



**Elizabethtown Independent Schools
Keeping Our Students Safe:
Senate Bill 1 and KY Laws Regarding
Terroristic Threats and Anonymous Reporting**



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Our most important function in the Elizabethtown Independent School System is to provide the safest learning environment possible for all of our students and school staff members. As part of Senate Bill 1 that was passed into law this past February, all schools in Kentucky are required to send a notification home with our students about Terroristic Threatening and the consequences that may follow for anyone found guilty of making threats in school communities.

On July 22, the Elizabethtown Independent School Administrative Team met with representatives from the following agencies to discuss how to make our schools safer and approved this letter that discusses the consequences for anyone making Terroristic Threats toward our schools, students and staff.

The Elizabethtown Police Department The KY State Police The West Point Police Department
The Hardin County Sheriff's Office The Hardin County EMS The Hardin County Fire Department

Terroristic Threatening in the second degree is defined in state law (KRS 508.078)

A person is guilty of terroristic threatening in the second degree when, other than as provided in KRS 508.075, he or she intentionally:

Makes false statements by any means, including by electronic communication, for the purpose of:

- 1. Causing evacuation of a school building, school property, or school-sanctioned activity;**
- 2. Causing cancellation of school classes or school-sanctioned activity; or**
- 3. Creating fear of serious bodily harm among students, parents, or school personnel**

Such threats to our students and school staff are totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated. As a result, the purpose of this letter is to notify all parents and guardians that school district officials (in coordination with responding law enforcement agencies) will **pursue immediate legal charges for felony terroristic threatening in the second degree, to the absolute fullest extent of the law, against anyone who makes such threats, including students.** Moreover, we will advocate to our highest ability that the prosecution of these individuals be swift and their punishment be severe.

Our approach to eliminating unsafe behaviors in our school and district is strong and unwavering, and as a result, it is imperative that you discuss this critically important matter with your student as soon as possible. School and law enforcement officials are determined to put a halt to these willful acts of violence that may be made toward our students or staff members. Please do your part to ensure that your student never becomes a party to such an offense by educating him/her on the seriousness of its consequences.

Together we can prevent this unnecessary, dangerous, and disruptive acts from victimizing our schools. We appreciate your partnership in keeping our schools the safest places for your student to learn and grow.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully,

Elizabethtown Independent School Administrators and Staff

Law Enforcement Penalties

Violating a Class D felony (adult) 1-5 years imprisonment (KRS 532.020) and/or \$1,000-\$10,000 fine (KRS 532.020).

Violating a Class C felony (adult), 5-10 years imprisonment (KRS 532.020) and/or \$1,000-\$10,000 fine (KRS 532.020).

Violating a felony (juvenile) a fine not to exceed \$500 (KRS 635.085), with the fine assessed at the court's discretion in lieu of commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice.

School Penalties

Students and parents will need to meet with our School Safety Team.

Students may be referred to an outside agency for further evaluation and will be placed in our Alternative School to undergo further counseling and treatment if the threats are confirmed.

See the next page for three easy ways to report unsafe behaviors in our community.



If you see or are aware of a possible threat, bullying situation, or crime, please let us know by submitting a report to our **STOP TIP LINE** located on our school district webpage or call 911 if immediate response is needed.

Your tip will be emailed to school administrators from Elizabethtown Independent Schools in collaboration with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security, the United States Secret Service, and our Local Law Enforcement Agencies.

Hardin County *CRIME* **STOPPERS**

Your tip can be worth \$1,000
Call 1-800-597-8123

If you notice any criminal behavior (illegal drug possession, distribution, vandalism, or violence) in your neighborhood or community please reach out to the Hardin County Crime Stoppers.



The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security also provides another anonymous telephone tip line that allows anyone to report suspicious activity as well as items that may pose a threat to individuals or Kentucky Communities.

Calling **1-866-EYE-ON-KY** connects you to the KY Intelligence Fusion Center.

Safety is Everyone's Responsibility: If you **SEE** something **SAY** something