

THE CITY OF SUMMIT

N E W J E R S E Y

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News Release

For immediate release

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Summit Police Department Responds to Reported Threat; Shelter-in-Place Lifted at Local Schools

SUMMIT, NJ, January 8, 2026 – On Thursday, January 8, at approximately 1PM, the Summit Police Department received information from an outside law enforcement agency that it had received a threat and that the caller was believed to be currently in Summit. Out of an abundance of caution, Brayton Elementary School and Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School (LCJSMS) were placed in a shelter-in-place at approximately 1PM while Summit Police conducted an investigation. Shortly thereafter, the suspect was identified and taken into custody, and the school day resumed as normally planned.

“Due to the close working relationship between the Summit Police Department and the Summit Board of Education, we were able to quickly identify and take the suspect into custody,” said Summit Police Chief Ryan Peters. “This incident demonstrates that our training, coordination, and communication are effective during critical incidents. Our priority is always the safety of our students, staff, and residents.”

Police responded and assured the district that it was safe to end the shelter-in-place and continue with a normal school day. The Summit Police Department thanks school administrators, staff, students, parents, and the community for their cooperation and calm response.

More information on the Summit Police Department is available at cityofsummit.org/police.

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