



Roxana Kennedy
Chief of Police

CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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POLICE MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: September 14th, 2022
To: San Diego Media
From: Chula Vista Police Department
Contact: Sergeant Anthony Molina, Public Information Officer
Phone: (619) 691-5111
Email: pio@chulavistapd.org
Subject: HOAX CALL – NO ACTIVE SHOOTER AT MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL

Message: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

This afternoon at about 1:00 P.M., the Chula Vista Police Department received a call of an “active shooter” at Mater Dei High School (1615 Mater Dei Drive, Chula Vista) from an out-of-state phone number. The caller, who sounded like a male, said he was locked in a classroom with several other students and there were others injured nearby. He also reported seeing two men with rifles on campus.

The Chula Vista Police Department followed practiced protocols including having School Resource Officers communicate with campus staff immediately to begin placing the school on lockdown. Veterans Elementary School was also placed on Secure Campus as a precaution due to its proximity to Mater Dei High School.

Several officers, including Chula Vista Police officers and Southwestern College officers, responded to the school. Coincidentally, a Chula Vista Police officer was working on reports in a Mater Dei campus parking lot when the call was received. He was able to advise responding officers that the campus appeared to be operating as usual, with students still casually moving about the campus. Other officers arrived on scene, along with the overhead support of Drone as First Responder (DFR) – one of the department’s rooftop-based drones controlled remotely by a Chula Vista Police Officer/Pilot. The drone officer confirmed there were no obvious indications of an actual threat.

Having direct communication with school staff, officers learned the room number mentioned by the caller did not exist. However, officers continued to follow training and protocols in clearing all classrooms and accounting for all students and staff until everyone was confirmed safe. Upon doing so, the school was taken out of lockdown and Veterans Elementary was removed from Secure Campus status.

The call is believed to be a hoax and appears to be similar to other falsely reported “active shooter” incidents in the state. It is being investigated as a false report. Anyone with more information is asked

to contact San Diego County Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477 or submit a tip via P3tips (online or mobile application) <http://p3tips.com/409> if they wish to remain anonymous.

During this incident, the Chula Vista Police Department provided live updates via Twitter [@chulavistapd](https://twitter.com/chulavistapd). The public is asked to follow this feed to stay informed on updates in future critical incidents.

**After hour inquiries should be directed to the Watch Commander at (619)476-5374, however no other information is available for release at the time of this media advisory distribution.*

Prepared By: Sgt. Anthony Molina
Copies Sent To: San Diego Media

Approved By: Capt. Dan Peak
Date/Time: 09-14-2022 / 1530