

**COUNTY OF SUFFOLK  
NEW YORK**



**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**GERALDINE HART**  
POLICE COMMISSIONER

September 2018

Over the past few years law enforcement and education officials have been dealing with a significant increase in the number of reported school threats. While some of these reports are the result of the heightened sensitivity in the school community, many more are the result of pranks and disruptive behavior. Until the source and nature of such reports can be determined, each incident is given high priority. The initial response and follow up investigations require significant investments in terms of police resources, and the educational institution's operations are subject to significant disruption.

The purpose of letter is to remind students, parents, and the community at large of the gravity of this situation. Statements or remarks that appear to be threatening to a school, students, or staff members will be handled in the same manner that comments about bombs and explosions are dealt with at our airports. In other words with **ZERO TOLERANCE**. The fact that the threat was made as some sort of prank or joke will not protect the responsible individual(s).

Statements made aloud, in written material, in graffiti, posted on any kind of social media platform, or transmitted electronically over the phone/fax/email/etc. about firearms, shootings, explosives, bombs, or any other threat will result in a swift and comprehensive investigation. When appropriate, the individuals responsible for these threats will be arrested and prosecuted in criminal court. Don't joke around with your future.

Sincerely,  
Robert C. Brown  
Chief of Patrol



**ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**  
Visit us online at: [www.suffolkpd.org](http://www.suffolkpd.org)  
*Crime Stoppers Confidential Tip Hotline: 1-800-220-TIPS*  
*Non-Emergencies Requiring Police Response - Dial: (631) 852-COPS*  
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