

## For Immediate Release - Media Office of the Sheriff

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## PRESS RELEASE

On November 11, 2022, the Sheriff's Office was notified by Redwood Middle School officials that students located a dark complexion doll hanging from a tree on campus. The doll had a noose tied around its neck. On November 13, 2022, the Sheriff's Office was made aware of a similar incident that occurred at Prospect High School. On November 14, 2022, the Sheriff's Office was notified regarding a third incident, similar in nature, at Saratoga High School. All these incidents occurred in the City of Saratoga.

The Sheriff's Office Hate Crime Unit worked extensively since these incidents occurred to identify the individuals involved in these disturbing acts.

An adult male, who was a juvenile at the time of these incidents, was identified as one of two suspects believed to have committed the acts. Due to the fact that the male was a juvenile at the time these offenses occurred, he was booked into the Santa Clara County Juvenile Hall on three felony counts of Penal Code 11411(b) – Terrorism by Symbol on 10/25/2023. The investigation is continuing.

The Sheriff's Office unequivocally condemns all acts of hate, including hate crimes, and would like to remind the public to please report such acts to the Sheriff's Office or your local law enforcement agency.

"Hate has no place in our community and the Sheriff's Office will leave no stone unturned until individuals who bring hate to our county are held accountable."- Sheriff Robert Jonsen

Anyone with information on this active investigation is encouraged to call the Sheriff's Office at 408-808-4500. Alternatively, anyone can contact the Sheriff's Office Investigative Services anonymous tip line at 408-808-4431.

Prepared By: Deputy Felicia Segura

Approved By: Undersheriff Ken Binder

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