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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kettering Teen Charged with Felony for School Shooting Threats

State v. Gabriel Combs, JC2022-0096

DAYTON, OH (01/18/2022) – Prosecuting Attorney Mat Heck, Jr. announced today that **GABRIEL J. COMBS**, 14, of Kettering, has been charged with a felony for an incident at Van Buren Middle School on December 16, 2021.

On Thursday, December 16, 2021, the Kettering Police School Resource Officer (SRO) at Van Buren Middle School was contacted by students who reported that the defendant had made statements that he was going to be a future school shooter at the school. The SRO made further inquiries and learned that the defendant was seen looking at firearms on his Chromebook and had stated that he was going to shoot up the school.

Further investigation, including the defendant's search history, showed he had searched terms such as "how to be a good school shooter" and for firearms such as "sniper rifles" and "assault rifles."

On Friday, January 7, 2022, the defendant was charged with one count of Inducing Panic, a second-degree felony, and an arrest warrant was issued for the defendant. On Tuesday, January 11, 2022, the defendant was arrested and booked into the Montgomery County Juvenile Justice Center.

On Wednesday, January 12, 2022, a Juvenile Court Magistrate released the defendant to his father on Electronic Home Monitoring.

Prosecutor Heck continued, "We take these threats very seriously to ensure the safety of students, teachers, and others. The facts of this case are especially concerning, given the actions this defendant took including his statements and research. This was clearly not just a juvenile prank, but a serious threat."

The defendant is currently out on Electronic Home Monitoring and will be in court for a pre-trial hearing on Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

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