



Rick Staly, Sheriff

## FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

*"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."*

# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** Friday, February 15, 2019

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## **Juvenile Arrested for Written Threats to Kill** **Sheriff Urges Parents to Talk to their Children about Consequences**

A 14-year-old student that attends Indian Trails Middle School (ITMS) was arrested and charged with Written Threats to Kill or Do Bodily Harm, a felony, on Friday afternoon. The charges stem from an off-campus incident between the defendant and a victim that resulted in a rumor being spread amongst students. The defendant, upset about the rumor, took action by creating threatening video.

A third party reported to school staff and the School Resource Deputy (SRD) that a video was created on February 14 by the defendant showing him holding a firearm and threatening to kill the victim. FCSO obtained the video and conducted interviews with witnesses, the victim, and the defendant separately. Based on the investigation, it was determined that the student made the video in his home using his parent's firearm.

"This has to stop. Students – violence is not the answer and will only get you in serious trouble," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Parents – we have been spreading the message 'see something, say something' for over a year now. With cell phones and social media, it is more important than ever to pay attention to what your children are doing online, get involved in their lives, and make sure your children know right from wrong and the consequences they face if they make the wrong choice. We have a zero tolerance policy for threats in Flagler County."

Please view the FCSO Public Service Announcement with you family. Encourage your children to report school threats or suspicious incidents to law enforcement.

View the FCSO PSA here:

<https://www.facebook.com/flaglercounty.sheriffsoffice/videos/2082099221857434/>

Firearm safety: Keep the firearm in a securely locked box or container; Keep the firearm in a location which a reasonable person would believe to be secure; or secure the firearm with a trigger lock. Never leave a firearm where a minor may have access to it.

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