

Subject: Message Regarding Las Vegas Tragedy

The tragedy this week at a Las Vegas music festival where so many innocent people and families were impacted by an act we will never understand has once again left many more questions than answers. Before Las Vegas, there was Orlando, Charleston, Newtown, Columbine, Virginia Tech, and others. Each event of this magnitude makes many of us feel vulnerable, especially when venturing out to public venues.

Often times following events of this nature I am asked *Why did this happen?* and *Are we and our families at risk?*

I want to reach out and personally assure each of you that your Police Department is committed to keeping our institution safe. We have long been educating our community on the important messages of ***See Something, Say Something*** and ***Run, Hide, Fight***. Our team is committed to prevention, preparedness and protection, and, while no team is able to predict all tragic events, I remain confident in our capabilities to respond and limit harm.

Much of our success has and will continue to rely on our community's attentiveness to identifying behaviors of concern, and bringing the issues to the attention of our Threat Management Unit and Behavioral Intervention Team (STOP). The team, consisting of a multi-disciplinary cross-functional group of threat assessment professionals of which our department is a key member, aims to break down barriers to information to protect patients, students, faculty and staff. This method has resulted in numerous interventions where lives have been saved.

As such, we encourage the community to continue to report any individuals exhibiting suspicious or behaviors of concern. While we do not yet know what type of behaviors the Las Vegas suspect might have exhibited and went unreported that could have helped law enforcement intervene before lives were lost, law enforcement can only act on known and reported information.

As we continuously improve our ability to prevent and prepare, our team has been using a combination of analytical tools and data – both police-gathered data and data sourced from concerned community members – to intervene when individuals display behaviors of concern. The multidisciplinary effort mitigates threats, monitors and charts a person's behaviors of concern with the goal of identifying those in crisis, and provides the necessary intervention. Ours is not a prosecution approach; rather, we aim to disrupt the pathway to violence. In my opinion, detection and prevention are the essential elements to reduce both probability and impact of such a tragedy on our campus or in our communities.

Please know my team continues to focus on the safety of our entire community and we are available for any discussions you feel may benefit our community during these unfortunate times.

Respectfully,

Chief William Adcox
Chief of Police | Chief Security Officer