

NEWS RELEASE

**Owatonna Police Department
204 East Pearl Street
Owatonna, MN 55060**



For Release Immediately

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

**Shaun E. LaDue
CHIEF OF POLICE**

For Further Information Contact

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Investigation of Bomb Threat and Racial Tension at Owatonna High School

The Owatonna Police Department is working with administrators of the Owatonna High School in an investigation of a bomb threat. On Monday, November 16, 2009, students at the local high school were sent home with a letter to parents indicating their knowledge of this threat. Student possessions were checked at the start of school today as well as a search of the school building, as part of the school districts Crisis Action Plan. Additional resources were deployed to the high school by the Owatonna Police Department as a means of completing a thorough assessment of this threat. Fortunately, this threat was not carried out and the motive and manner of which these threats were discovered remain under investigation by the Owatonna Police Department.

In addition, police investigators are currently conducting a thorough investigation into the allegations of racial tensions at the high school of which several students may be involved. No further details are being released at this time as these incidents remain under investigation as well.

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