



NEWS RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Sheriff-Coroner

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Jim Hart
Sheriff-Coroner

Threats Investigated at Soquel High School

DATE: 9/19/2017 **CASE #:** 17-08053

LOCATION: Soquel High School, Soquel, California

TYPE OF CRIME: Incident

INVOLVED STUDENT: 16-year old young man

Last night at about 10 pm, we received a report that a 16-year old Soquel High School student had been overheard making comments suggesting harm towards Soquel High students and staff. Our Office began an immediate investigation into the nature of the comments and worked with Soquel High Administration to ensure the safety of everyone at the school.

Through our investigation, we learned that the student claimed the comments were made within a conversation about school shootings and hypothetically how to conduct a school shooting. These comments, which the student claimed were not to be taken seriously nor any intent on his part to commit this type of horrendous act, are extremely serious. Our Office has determined through cooperation with the student's parents, that the student does not have access to weapons. The student did not attend school today and a school administrative investigation is in process. An email was sent by school administration this afternoon to parents.

There are currently no pending criminal charges. Our Soquel High School Resource Officer will continue working on campus with school administration as we move forward. In this case, information was overheard and provided to an adult who contacted our Office. We laud the courage of students who speak up when they hear or see things they believe are wrong, pose a potential threat, or out of concern for others. As parents ourselves, we encourage you to speak with your kids about school safety and the impact words can have on the lives of others. We would also ask that you be a supportive listener and contact authorities when concern arises.

Authored by: Sergeant Chris Clark /September 20, 2017

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