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SHERIFF

**PUTNAM COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
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THREE COUNTY CENTER
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THOMAS H. LINDERT
UNDERSHERIFF

Dear parents and guardians:

In the immediate aftermath of the Buffalo attack in May 2022, Governor Hochul issued Executive Order 18 directing each county to develop plans to confront domestic terrorism. The Executive Order was designed to fight the troubling surge in domestic terrorism and violent extremism frequently inspired by, planning on and posted about on social media platforms and internet forums.

The Putnam County Threat Assessment Management team, or the PC-TAM, is a multi-disciplinary team that brings together law enforcement, mental health professionals, school officials, social service agencies, and other community stakeholders to identify, assess, and manage threats of targeted violence. PC-TAM is focused on keeping Putnam County safe through community-based intervention approaches for threats, or threatening behavior from an individual, grievance-fueled violence, and online radicalization.

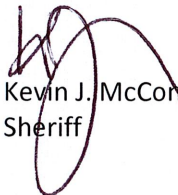
By bringing concerning behaviors to the attention of PC-TAM through our online reporting form, individuals skilled in targeted violence prevention will assess and manage the situation. When a person is planning an act of targeted violence, they usually exhibit pre-attack behaviors, many of which relate to a mental health crisis or problematic interpersonal interactions, which can be resolved with intervention. The goal here is prevention, not prosecution.

The PC-TAM has a confidential reporting system that will prompt you to answer questions related to your concerns and observations. The reporting form can be found at pctam.net. It is important to note that if you have information regarding an imminent threat to public safety, call 911 immediately. The pctam.net reporting form is to be used if you suspect or have information regarding a person planning to carry out an act of violence in the future.

I encourage you to review this information with your child. While acts of violence are often an uncomfortable topic to discuss, especially when you think of it happening in your community, the recent spike in domestic terror attacks represents one of the most pressing threats to public safety across the United States. The creation of the PC-TAM team will help to ensure that the pathway to violence does not end with an attack, and that specific interventions are put into place to support the individual.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if you have any questions regarding the reporting process.

Sincerely,


Kevin J. McConville
Sheriff