LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603
www.lancasterpolice.com

Author: Lt. Todd Umstead Contact Number: (717) 735-3300 Date: May 2, 2011

Bomb Threat

At approximately 3:00 am, May 2, 2011, Lancaster City Police received an anonymous phone call reporting a possible explosive device in the Prince St. parking garage. Responding officers searched the parking garage and made observations that added to the credibility of this threat. Residents in the immediate area were evacuated and several streets in the downtown area were closed as a precaution.

The Pennsylvania State Police Explosive Ordinance Division was activated and is currently on the scene. A preliminary search a specific portion of the garage revealed that no immediate threat existed. A secondary search of the garage utilizing police K9s trained in explosives detection is currently underway.

Residents in the immediate area were evacuated and several streets in the downtown area were closed as a precaution. The City opened up an evacuation shelter at the Franklin and Marshall Sports Complex facility in the 900 block of Harrisburg Pike. Numerous agencies are assisting with this event, including Lancaster City Fire, Lancaster County Sheriffs, LEMSA, PA State Police, FBI, ATF, PA State Constables, the South Central Task Force Incident Management Team and Franklin & Marshall College.

Lancaster City Police are currently asking people to avoid coming in to the city until the situation is resolved. All downtown Lancaster County Offices are closed for the day. City Hall has been reopened and employees may report to work.

This incident is believed to have stemmed from an ongoing investigation, and has no connection to recent world events.

(end of release)