



## Police Department

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Chief of Police

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(309) 524-2230  
24 hr. non-emergency  
(309) 797-0401  
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Investigations  
524-2140

Juvenile  
524-2155

Records  
524-2200

Traffic  
524-2210

## PRESS RELEASE April 9, 2021

On Friday evening, around 7:30pm, the Moline Police Department became aware of a viral video circulating on social media that depicted a disgusting and disturbing racist scene of bullying and assault of a Moline High School football player in a locker room. At the time the video was discovered, the football player, including the victim player, were out of town for a football game.

Immediately the Moline Police Department Criminal Investigation Division began an investigation into this video and the circumstances surrounding the incident. At approximately 11:20pm, the high school football team bus returned to Moline and was met by Moline Police detectives. At the time of this press release late Friday evening, the police detectives had located the victim and were gathering more information. We are aware that the victim knows the individuals who filmed the incidents. We are aware they are teammates and may be friends. Regardless of these facts, the incident is disturbing.

It is important to understand that this incident will be investigated separately by the Moline Police Department and the Moline-Coal Valley School District. The criminal investigation will be conducted by the police department and any school code violations will be investigated by the school district.

Once the police department completes the criminal investigation, the facts gathered will be presented to the Rock Island County State's Attorney Dora Villarreal for review.

We all agree that this incident is unacceptable, disturbing and disgusting. There is no debate. Regardless if students viewed this as a joke, it is unacceptable. The role of the police in this incident is to determine if there is a criminal violation related to law. The school will have a different role and a different set of school rules that may have been violated.

The Moline Police Department has taken immediate action to investigate this incident. If you have any information about this incident, please contact the dispatch center at 309-797-0401. You can also report information anonymously using the P3 smartphone application or by calling Crime Stoppers at 309-762-9500.

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