

October 02, 2013

News Release

For Immediate Release

Update on Threat Situation

Dustin Leer, 35, has been arrested for making a terroristic threat. Prior to our involvement in this incident, Leer made a call to a Social Security Administration office at 2143 E. Primrose which included threats of doing harm to college students. This prompted Federal Protection Service agents (a division within the Department of Homeland Security) to respond while also making contact with 911 dispatchers at 11:57 a.m.

Knowing Leer had a scheduled hearing at the Social Security Administration office for revoked benefits, an SPD officer responded to the location and detained Leer for an investigation with the federal authorities. No weapons were found on Leer or in his vehicle.

In reference to the separate incident on Drury's campus: We received this call from Drury at 12:40 p.m. today. The SPD was able to make contact with the victim of this incident. It appears to have been a road rage incident where two white males in a vehicle became impatient with the victim trying to find or enter a parking space. It is apparent that one of the white males held up a gun to show he had one (not pointed at the victim) and then they drove away laughing.

Original news release: The Springfield Police Department (SPD) received information from the Department of Homeland Security and was asked to be on the lookout for a person making general threats. We took the precautionary move of making notifications to any institution or venue that might be impacted. Each organization implemented its own procedures used when advised of such a threat. This subject was said to be mentally disturbed and has made similar threats in the past.

The subject who made the threats was located and detained. We are not yet releasing the name of the individual.

During this time frame, a call was received at Drury University about a person possibly flashing a gun from a vehicle. This has not been confirmed. The Missouri State Highway Patrol and SPD responded. This was a separate incident. There was not an "active shooter" on a campus.

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Case #13-41865

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Release authorized by: Chief Paul Williams