



City of Lafayette Police Department

# Crime Bulletin

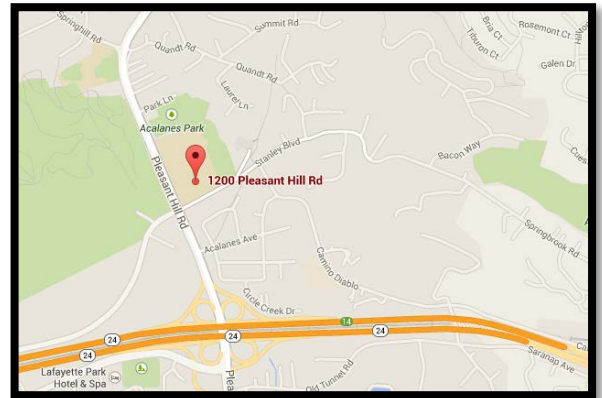
June 2014



## Acalanes Lockdown

The City of Lafayette Police Department is providing information regarding an incident that recently occurred within the City. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide information to residents about this investigation and to obtain additional information to aid the police department in our investigation.

On Friday, June 6th at 9:53 a.m., the Lafayette Police Department was contacted by the Principal of Acalanes High School. The principal reported that she had received a threat to the schools' campus and had placed the school into a lockdown. Officers responded to the school and learned that a series of threats had been made by a student, targeting an assembly that was to begin at 10:30 a.m. on the campus. As a protective measure, the principal placed the campus on lockdown - believing that the student intended to cause harm at the 10:30 a.m. assembly. The threats were considered credible by the officers who responded to the school.



Officers identified the suspect, who was listed as being absent from school and had not been seen on campus. Uniformed officers began a hasty search of the campus and were unable to locate the suspect. Investigators responded to the suspect's residence, but were unable to make contact with him. Officers at the home established a security perimeter around the home, waiting for the arrival of additional personnel. Because officers were unable to locate the student, the Police Supervisor at the High School directed that a detailed search of the campus be performed - believing that the suspect may be secreted on the campus. A request for assistance was then made to the other police agencies within the County. Officers from throughout the County responded to the school, to aid in performing the search of the campus and the area surrounding the school for the suspect or other suspicious packages. Medical and Fire Units were also staged at the school as a precautionary measure, along with resources from the FBI.

As officers at the suspect's residence prepared to make entry to the home, a message from the suspect was received at the school. The suspect identified that he had barricaded himself in his home. After speaking with a parent, the suspect exited the home and was taken into custody, without incident. A search of the residence was conducted and no weapons, explosive devices, nor anything that may indicate that an attack was planned were found. Several computers were seized by investigators from the home and their contents will be examined by investigators.

The campus remained in a lockdown mode until the Supervisor at the school was confident that no threats were on the campus. After an update from police, the principal rescinded the lockdown order for the school. Officers remained at the campus throughout the school day.

After being interviewed, the suspect (an adult) was booked at the jail in Martinez for violation of Penal Code Section 422 - Terrorist Threats. The suspect has been suspended from the school and efforts are being made to ensure that he is restrained from returning to the school or any school function. The parents of the suspect have been helpful and cooperative with both the police department and school staff.

The police department continues to monitor the situation and is aware of the concerns of parents, students, and faculty members. The presence of officers at the Acalanes Campus or other off-campus events should not be construed to indicate any increased threat - we just believe it's the right thing to do.

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In reviewing the incident, much of our success comes from the previous training that had been done by the Lamorinda Police Agencies and in this case, the School Officials from Acalanes. The principal knew her plan, knew what the police officers would do, and what the process would be. The police officers had trained with the fire department personnel and everyone was familiar with the layout of the campus. Although there was no active threat located on the campus, all the previous work proved very beneficial.

As events occurred, the Nixle Alerting System was used to broadcast information and updates to the community. The system proved to be invaluable and continues to be a service that we encourage our residents to subscribe to.

**Most importantly, we (the members of the police department) are so very appreciative of the actions of the Acalanes Parents. Concerned parents responded to the school, but were respectful of the perimeters that had been established - allowing officers to concentrate on the work that they needed to do. This made the task at hand much easier to complete. A tip of the hat to all of the Acalanes Parents.**

**Prevention.**  
This incident highlights the need for parents to have access to the electronic devices and social media sites used by their children. Parents should know all of the access codes and passwords used by their children. Parents should randomly check those devices to see what their children are posting and what internet sites they visit. When children encounter a social media posting that concerns them, they need to say something to someone. Too many times tragic events are accompanied by individuals who knew there was something wrong, but failed to take any action.

**E-Mail Alerts.** If you are a resident of the City of Lafayette and are not currently receiving our email alerts, please contact Chief Christensen at echri@so.cccounty.us. Provide your name, street address and an email address. We want to make sure that all of our residents are aware of significant incidents and crime trends within our community.

**Nixle Alerts.** Residents who have not yet subscribed are urged to subscribe to our alerting system that we perform through the Nixle Alerting System. For significant incidents and disasters within the community, this is the primary system that will be used to provide our residents with information about incidents such as this one. You can subscribe to Nixle Alerts by visiting the Nixle Website ([www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)) - a free service for our residents.

***Our investigators continue to seek additional information about this incident and the suspect. Anyone with information is urged to contact our investigators by e-mail or phone.***

Emergency	911
Dispatch (Non-Emergency)	(925) 284-5010
Tip Line	<b>94549Tip@gmail.com</b>
Email	
SGT Shiells (Investigations)	HShie@so.cccounty.us
Det Dennison (Investigations)	JDenn@so.cccounty.us

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