



PERSON IDENTIFIED RESPONSIBLE FOR SCHOOL THREAT

JANUARY 18, 2022 – At approximately 12:45 PM, Menifee Police Department (MPD) Officers received a call for service regarding a social media threat at Paloma Valley High School. The call indicated the threat had been sent out approximately 30 minutes prior. Responding officers arrived on scene and contacted school administration. Officers viewed the social media post. The post contained a short video depicting a person’s legs with two apparent firearms visible and some text where “Paloma Valley” is mentioned along with other words; however, officers were not able to substantiate a specific threat.

Although a specific criminal threat could not be substantiated to make an arrest, Detectives responded to the school to assume the investigation. Detectives worked throughout the day attempting to identify the person who created the post. After several hours, Detectives were able to identify the person responsible for creating the post as a 20-year-old adult female. MPD has had prior contacts with the female including one for similar actions. We will not be releasing the name of the female.

Detectives were able to locate the female. After interviewing the female, Detectives determined they lacked the necessary legal elements to make a criminal arrest. MPD is currently working with the District Attorney and the Courts to ensure the female is held accountable for creating the post and receives needed services.

Although law enforcement has seen an increase in these types of posts around the region, MPD wants the public to know all threats, whether specific, implied, or otherwise, that cause fear in our community will not be tolerated. MPD is committed to using all available resources to ensure we hold the person(s) responsible for such threats accountable for their actions. These posts are disruptive to our school sites and require many hours of law enforcement investigation.

MPD will continue to collaborate with our schools to ensure they remain a safe environment for students and staff. We want to reassure students and staff; our Detectives have confirmed there is currently no danger to the schools or the community related to this investigation.

We would like to ask a favor from the community. When these types of posts are seen, please immediately contact school administration and law enforcement. Reposting the post with unsubstantiated/unverified information is not helpful to the investigation and causes an increased amount of fear and anxiety.



