



Ready to Protect,
Proud to Serve

NEWS RELEASE

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SHOOTING/BOMB HOAX STAR ACADEMIC HIGH SCHOOL

The Tucson Police Department is investigating a shooting/ bomb hoax perpetrated against Star Academic High School located at 5093 South Liberty Avenue.

On November 15, 2015, just before 11:00 p.m., the Tucson Police Department received a 911 call from the principal of Star Academic High School reporting someone posted to the school's Facebook page there would be a mass shooting the next day and bombs had been placed on the campus. The post was also placed on the Facebook pages of the Sunnyside Unified School District and a local news station. Sunnyside security and officers from Operations Division South immediately responded to the school and began the extensive investigation. The school was searched by officers and nothing was located. Officers remained on scene at the school.

The officers, together with detectives from the Tucson Police Department's Specialized Response Division continued the investigation. They learned a subject going by the name "Jihadi Jim" posted to social media there would be a mass shooting on November 16, 2015 at Star Academic High School and two bombs had also been placed on campus in specific classrooms. The post demanded money and advised "this is not a joke". The officers and detectives worked tirelessly throughout the day and were able to identify a suspect.

A search warrant was obtained and served in the area of South 12th Avenue and West Nebraska Street that afternoon. Five individuals were initially detained. Detectives conducted interviews and collected evidence. One of the five detainees, 18 year-old Arturo Gil, was identified as the suspect. He was arrested and booked into the Pima County Jail for **Terrorism, a class 2 felony, and Hoax, a class 4 felony**. His booking photograph is provided. The detectives are asking if anyone has additional information related to this incident to please call 88-CRIME (you can remain anonymous).

The Tucson Police Department takes all threats seriously and works diligently to ensure the safety of our citizens. The Specialized Response Division investigates each and every one of these incidents. If it is determined that a person intentionally or knowingly engaged in any conduct that is likely to give the impression that an act of terrorism is taking place or will take place and causes an emergency response, that person may face felony charges. In addition, per Arizona Revised Statutes, that person may be liable for any expenses for the emergency response and the investigation of the hoax.

Page 1 of 2

For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

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Arturo Gil

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Page 2 of 2

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