

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Office of the Sheriff
Sheriff Roger L. Harris
Post Office Box 124
Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553
Phone: 540-582-7115 • Fax: 540-582-9448

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Major Elizabeth Scott
Phone: 540.507.7492

Immediate Release
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UPDATE:

The parents of the 3rd grader who brought a handgun to Lee Hill Elementary School have been charged and arrested. Both Ciara Armstead (36) and Terrence Carroll Jr. (34) were charged yesterday with recklessly leave a loaded, unsecured firearm so as to endanger the life or limb of a child under the age of 14 (misdemeanor) and while having custody of a child, willfully or negligently cause or permit the life of such child to be endangered (felony). Both were released on a \$5,000.00 unsecured bond. Both have an arraignment date of April 11th in Spotsylvania County Juvenile Domestic Court. The parents of the child cooperated with the investigation. The child involved in the incident is not being charged, following consultation with both Spotsylvania County Juvenile Intake and the Spotsylvania Commonwealth's Attorney.

In summary, the child found an unsecured handgun within the home and put the gun into his school backpack. At some point while in the classroom, the child reached into his backpack to retrieve something and inadvertently pulled the trigger on the gun. Again, fortunately, there were no physical injuries to any children or staff.

ORIGINAL:

The Sheriff's Office is currently investigating an incident at Lee Hill Elementary School, where it was reported that a student in a 3rd grade class had a handgun discharge while in their backpack at approximately 10:50AM. Early interviews indicate there was no intent to do harm by the student. Once the gun discharged, the teacher evacuated all 26 students from the classroom and notified the School Resource Officer who was on site. Detectives are conducting interviews with the student and the student's parents. No student or staff were injured during the incident. At this point, detectives are in the early

stages of the preliminary investigation. We will make you aware of all pertinent facts concerning the incident as we progress.

Remember, your phone call or online tip can make a difference.

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