

Monroe Police Department

News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 6th, 2022

Father of Monroe Teenager Charged with Hate Crime Offense

MONROE – January 6th, 2022: The father of a Monroe teenager has been charged by the Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office with a felony hate crime offense. This was as a result of a Monroe Police Department (MPD) investigation involving racial bias and harassment which occurred at Monroe High School on November 10, 2021. In that incident, a black high school student was subjected to racist taunts from a white female student. Pushing and shoving occurred between the involved students.

The father, who allegedly made targeted death threats and racist remarks to the black high school student, via phone, is scheduled to be arraigned in Snohomish County Superior Court on January 19, 2022. The death threats and racist remarks were recorded via a witnessing student’s phone and circulated widely via social media.

Immediately upon becoming aware of this incident, MPD implemented our protocols for responding to hate and racially biased crimes. Our investigation included interviewing the individuals involved, carefully reviewing video recordings, and collecting and securing digital evidence.

It was during our investigation, on November 28, 2021, we learned of additional acts of harassment and intimidation directed toward the teenage victim in this case. These acts, instigated by the father and associated teenage suspects in this case, included showing up at the victim’s place of employment, following him around, and staring at him. These acts led to formal trespass notices being served on the father and associated teenage suspects, prohibiting them from visiting or frequenting the victim’s place of employment.

We recognize the fear and trauma caused by these illegal acts. When individual rights are infringed upon by violence, threats, or other harassment, we utilize all available resources to see that justice is served under the law. While not all crimes can be prevented, we are committed to taking proactive approaches to prevent bias-based crimes from occurring.

Report crimes of bias or hate:

- For crimes in progress, call 9-1-1 immediately

- If an incident has already occurred and immediate danger is over, call non-emergency dispatch at (425) 407-3999
- Online tips may be submitted to pdrecords@ci.monroe.wa.us
- Our tips phone line at (360) 863-4600

For questions about the charges now pending in Snohomish County Superior Court, please contact the Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Chief of Staff Michael Held at mheld@snoco.org.

For additional information on this media release, contact Administrative Commander Paul Ryan at 360-863-4579 or by email at pryan@ci.monroe.wa.us.

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