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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

August 25, 2023

#### **Investigations Into Threats / Oldham County Schools**

Recently Oldham County Police investigated several incidents involving threats connected to area schools. Three incidents involved Oldham County High School, one at North Oldham High School, and one at South Oldham High School.

After investigation it was determined that the three incidents (August 14, 15, & 17) involving Oldham County High School appear to be attributable to a social media "challenge" posted on TikTok. The challenge encouraged students to record a video of themselves telling a teacher there was a bomb or gun in their backpack. Terroristic Threatening 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree (KRS 508.078) complaints were filed with the Court Designated Worker (CDW) involving two 15-year-old students attending Oldham County High School, along with a Terroristic Threatening 3rd Degree (KRS 508.080) complaint on a third 15-year-old student at the school.

An incident reported on August 18th at North Oldham High School involved a dispute between two students and a threat being made by one juvenile towards another. A Terroristic Threatening 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree (KRS 508.080) complaint was subsequently filed with the CDW. This incident <u>was not</u> related to a social media post.

An incident, which <u>may have</u> been inspired by a social media challenge, was investigated on August 17th at South Oldham High School, however the student's actions did not meet the acts required in statutes related to terroristic threats. A complaint of Harassing Communications (KRS 525.080) was filed with the CDW for the involved 15-year-old South Oldham High student.

Because these investigations involve juveniles, no additional identifying information is available for release. Since conducting the investigations described above, OCPD has not received any additional reports involving threats towards school facilities, students, or school employees.

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Anyone with information on this incident, or a crime occurring in Oldham County, can contact us at (502) 222-1300 or online at OCPD Report a Tip or Crime. When contacting OCPD, you can remain anonymous or choose to leave contact information for follow up opportunities.