



Rick Staly, Sheriff
FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

NEWS RELEASE

Date: January 25, 2023
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Matanzas High School Bomb Threat Determined to be False Swatting call

BUNNELL, FL – At 11:00 am on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, an unidentified individual called the Matanzas High School front office and reported a bomb was on the campus of the school. School administrators placed the campus on a “Code Blue” lockdown and quickly notified FCSO Communications who relayed information to responding deputies.

Based on information in the phone call, students in building 5 were relocated to the school gymnasium and auditorium. The rest of the school was told to remain in place. FCSO deputies and FCSO’s EOD (Explosive Ordinance Detection) K-9 Unit responded to the school and set up a command post. The FCSO Real Time Crime Center was able to remotely monitor the school’s surveillance camera system and monitor live feeds from on-scene deputies body cameras and school cameras.

A search of the campus, beginning with building 5, was conducted and at 12:45 pm an “all clear” was given after no explosive devices were found. FCSO determined the call originated from a California phone number that has been identified as being associated with false “swatting” calls across the country.

“We do not take threat of this nature lightly,” said Sheriff Rick Staly. “We thank the students and staff of MHS who adhered to Flagler School’s Code Blue plan and allowed us space to conduct a thorough search. Our investigation is continuing and if we can identify the caller they will face serious consequences and a trip to the Green Roof Inn. The safety of our students is paramount.”

We are continuing to work to determine the person behind this threat. Anyone with information is

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asked to call FCSO at 386-313-4911, email FCSO at Tips@FlaglerSheriff.com, or call CrimeStoppers at 1-888-277-TIPS (8477)

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