



Town of Hanover

Police Department

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Press Release

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This morning a former Hanover School teacher was arraigned at Hingham District Court as a result of a criminal charge filed by the Hanover Police Department. The charge stems from an investigation related to a comment verbalized by the defendant in which he stated “when something like that happens, it makes me want to go home and get my rifle”. This comment was overheard by another staff member who rightfully found the comment very concerning and reported it to administrators. School administration took immediate action, contacted Hanover PD at which time Detectives initiated an investigation which included the execution of a search warrant of the defendant’s home. As a result of our investigation and search, Hanover PD found no evidence that the defendant intended to act on this statement; however, the mere verbalization of the presence of a weapon capable of causing serious bodily injury at any location thus causing fear or personal discomfort to any person amounts to a criminal offense (Specifically M.G.L. 269 Section 14). This case was ultimately turned over to the Plymouth County District Attorney’s office for prosecution and the defendant was arraigned on a charge of “Threats to Commit a Crime”. Further court proceedings are scheduled for June 5, 2024.

The Hanover Police Department prioritizes the safety of Hanover Schools, students and staff members. We work closely with school administrators to address any and all issues on a daily basis including all potential threats to a safe learning environment. Additionally, we work closely with all school staff to establish a culture of awareness and alertness which happened in this instance (to the reporting staff member’s credit). While the defendant asserts the comment was taken out of context, the Hanover Police Department has zero tolerance for any threats or statements that infer violence or instills fear of harm within our schools. Any individuals who make such statements will be prosecuted.

Always remember, if you see something say something!

Chief Timothy Kane
Hanover Police Department