

**Meriden Police Department
Press Relations Unit
50 West Main Street
203-630-6344**

Date: April 19, 2013

Time: 3:00 P.M.

Location: 470 Lewis Avenue-Westfield Shopping Mall

Incident: Bomb Threat

On April 19, 2013 at around 3:00 P.M. the Meriden Police Department received a call from the mall security office at the Westfield Shopping Mall located at 470 Lewis Avenue. The security staff reported that they had just received a phone call from a male caller whom they said sounded as if he were younger in age. The caller stated that there was a bomb somewhere in the mall; however, the caller did not specify a location. The caller stated that the bomb would detonate at 5:00 P.M. At that time, the mall security officer who took the call immediately began to ask the appropriate questions per their protocol for a bomb threat; however, the caller hung the phone up.

At that time the Meriden Police were called. We responded and a perimeter was established by our on scene officers. The Connecticut State Police were contacted and their bomb squad responded. A very thorough search was then conducted of the malls interior as well as the exterior. This was conducted by officers from the Meriden Police Department as well as the State Police bomb squad and mall security officers. Three bomb sniffing canines from the C.S.P. bomb squad were also utilized.

After a very thorough search, the police personnel on scene deemed the mall to be safe and all of our police personnel as well as that of the C.S.P. has since cleared.

**Sergeant Darrin McKay
Time of Release: 5:55 P.M.
April 19, 2013**