



# HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

TROY J. PETERSON

SHERIFF

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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***

**For Immediate Release**

On March 21, 2018, Sheriff Troy Peterson released information regarding the arrest of a 16 year old male juvenile on the misdemeanor charge of Disturbance of a Public School Session.

Sheriff Peterson stated that on March 21, 2018 at approximately 10:30 A.M. West Harrison High School experienced a power outage at the main school. During the outage a 16 year old student sent text messages to several students which read "A shooter at the school". These messages were received by several students that were aboard school buses headed back to the High School from a field trip. Once the students advised the bus drivers about the texts this caused the buses to re-route back to another school. School Officials were notified by the bus drivers and School Resource Officers working on the campus began to investigate the source of the text messages. Upon determining who the 16 year old student was who sent the messages, he was arrested at the school and transported to the juvenile detention facility pending a Youth Court hearing. Harrison County SROs advised that at no time were any students at the school in any danger due to a power outage. The buses returned to the school afterwards.

Investigative Officer: Sgt. Luther Leach

Arresting Officer(s): Sgt. Luther Leach

Approved For Release: \_\_\_\_\_

Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "TJP", located in the bottom right corner of the page.