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TO: ALL BERGEN COUNTY CHIEFS OF POLICE, POLICE DIRECTORS, OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE, AND SHERIFF

FROM: ACTING PROSECUTOR DENNIS CALO

DATE: APRIL 16, 2018

SUBJECT: BERGEN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVE NO. 2018-2 REGARDING IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATIVE TIPS AND LEADS

On March 26, 2018, the New Jersey Attorney General issued an update to Attorney General Directive No. 2016-7 on Guidelines for Dissemination of Investigative Tips and Leads from the New Jersey Public and Law Enforcement. This office sent that update to each of you on March 28, 2018.

One notable provision of the Attorney General's update provides that:

Law enforcement agencies in New Jersey shall immediately report suspicious activity with a possible nexus to terrorism, and any and all threats of violence generally to any public location or mass gathering area, threats to any school, workplace, or house of worship, or any criminal activity related to terrorism, to [Counterterrorism Watch] and to their [County Terrorism Coordinators]. See Update Sec. 3a.

In order to implement and give maximum effect to this directive in our county, the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office ("BCPO") has established a Threat Management Unit within our Intelligence and Counterterrorism Unit to collect and coordinate information on potential terrorist activities and acts of violence as set forth in the Attorney General's Update and to assist local law enforcement in investigating these activities. The Threat Management Unit is staffed by two Counterterrorism Coordinators, Sergeant Gil Breit and Detective Christopher Whiting, under the supervision of Lieutenant David Swan.



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Annexed to this Directive as Appendix A is the Protocol for Notification to the Threat Management Unit, which contains the contact information for these individuals and the protocols for the report of threats of terrorism or violence to public locations and mass gatherings. As stated in the Protocol, "Any type of expressed threat or threat-based activity indicating an imminent or serious potential for an act of violence, or danger to public safety" must be reported to the Threat Management Unit immediately. An example of such a threat would be an individual reporting a threat made by someone to participate in violent activity at a specific school, house of worship, or public facility.

The Protocol also specifies that "Any type of implied or threat-based activity of a non-specific nature, without a clear or imminent threat of violence to an identifiable target, or any threats to public safety lacking a specific nature" must be reported to the Threat Management Unit within 24-hours of notice of the threat.

Law enforcement officers who report threats covered by this Directive must ensure that they make personal contact with one of the County Counterterrorism Coordinators or, in their absence, Lieutenant David Swan.

Additionally, annexed as Appendix B is the General Notification Protocol for the BCPO Intel and Counterterrorism Unit.

I thank you for your continuing cooperation in these matters.


DENNIS CALO
ACTING BERGEN COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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Attachments:

Appendix A - Protocol for Notification to the Threat Management Unit

Appendix B - General Notification Protocol for the BCPO Intel and Counterterrorism Unit