

## LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Walt McNeil, Sheriff

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Student Tip Leads to Arrest and Gun Seizure at Middle School

On Monday, February 6, a student at Fairview Middle School notified the Leon County Sheriff's Office School Resource Deputy (SRD) of an incident involving a student with a gun. This report was made shortly before school dismissed.

After further investigation, the 14-year-old male student was identified and school administrators contacted the student, who admitted to having a loaded gun in his bookbag. The SRD secured the Smith and Wesson M&P 9mm handgun and took the student into custody.

The student also admitted he took the gun from a family member's home. The weapon was not reported stolen. No further weapons or threats were found during the search. No students were injured in this incident.

The student was transported to the Leon County Juvenile Assessment Center and is charged with one count of Possession of a Firearm on Campus.

This case is an example of how members of the community can save lives and improve the safety of everyone when they "see something and say something" to authorities.

The FortifyFL app is available to anonymously report suspicious, Leon County School related activity or call 850-922-KIDS. Also, as part of its Cease Fire initiative, LCSO in collaboration with Big Bend Crime Stoppers will offer a monetary reward leading to the arrest of an individual illegally possessing a firearm. Tipsters can remain anonymous and receive a \$1,000 reward, call 850-574-TIPS. Learn more by visiting our website <u>www.leoncountyso.com</u>.



