



## **Office of Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**Date:** February 7, 2013  
**Contact:** John Potbury, (810)257-3215

---

#### **15-YEAR-OLD CHARGED IN GRAND BLANC HIGH SCHOOL TEXTING HOAX ALLEGING ACTIVE SHOOTERS IN SCHOOL BUILDING**

**FLINT --** Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton said he has charged a 15-year-old student in the December 19<sup>th</sup> incident at Grand Blanc High School that resulted in police responding to reports of active shooters present in the school.

Prosecutor Leyton said the 15-year-old is being charged as a juvenile and, as a result, his name will not be released. The student is charged with False Report of Terrorism, a 20-year felony.

"What ultimately turned out to be a prank was, in reality, no joke," said Prosecutor David Leyton.

"It resulted in great disruption to an entire community, sent fears through the hearts and minds of hundreds of students, teachers, and parents, and caused tremendous amounts of public resources to be spent responding to and following up on the incident," Leyton said.

Prosecutor Leyton noted that the situation at Grand Blanc High School happened just days after a tragic mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut left 20 children and 6 adults dead. Furthermore, he said, schools around Genesee County were also on heightened alert that week due to mass rumors that a so-called "end of the world" student revolt was to occur at various schools on Friday, December 21.

"I think Sandy Hook and all other similar tragedies have resulted in an increased sensitivity not only here in Genesee County but across America," Leyton said. "As a result, in this day and age, we cannot condone, in any manner, false reports of school shootings or other acts of terrorism," he said.

"We take any report of an active shooter in a school building very seriously," said Grand Blanc City Police Chief Steve Solomon.

"Our students and the entire community must realize that making a false report of a shooting or a bomb threat or anything similar is a serious matter and will be treated as such by law enforcement," he said.

**###**