



## **JOHNSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Tuesday, October 3, 2017**

**By Authority of: Chief Dennis McDaniel**

### **Update Regarding Threat Based Incident**

**JOHNSTON, IOWA** – The Johnston Police Department continues to work in conjunction with state and federal law enforcement partners to investigate the threat-based incident that began on Monday, Oct. 2 involving Johnston schools. Cooperative resources at the federal level have been brought in on this investigation to dedicate additional personnel and provide specific expertise in cyber-crimes.

As the Johnston Community School District prepares to resume classes tomorrow, the police department will be fulfilling a request from the District to perform proactive security sweeps of each school building prior to the opening of these facilities. To give ample time to complete the sweeps, a two-hour late start has been announced by the District for Wednesday, Oct. 4. There will also be added law enforcement presence at each building throughout the school day.

“The Johnston Police Department will put full effort into preserving the safety and security of our community and its most precious resource – our children,” said Police Chief Dennis McDaniel. “Throughout the day today our investigation continued to reinforce that we have no known credible threat against our schools. Nonetheless, we will be vigilant in our efforts and encourage community members to do the same.”

The Johnston Police Department is also advising individuals to ensure the protection of their identity and personal information by enacting the following security measures:

- Change passwords frequently while ensuring they are strong and secure; utilize different passwords for different accounts.
- Only give your social security number (SSN) when it is necessary and keep your SSN card in a secure location – do not carry it in your wallet.
- Keep items with personal information in a safe place and either shred or tear them up when you do not need.
- Order a copy of your credit report from each credit-reporting agency.

- Before revealing personal financial information, find out whom you are dealing with, how the information will be used, and if it will be shared with others.
- Verify your credit card and credit union statements each month for unauthorized charges or suspicious activity.
- Photocopy financial and insurance cards you carry in your wallet (front and back) and keep original copies in a safe place - in the event your wallet is lost or stolen.

To secure your identity, you can request a copy of a credit report from the following credit bureaus.

- Experian – [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com) (888-397-3742)
- Equifax – [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com) (800-685-1111)
- TransUnion – [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com) (800-916-8800)

There are also additional fee-based subscription services to consider should an individual be at a heightened risk of cyber intrusion.

Additional investigative updates will be offered as appropriate.

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