***Media Relations Information for 05/24/2012***

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**La Porte School Resource Officers make arrest of student found in possession of a handgun**

Shortly after lunchtime on Wednesday May 23rd, La Porte Police Officers, assigned to school resource duties at La Porte High School, received a tip that a student was in possession of marijuana. The School Resource Officers (SRO’s) quickly notified school administration of the event and, together, police and school officials were able to locate the student who was not only found to be in possession of marijuana, but also carrying a handgun in their backpack.

The arrest of 17 year-old Dequan Paul Victor (B/M, 04/16/1995) stemmed from SRO’s initially receiving information of possible marijuana possession from another LPHS student who wished to remain anonymous, but nevertheless remained concerned about illegal drugs on their campus. SRO’s immediately notified a school principal of the allegation and the administrator joined the police officers in both locating and interviewing Victor. When confronted about the marijuana possession, it was not only discovered that Victor was in possession of marijuana, but also had a 9mm handgun inside of his backpack.

Fortunately, for police and all present at the school, the handgun was not loaded, but was being kept by the student in a cardboard box with the weapon’s magazine and holster separated. No accessible ammunition was in Victor’s possession either, however the Harris County District Attorney’s Office accepted charges on the student for Unlawful Carrying a firearm in a Prohibited Area (School Campus), a third-degree felony which carries a penalty of between 2-10 years in prison and up to a $10,000 fine. SRO’s submitted the marijuana and firearm components into LPPD’s property room, where the handgun will remain as evidence and the marijuana has been scheduled for destruction.



Dequan Paul Victor

04/16/95