



# ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **FAKE THREATS MADE TO COMMUNITIES ACROSS ILLINOIS**

*Swatting calls targeting schools throughout the U.S.*

**SPRINGFIELD** – As of 3 p.m. today, the Illinois State Police (ISP) is reporting local law enforcement in 19 counties, totaling 21 calls, received threats directed towards schools today. Responders have not located any actual threats as a result of these calls. The ISP Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center currently has no information concerning credible threats related to school safety. Law enforcement, public safety, and private sector security officials are encouraged to remain vigilant and report all suspicious behavior to local police agencies.

Communities in Illinois, and across the country, are experiencing what is referred to as swatting – dangerous and illegal fake calls about an active shooter situation, typically at a school. While state and national intelligence agencies have seen a pattern of these fake calls, each call is taken seriously.

Counties in Illinois that have reported calls today include:

<b>City</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>County</b>
Champaign	Champaign County	Springfield	Sangamon County
Chicago	Cook County	Freeport	Stephenson County
Aurora	DuPage County	Marion	Williamson County
Carbondale	Jackson County	Rockford	Winnebago County
Murphysboro	Jackson County		
Mount Vernon	Jefferson County		
Vienna	Johnson County		
Dixon	Lee County		
Decatur	Macon County		
Granite City	Madison County		
Collinsville	Madison County		
Centralia	Marion County		
Bloomington	McLean County		
Jacksonville	Morgan County		
Peoria	Peoria County		
Pittsfield	Pike County		
Eldorado	Saline County		

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