

**JESSICA E. PELTO**  
Chief Assistant Prosecutor

**LAUREN M. WICKMAN**  
Assistant Prosecutor

**KELLY M. CHANDLER**  
Legal Assistant

**PHILIP L. STROM**  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF DELTA  
Suite 237 • Second Floor  
310 Ludington Street  
Escanaba, Michigan 49829  
Phone (906) 789-5115 • Fax (906) 789-5149  
Subpoena Line (906) 789-5185

**CHRISTINE PEPIN**  
Office Manager

**KAREN ALVORD**  
Victim Witness Coordinator

**DIANNE GARTLAND**  
Intake Clerk



April 2, 2018

Dear Parents:

Recently, Delta County has experienced an increase in incidents involving threats against public buildings, including schools. Many of these threats have come from students who claim that they are "joking." Across Michigan, and certainly in Delta County, we do not see these incidents as "jokes." When a person threatens the safety and security of a school or public building, criminal consequences are the likely result.

The recent charges against students have included False Threat of Terrorism and Threatening Terrorism. These charges are viewed as 20 year felony charges. Any criminal charge against a juvenile is very serious and may result in strict consequences, including juvenile detention and/or intensive community supervision.

In addition to traditional criminal justice consequences, students may also have future negative consequences related to suspension or expulsion from school; loss of scholarships and financial aid; denied college admission; disclosure of criminal behavior to future employers; notice to military admission personnel.

Unfortunately, we know that when kids suffer some of the consequences outlined above, they are more likely to remain in the criminal justice system as adults and are more likely to face longer term incarceration. That is not our goal. We want to help kids avoid becoming a statistic related to long term incarceration. We want our kids to receive the full benefits of our great local public education system.

We need you to talk to your kids. Please stress the importance of responsible social media use and other electronic communications. There is no such thing as a joke about committing mass murder. We will continue to prosecute these cases to the full extent of the law in order to provide our kids a safe and secure learning environment.

If you have questions about the criminal laws and potential consequences, please contact Philip L. Strom, Delta County Prosecutor at 906-789-5115.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Philip L. Strom".

Philip L. Strom, Delta County Prosecutor