

Tiger Newspaper South Pasadena High School August 19, 2014

INVESTIGATION UPDATE:

Fifteen hours after the initial report, South Pasadena Police Chief Arthur Miller addressed the community with an update on the ongoing investigation of two male SPHS students. Yesterday afternoon, the suspects, ages 16 and 17, were taken into custody for conspiracy and criminal threats. After a search warrant was approved on Monday, the police department was able to gain entry into the suspects' homes.

The police department was informed of threats on Thursday, August 14 by school officials, who received a tip of violence against three staff members and "as many students as possible" from a community member. Since then, the investigation revealed internet searches of weaponry, bombs, self-defense, and attack techniques. The students confirmed the allegations of a planned school shooting while in custody. Currently, the suspects are detained at Eastlake Juvenile Hall in Downey.

This morning, Miller informed the public that the suspects had a plan of attack, though did not have a specific date in mind. The police cannot confirm the financial means of the suspects to obtain weapons, but a potential availability of a firearm, linked to a relative has been confirmed. However, the relative was contacted and the weapon is secure.

The FBI has offered its services to assist the investigation, especially with computer forensic analyzation.

SPHS Principal Ms. Janet Anderson, Mayor Marina Khubesrian, and Superintendent Dr. Geoff Yantz informed community members that the city and school district maintain safety as a priority and that school will begin as scheduled on Thursday, with an increased police presence on all campuses.

"You have a very community-oriented police department, and the city council has worked hard over the past few years to make school safety a priority," Mayor Khubesrian said in an interview after the press conference.

More information will be made known throughout the day. Stay posted with Tiger for interviews with Ms. Janet Anderson and Superintendent Dr. Geoff Yantz in the afternoon.