



Public information release

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MPD Deploys Extra Patrols for Jewish Holy Days, Oct 7th Anniversary: Arrest Made for Threats Against Temple Israel

October 5, 2024 (MINNEAPOLIS) Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara announced Saturday that Minneapolis Police working a special detail to provide extra patrols near Jewish synagogues for the Jewish holy days and anniversary of the October 7th terrorist attacks have arrested a man for terroristic threats made against Temple Israel.

In September, Chief Brian O'Hara and members of the Minneapolis Police Department command staff met with leaders from Minneapolis synagogues, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and University of Minnesota students at Temple Israel. From that meeting, the MPD developed a plan to enhance patrols around synagogues and community centers during the Jewish holy days, and the anniversary of the Oct 7th terrorist attack on Israel.

On September 11th, staff at Temple Israel reported to the MPD they had received several phone calls from an individual threatening to "shoot up" Temple Israel. An investigation immediately began into the threats made.

On October 3rd, an officer working the special detail to provide extra patrols around Temple Israel was notified by security that there was a man outside who they saw with a firearm. The man fled the area before officers were able to arrest him.

Investigators learned the man with the firearm was the same man who made the threatening phone calls. He was identified as 21-year-old Jaden LeBlanc.

On October 4th, members of the Southside REACT team located the man and arrested him for terroristic threats. A gun was not recovered. He was booked into Hennepin County Jail and charges will be submitted to the Hennepin County Attorney's Office for consideration.

"Everyone in Minneapolis has the right to feel safe in their communities, and we will ensure our Jewish neighbors are protected as they celebrate the holy days," Chief O'Hara said. "We take all threats made against our religious institutions seriously, and will continue to hold the individuals accountable who threaten any of our city's houses of worship. I am incredibly grateful for the work of investigators in this case for quickly responding to the threats and likely preventing a tragedy from occurring."

The GO# for this incident is 24-259907.