



City of Paso Robles
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Paso Robles
Police Department
900 Park Street
(805) 237-6464

Juveniles Arrested for Social Media Post Depicting Guns
Snapchat Investigation – Paso Robles

PASO ROBLES, CA – On March 22, 2018, at approximately 10:00am, the Paso Robles Police Department responded to Paso Robles High School to investigate reports that a 16-year-old former student was circulating photos, via the social media web application Snapchat, of himself holding a pistol and displaying rifles (see attached). Police and school officials quickly determined the irresponsible social media post did not pose a threat to PRHS; however, police and district officials continued to work together to ensure the matter was fully investigated and appropriately handled.

Ultimately, police arrested the former student and another 15-year-old in connection with illegally possessing a pistol depicted in the online post. This incident is unrelated to any prior school events from the previous two weeks, nor is there is any indication the gun was ever possessed on school grounds.

Investigators attempted to locate the gun depicted in the Snapchat post by interviewing family members and by searching both boy's homes. The extensive search also included serving a search warrant at a home located along the 500 block of Ferro Lane, Paso Robles. Despite using a Department of Fish and Wildlife K9 specifically trained to locate hidden firearms, these searches were unsuccessful.

After an extensive investigation, both boys were booked into the Juvenile Services Center in Paso Robles on a single charge of violating California Penal Code section 29610: *A minor shall not possess a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.*

The PRPD would like to remind parents that responsible gun ownership and California State law require all firearms be kept out of the reach of minors. Allowing children to possess or handle guns unsupervised could result in criminal charges and arrest. Parents are strongly encouraged to closely monitor their children's social media use. Close monitoring and early intervention when inappropriate activity occurs will help reduce the likelihood of irresponsible postings.

School District and Paso Robles Police Department continue to work collaboratively to ensure student safety. Remember, if you see something, say something.



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Media Contact Name: Ty Lewis
Title: Commander
Phone: 805-237-6464
Email: tlewis@prcity.com