



Bloomington Police Notice Regarding Recent “Clown” Events



The Bloomington Police Department is aware of the recent social media attention to threats against our schools relating to clowns. On October 6th the Bloomington Police arrested a 13 year-old male connected to a social media post implying violence would occur at Valley View Middle School in Bloomington.

This social media message was another incident in the ongoing “Clown” sensation that has unfortunately swept the country recently. Over the last few months, “creepy clowns” have been reported throughout the United States and the world. Many of these reported clown sightings have little to no evidence establishing their legitimacy, but it is fueling a clown panic throughout the country.

In addition, many schools in communities across the state and country are experiencing threats, via social media, that are involving clowns.

This trend is nationwide and is apparently a segment of society's attempt at entertaining themselves.

The Bloomington Police Department and Bloomington Public Schools are aware of the posts. The posts are taken very seriously and will be investigated thoroughly by the Bloomington Police Department.

These clown situations waste valuable resources and can lead to injuries to both first responders and members of the public. They can cause major disruptions leading to schools, businesses and neighborhoods being placed into unnecessary panic and alarm

We take the safety of your children and our community very seriously. There will be an increase in police presence at the schools and heightened awareness by police and school personnel.

Be responsible in what you post on social media, and if you have children, make sure you monitor their social media activity as well.

People who post threatening images, videos or messages to social media sites, including those of clowns, should recognize there could be criminal consequences for those actions.

We urge parents of young children to be vigilant and observant and instruct your children accordingly.

Residents are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to the Bloomington Police Department.