



NEWS RELEASE

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PASSAIC COUNTY JUVENILES ARRESTED AND CHARGED IN CONNECTION WITH TERRORISTIC THREATS AND FALSE PUBLIC ALARM

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

March 29, 2017

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes and Paterson Police Deputy Police Chief Troy Oswald announce the arrest and charging of two juvenile Passaic County residents.

Two juvenile residents of Paterson were charged in connection to an investigation regarding a possible threat to “shoot-up” two schools in Passaic County. The two juveniles had discussed their history of being bullied and harassed by former students. The two juveniles had been fascinated with previous school shootings and had made internet inquiries regarding the accounts of the Columbine and Sandy Hook shootings. When school officials discovered the threats, school resource officers identified and secured both juvenile actors.

The complaints that have been filed against the juveniles are docketed within the Superior Court Family Division. Juvenile proceedings pursuant to New Jersey law must remain confidential. Therefore, the juveniles cannot be identified.

The first juvenile was charged with three counts of 2C:12-3a, Terroristic Threats, 3rd Degree; and two counts of 2C:33-3a, False Public Alarm, 3rd degree. The second juvenile was charged with two counts of 2C:12-3a, Terroristic Threats, 3rd Degree; and two counts of 2C:33-3a, False Public Alarm, 3rd degree. The exposure on each 3rd degree juvenile charge is two years of a custodial term to the care and custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission.

A juvenile complaint is merely an accusation. Despite these accusations, the juveniles are presumed innocent unless and until proven delinquent beyond a reasonable doubt.

Any inquiries may be directed to Passaic County Assistant Prosecutor Nubar Kasaryan. He can be reached at (973) 881-4475 or at nkasaryan@passaiccountynj.org.