

CHIPPEWA FALLS POLICE

Integrity • Compassion • Commitment

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Matthew L. Kelm - Police Chief

MEDIA RELEASE

Date of Release: March 7, 2023
Released By: Chief Matthew Kelm
Incident: Misuse of 911 and Threats
Date: March 7, 2023
Case Number: 23CF01735

Suspects:

The juvenile suspect in this incident has been identified and contacted.

Details of Incident:

On March 7, 2023 the Chippewa County Dispatch Center received a number of 911 calls throughout the day from what sounded like a young juvenile. The majority of these calls consisted of what sounded like children laughing or speaking profanity to the dispatcher before hanging up.

At approximately 2:41 hrs another 911 call came in that sounded like it was from the same individual as the previous calls. However, this time the juvenile said that there was an intruder at the high school who was shooting in the lunch room.

SRO Flug was at the high school and was able to immediately confirm this information was false. In fact, the high school was almost completely empty of students at that time as testing had been taking place earlier that day.

From a law enforcement perspective, threats in school settings are taken very seriously. Any report of an active shooter or other serious incident in a school setting must be responded to with the utmost urgency and caution. Any threat of this nature will be rigorously investigated with no stone left unturned.

Numerous officers worked a large number of tips and leads, and were eventually able to identify the phone and the child who had made all of the calls. A total of six 911 calls were made throughout the course of the day.

The child is a young Chippewa Falls elementary school student. His parents have been contacted and fully advised of what happened. The parents are very concerned and upset with their child's actions today and will be taking care of the situation along with the school district.

The threat was deemed to not be credible. The juvenile is too young for any charges to be referred.