



**Phoenix Police Department**  
**Public Affairs Bureau**  
620 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



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# MEDIA ADVISORY

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**Date:** September 12, 2024  
**Incident:** 2024-1351035  
**Location:** 12 Valley Schools  
**Suspect:** Teenaged Male, Booked into JCC

## **Teen Arrested After He Threatens 12 Valley Schools**

(September 20, 2024) Phoenix Police detectives have made in arrest after twelve schools were involved in a social media threat a week ago.

On September 12, 2024, Phoenix Police officers were made aware of the threat of a mass shooting made on a social media platform that involved twelve valley schools. Once the initial response was completed and the involved schools, students and school staff were contacted and made safe, detectives were made aware of the threat. Due to this threat, and other potential factors, the schools involved had approximately 6,000 student absences in the days following the threat.

Detectives worked around the clock on this large-scale investigation, ultimately resulting in the suspect who initiated the threat being identified as a teenaged male. On September 19, 2024, the teen was arrested and interviewed about the threat. The teen admitted to his involvement and stated that the threat was made after a dare by a peer group. The teen was booked into JCC on multiple felonies to include terroristic threats and computer tampering.

As a reminder to all involved in these types of scenarios, if you encounter a threat of any kind please report it to the police and in these cases school staff. Do not repost the threat to any social media platform. Reposting these threats complicates the totality of a criminal investigation and can cause misinformation to be spread throughout social media. When authorities are contacted, school administration and law enforcement work hand in hand to ensure the safety of those involved and to begin the investigation into the threats. School staff will contact parents with information related to the threat and what parents and students need to know. These are the times when parents and their students should communicate about the importance of reporting these circumstances and not to spread the threat.

This scenario is also a reminder that this is a zero-tolerance issue, and everyone involved will be arrested and booked into jail on serious felony charges. It should also be understood that anyone

convicted of the charge of Making a Terroristic Threat can be held financially responsible for the costs related to the incident and investigation.

Arizona Revised Statutes 13-2308.01, subsection D states, “A person who is convicted of a violation of this section is liable for the expenses that are incurred incident to the response to or the investigation of the commission of the terrorist threat or the false report of terrorism.” In the event that the person convicted is a juvenile, these costs can be subject to the parent or guardian of the juvenile.

*Sergeant Rob Scherer  
Public Affairs Bureau*

