



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Former Prairie View Student Sentenced to 2 Years Probation for Threats**

Frank DeFiore was sentenced Wednesday to two years of probation and 96 hours of community service for making threats to students and staff at Prairie View High School while he was a senior at the school.

Adams County District Court Judge Don Quick also ordered that DeFiore (DOB 12/16/98) not possess any firearms or knives and ordered that any that were taken during the investigation be forfeited and destroyed.

Quick said he was concerned that DeFiore exhibited the kinds of warning signs for future violence that are seen in perpetrators of mass shootings like the Columbine High School massacre.

DeFiore had two gun offenses by the age of 18 and made threats on the Internet, posting photos of an AK47 and saying that he "should get an award for not shooting everyone at the school," Quick said. Further, a bloody dog collar that belonged to the neighbor's dog was found hidden in his bedroom. "You have some things you need to deal with or you're going to get into the court system and not get out," the judge told DeFiore.

DeFiore (DOB 12/16/98) pleaded guilty August 4 to interference with staff and students at an educational facility and criminal mischief, both misdemeanor charges. A charge of aggravated cruelty to animals (F6) was dismissed as part of the plea agreement.

"To say that the facts of this case are disturbing is a gross understatement," Deputy District Attorney Jake Woods told the judge, asking that a number of conditions be imposed on his probation sentence.

The judge imposed a maximum 18-month suspended jail sentence that DeFiore will have to serve if he fails to comply with the terms of probation. He also must undergo a psychological evaluation and treatment, substance abuse evaluation and complete programs in victim empathy and decision making. He also is ordered to stay away from Prairie View High School.

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