



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Handgun Discovered in High School, Five Teens Arrested

Police arrested five Hammond High School students today after discovering a handgun inside a student's locker. This morning, a parent provided the school with a note that detailed plans for the sale and purchase of a handgun between students. The Howard County school resource officer assigned to Hammond began an investigation, which led to the discovery of the weapon.

Police have learned that two students, both 15, planned to sell a handgun to two other male students. The boys were charged as juveniles with possession of a controlled deadly weapon on school property and posing a threat to students for bringing a gun into the school. The gun was found in a book bag inside a locker.

Three other students, one 14 and the others 15, were arrested and charged as juveniles with conspiracy to possess a controlled deadly weapon on school property and posing a threat to students. Two of the students, both male and from Laurel, planned to purchase the gun. Police have learned that the third student, a male from Jessup, took the gun from a relative's home and provided it to the intended seller.

The handgun was not loaded at the time it was discovered and police did not find any ammunition. Police have discovered no information at this point in the investigation that the students intended to use the gun in school.

Police do not expect to file additional charges at this time.

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