



Pembroke Pines Police Department



9500 Pines Boulevard · Pembroke Pines · Florida 33024

Administrative Phone – 954-436-3200
24-Hour Information Center – 954-431-2200
PIO On-Call Number – 954-743-1070

MEDIA RELEASE

ASSIGNED PIO: Amanda Conwell

DATE OF MEDIA RELEASE: January 28, 2025

TIME OF MEDIA RELEASE: 1:00 p.m.

CASE NUMBER: PPPD24OFF078624

CHARGE/INCIDENT: School Threats – Somerset Academy; **UPDATE 2 – Additional Arrests**

DATE OF OCCURRENCE: November 9, 2024

TIME OF OCCURRENCE: Click here to enter text. a.m.

PLACE OF OCCURRENCE: 20803 Johnson Street, Pembroke Pines, FL 33029

SUSPECT(S) - NAME, AGE, DOB, RACE, SEX, ADDRESS:

1) Logan James Gollinger, 15-years-old, DOB 03/16/2009, white male, 138 Manny Corners Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010

2) Juan Antonio Banos, 14-years-old, DOB 03/22/2010, white male, 2749 Timber Glen Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

3) Elizabeth Smith, 37-years-old, DOB 12/30/1986, white female, 138 Manny Corners Road, Amsterdam, NY 12010

VICTIM(S) - NAME, AGE, DOB, RACE, SEX, ADDRESS:

Click here to enter text.

INCIDENT SUMMARY:

*******Update published on January 28, 2025*******

On January 22, 2025, 37-year-old Elizabeth Smith surrendered herself to the Broward County Sheriff's jail to face one felony charge of Solicitation to Commit Tampering with Physical Evidence.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact the Pembroke Pines Police Department at 954-431-2200, email to tips@ppines.com, or call Broward Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS.



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On January 27, 2025, 15-year-old Logan James Gollinger was extradited to Florida by representatives from the Pembroke Pines Police Department and Broward Sheriff's Office. He is currently in custody at the Broward County Juvenile Detention Center.

At this time, all three suspects related to this incident have been identified and arrested.

*******Update published on January 15, 2025*******

Following an extensive investigation which involved multiple state and federal law enforcement agencies, the Pembroke Pines Police Department have identified three suspects pertaining to the November 9, 2024, school threat made against Somerset Academy.

15-year-old Logan James Gollinger of New York and 14-year-old Juan Antonio Banos of Michigan were both identified as suspects and face felony and misdemeanor charges.

Juan Antonio Banos surrendered himself on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, and is being held by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

Banos' charges include Threat to Throw, Project, Place or Discharge Any Destructive Device (FSS 790.162), Unlawful Use of a Two-Way Communications Device (FSS 934.215), Threats or Harassment (FSS 836.12), and Disruption of an Educational Institution (FSS 877.13, FSS 777.011).

Logan James Gollinger was arrested by the New York State Police on January 3, 2025, and remains in state custody. An extradition hearing is scheduled on Thursday, January 16, 2025, to determine when Gollinger will arrive in Florida.

Gollinger's charges include Threat to Throw, Project, Place or Discharge Any Destructive Device (FSS 790.162), Unlawful Use of a Two-Way Communications Device (FSS 934.215), and Disruption of an Educational Institution (FSS 877.13, FSS 777.011).

In addition, Gollinger's mother was taken into custody on January 3, 2025, in New York. Although Elizabeth Smith was released on bond, it is anticipated that she will surrender to Pembroke Pines Police on or before January 24, 2025, for knowingly instructing her son to delete evidence related to this investigation.

Elizabeth Smith faces one felony charge of Solicitation to Commit Tampering with Physical Evidence (FSS 918.13, FSS 777.04(2)(d)).

The Pembroke Pines Police Department will fully investigate all threats to cause harm at any school campus within our community. Investigators followed every lead, uncovered evidence,

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and collaborated with law enforcement partners to include the Broward Sheriff’s Office, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the New York State Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the State Attorney’s Office.

Although Gollinger and Banos used multiple techniques to conceal their identities, police officers identified and arrested each person for their role in threatening to cause harm at a school campus.

We remind parents to please speak to your children about the seriousness of these crimes, and to pay careful attention to your children’s online activities.

This remains an active and on-going investigation, and additional charges for each juvenile may be forthcoming.

On Saturday, November 9, 2024, the Pembroke Pines Police Department was alerted to a suspicious call that was received by the Broward Sheriff’s Office non-emergency dispatch line. A male caller identified himself as a student of Somerset Academy (20803 Johnson Street) and made threats towards the school and police. The caller provided a name and claimed that the violence would occur within the week of November 11th – November 15th.

The Pembroke Pines Police Department’s Threat Assessment Team was immediately deployed and began investigating the source of the call. Investigators determined that the name provided by the caller did not belong to a current or former student of Somerset Academy. To increase campus security, our department worked together with Somerset Academy’s school administration to create a safety plan and assigned extra police officers to the campus.

Multiple persons of interest were identified, including individuals from out of state. Following preliminary interviews, our department has not located any evidence to suggest that the threat was credible. It appears that the call was a hoax. While our investigation remains active and on-going, criminal charges may be pending. Our department will release additional information as it becomes available.

Making threats of this nature is a serious offense and the Pembroke Pines Police Department will fully investigate any report of violence directed at any schools located within the City of Pembroke Pines. We urge all parents to please speak with their children about the severe consequences of making threats of violence toward a school campus, students, or staff.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact the Pembroke Pines Police Department at 954-431-2200, email to tips@ppines.com, or call Broward Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS.