

**COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
NEW YORK**



POLICE DEPARTMENT

GERALDINE HART
POLICE COMMISSIONER

August 28, 2018

To: School Superintendents and Administrators

As students and teachers return to classrooms throughout the country, we are forced to confront the reality of increased school threat incidents and the shocking series of school shooter cases over the years. The Suffolk County Police Department has been very proactive in this area of law enforcement. To cite just a few examples we have streamlined and prioritized the investigation of threat incidents, established tactical response units with special equipment and training, and conducted training and exercises for the entire patrol division as well as hundreds of school district personnel and members of fire/rescue partner agencies.

Beginning in September we will be embarking on an initiative designed to both increase the presence of uniformed police officers in and around our schools, and enhance the level of familiarity between the school staff and their local police officers. As of the start of the academic year, patrol supervisors and sector officers will be checking in at school buildings on a random basis during the school day and after-school activities. These safety checks will offer an opportunity for the police who will respond if there is an emergency to meet key personnel and gain first-hand knowledge of the physical layout of the schools they protect on a daily basis. On each such visit officers will let school officials know immediately if they are responding to a call for service or conducting a routine check.

In addition, I have enclosed an open letter regarding our policy on threat incidents with an emphasis on zero tolerance for joke or prank threats. Please feel free to distribute this letter to students and parents in your district, and encourage faculty to discuss with students the types of conduct that might be interpreted as a threat and result in a police response and investigation.

Also enclosed is a list of the Precinct Commanding and Executive Officers. If you have any questions or concerns about these initiatives please don't hesitate to contact your local precinct command staff or myself. We are looking forward to continuing and improving the excellent working relationship between your district and the SCPD.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Brown
Suffolk County Police Department
Chief of Patrol
631-852-6068



ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Visit us online at: www.suffolkpd.org

Crime Stoppers Confidential Tip Hotline: 1-800-220-TIPS

Non-Emergencies Requiring Police Response - Dial: (631) 852-COPS

30 Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank, New York 11980 – (631) 852-6000



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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



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**Suffolk County Police Department
Precinct Command Staff Directory**

Pct	Inspector	Deputy Inspector	Non-emergency Phone #
1	Kevin Kane	Brendan Forte	631-854-8101
2	William Scrima	Matthew McCormick	631-854-8201
3	John Rowan	Millie Soto	631-854-8301
4	Hal Jantzen	Mark Fisher	631-854-8401
5	William Silva	John Cahill	631-854-8501
6	Patrick Reilly	Alexander Crawford	631-854-8601
7	Gerard Hardy	William Read	631-852-8701