicate about the importance of reporting these circumstances and not to spread the threat.

Sergeant Mayra Reeson Public Affairs Bureau

