



NEWS FROM SANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Sanford Police Commend High School Students for Quick Thinking

Media Release: Sanford, FL (November 19, 2019): After one of Sanford Police Department's School Resource Officers arrested a high school student for threatening school violence, the police department applauds the quick and responsible thinking of fellow students.

On November 19, 2019, the Sanford Police School Resource Officer assigned to Crooms Academy was notified by School Administration of a concerning incident reported by two students. The students stated that while in class, they were able to see another student's computer screen and were concerned by what they read. The two students told the School Resource Officer that they could see a detailed plan to bring a gun to school and use it to carry out a school shooting. One of the two students used their cell phone to take a picture of the screen and clearly captured the student's writing.

The School Resource Officer then immediately located and arrested the student responsible.

Regarding the incident, Chief Cecil Smith stated, "Today was a reminder of how important it is for citizens of all ages to communicate and work with law enforcement. The sole reason we were aware of this potentially tragic and violent event, was due to the resourcefulness and responsibility of two students. Their actions exemplify what we ask everyday of all of our citizens; if you see something, say something."

After learning about today's events, City of Sanford Mayor Jeff Triplett said "As disturbing as it is to learn of these types of incidents happening in our schools, today showed our community that the system works. These two students knew that they had a duty and responsibility to themselves and their peers to act, and they did so immediately. The School Resource Officer acted without hesitation to ensure the school remained safe. Working together, trusting each other and trusting the process resulted in a swift and safe resolution."

The Crooms student was charged with Making a Written Threat to Kill, Do Bodily Harm, or Conduct a Mass Shooting. He was transported to the Seminole County Juvenile Assessment Center without incident.

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