

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Watch Commander, (805) 339-4416 Release Prepared by: Commander Tom Higgins VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incident: Subject possibly armed with a gun ***Updated information***

Location: 760 Jazmin Ave. (Atlas Elementary School)

Date/Time Occurred: 03/15/18 @ 1253 hrs.

<u>Officer(s) Involved:</u> Ventura PD Patrol, Ventura Police K-9, Ventura Police School Resource Officers, Ventura County Sheriff's Department helicopter

Suspect(s): Unknown Race Male wearing all black clothing, including a hooded sweatshirt with red design on the front

Narrative:

On the above date and time, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call from the Principal of Atlas Elementary in the 700 block of Jazmin Ave. reporting that several students saw a subject outside the fence of the school that was possibly armed with a gun. The students went to the office and reported it to the school staff.

Multiple officers including Ventura Police K-9, Schools Resource Officers and Detectives responded to the school which had immediately been placed on lockdown by school staff. Douglas Penfield School and Sacred Heart School were also placed on lockdown. The Ventura County Sheriff's Department helicopter was requested to respond.

Officers are currently in the process of conducting a thorough search of each school, including an area search using officers and the helicopter. The general public is asked to stay clear of the area while the search is being conducted, although officers are assisting parents in picking up their children.

Additional information will be sent out as it comes available.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Ventura Police Department at 339-4416.

UPDATED INFORMATION

The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at www.venturapd.org

If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

Officers have concluded the search for the subject, who was not located. In the end, officers conducted a room by room search of Atlas Elementary School, Douglas Penfield School, Sacred Heart School and Easter Seals. All the school lockdowns have been lifted. Officers remain on scene to help parents pick up their children, but there are no more restrictions to entering the area. The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at www.venturapd.org If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.