



## **BLAINE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Duty – Integrity - Accountability

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: May 28, 2022

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Blaine, Washington

On May 28, 2022, at about 1:22 AM, Blaine Officers identified and arrested a juvenile male suspect for the threats made against the Blaine Schools on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, Blaine Police were notified that threatening text messages were sent to three juvenile victims. The messages were very similar to the messages which caused the Blaine Schools to go into lockdown on May 25<sup>th</sup>. All of the messages, including those on the 25<sup>th</sup>, came through a 3<sup>rd</sup> party app called “Text Now”.

At about 12:45 AM on May 28<sup>th</sup>, Blaine Officers were made aware of yet another threatening text. Officers contacted the “victim” by phone and eventually were able to determine that he was the suspect. Using information gained by other officers during the day, Officer Jon Landis confronted the boy with the inconsistencies in his story. The boy admitted that he had sent all of the messages stating that he had meant them to be a prank.

After consulting the Whatcom County Prosecutor’s Office, Officer Landis arrested the juvenile in Bellingham at 1:22 AM and booked him into the Whatcom County Juvenile Detention Center.

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Donnell “Tank” Tanksley, Chief of Police

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