

From the Desk of Dr. Erdem A. Ural
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On January 18, 2013, I have received calls from my constituents reporting several Stoughton Police Cruisers in the High School parking lot. The next day, Superintendent Rizzi sent the following email to the School Committee:

> *Subject: More good work by our schools/police partnership*
> *From: "Marguerite Rizzi" <m_rizzi@stoughtonschools.org>*
> *Date: Sat, January 19, 2013 1:50 pm*
> *To: "Deborah Sovinee" <d_sovinee@stoughtonschools.org>, erdem.ural@lpsti.com, "George Dolinsky" <g_dolinsky@stoughtonschools.org>, "J Hussein" <j_husseini@stoughtonschools.org>, "Thomas Colburn" <T_Colburn@stoughtonschools.org>*
>
> *Ladies and Gentlemen:*
>
> *The following message went out from Principal Miller to the families of SHS students today.*
>
> *Thank you,*
>
> *Maggie*
>
> *While conducting an investigation Friday after school hours into another matter, it was brought to Administrations' attention that a Stoughton High School student may have been in possession of a weapon off of school grounds. Stoughton Police went to the home of the student Friday evening and were able to take possession of the BB gun the student had in his possession. It was brought to our attention that this BB gun may have been on school grounds at a previous school event. The matter was dealt with swiftly and severely. No students or staff are in any danger.*
>
> *Our continued cooperative relationship with the Stoughton Police Department is a strength of our community and continues to assist in providing a safe learning environment for our students.*

Since, based on my years of past experience working with her, I have the opinion that Superintendent Rizzi cannot be entrusted to provide the school committee members the full and complete disclosure of the issues¹, I have decided to get reliable information from Stoughton Police. The police logs provided the following:

13-1003 1458 ASSAULT Services Rendered

Call Taker: MELLYN, STEWART
Location/Address: [STU 612] STOUGHTON HIGH SCHOOL - 232 PEARL ST
Unit: 888 HARDY, ROGER
Disp-15:01:03 Arvd-15:01:16 Clrd-15:45:41
Cleared By: PURNELL, DIANE
Unit: 887 ROBERTS, CHARLES
Disp-15:01:07 Arvd-15:18:32 Clrd-15:19:06
Arrived By: PURNELL, DIANE

¹ In my opinion, Superintendent Rizzi tends to provide a one-sided and barely enough information for the school committee members to think the way she wants.

Cleared By: PURNELL, DIANE
Unit: 890 SULLIVAN, JENNIFER
Disp-15:01:13 Arvd-15:01:17 Clrd-15:45:40
Cleared By: PURNELL, DIANE
Unit: 895 SISCO, TRACEY
Disp-15:25:30 Arvd-15:25:32 Clrd-15:43:11
Dispatched By: PURNELL, DIANE
Arrived By: PURNELL, DIANE
Cleared By: PURNELL, DIANE
Unit: 897 GUREVICH, VITALY
Disp-15:25:33 Arvd-15:25:35 Clrd-15:43:13
Dispatched By: PURNELL, DIANE
Arrived By: PURNELL, DIANE
Cleared By: PURNELL, DIANE
Narrative:
Student making threats. See report for A&B by Officer Hardy.

Subsequently, I asked the Stoughton Police Department to provide me available information on this matter. In response, I have received approximately 30 pages of material. Attached are the pages, redacted by the Police Department, describing the incident and the police investigation.

NARRATIVE FOR DETECTIVE ROGER S HARDY

Ref: 13-53-AR

Entered: 01/22/2013 @ 1344 Entry ID: RSH
Modified: 01/28/2013 @ 1209 Modified ID: RSH
Approved: 01/23/2013 @ 1109 Approval ID: RJW

On January 18, 2013 I, Detective Hardy received a call from [REDACTED] Asst Principal of Stoughton High School. [REDACTED] reported that several students were arguing outside the school and she overheard one stating that he had a gun pulled on him. I could hear panic in her voice, as she requested my assistance. She advised, she did not have all the facts yet. I advised dispatch and requested additional cruises respond to the high school with more info to follow. While in route [REDACTED] disclosed the student stated, [REDACTED] was at the [REDACTED] and was concerned for his safety. I requested Officer Roberts respond to the [REDACTED]. Officer Sullivan and I arrived at the high school office. We met [REDACTED] at the administrative office. [REDACTED] (student) was being questioned by both [REDACTED] and high school Principal [REDACTED]. Additional officers arrived. I asked [REDACTED], What do we have? She stated, [REDACTED] reported Brian Rodrigues pulled a gun on him yesterday at McDonald's. [REDACTED] is concerned because his [REDACTED] is at the [REDACTED] and just received a call from Brian Rodrigues. [REDACTED] looked at me and stated I want my [REDACTED] to be safe. Ofc. Roberts called off at the [REDACTED], I asked him to check on the well-being of [REDACTED]. Ofc. Roberts stated he had him at the [REDACTED], I asked him to transport [REDACTED] to the high school.

I asked [REDACTED] what happened yesterday at McDonald's? [REDACTED] stated, yesterday between 3:30 and 4, I was at McDonald's with my brother [REDACTED]. I was called over by [REDACTED], he asked if I want to go to the game? As we were wrapping up our conversation Brian Rodrigues came out of McDonald's and call me a "bitch" because he didn't like that I would not take his side over [REDACTED]. There was going to be a big brawl and I wasn't going to be on his side. On Wednesday of this week in the Stoughton high school bathroom, [REDACTED] was at the window and he said we are about to "ride out" on [REDACTED]. (Ride out means jump.) [REDACTED] repeated his statement and I said I was not going to be down with you. [REDACTED] explained that he grew up with [REDACTED] and he told [REDACTED] that he had [REDACTED] back to the fullest. The same day Wednesday afternoon I told [REDACTED] to be careful because people said they were going after him and told him what [REDACTED] said. [REDACTED] then went to [REDACTED] and confronted him. [REDACTED] denied wanting to fight.

Back at McDonald's Brian Rodrigues kept telling me I was fake and I was a bitch because I told [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was in his car, I was on the driver side, I walked around to the passenger side where [REDACTED] Rodrigues was sitting. I said to Brian excuse me, I didn't hear you, say it in my good ear. That is when Brian Rodrigues showed the gun. At first I thought it was a fake. He kept showing it. I said, put away that little water gun then Brian Rodrigues pushed me as he got out the car, I stepped back. We were in each other's faces then Brian pulled the gun out of his pocket he held it downward but we just continuing to argue with me the gun remained at his side a lot of people ran out of McDonald's to circle around me and Brian. [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on the basketball team. [REDACTED] pulled us apart saying you guys are not going to do this now, and told [REDACTED] to take Brian home. After that Brian started to aim and point the gun at my head, in and up and in a downward manner! [REDACTED] said stop playing around! My brother gave me my glasses and me and [REDACTED] went into McDonald's while [REDACTED] and Brian left. (See attached statement)

Assistant Principal [REDACTED] brought [REDACTED] to his office. [REDACTED] stated, he picked up Brian Rodrigues from his residence. He stated, they were looking for [REDACTED], because he stole [REDACTED] beats by [REDACTED] and Brian went to McDonald's and saw [REDACTED]. Both [REDACTED] exchanged words. Brian Rodrigues made gestures like he had some type of a gun (starter pistol) at [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said, you won't pull it! I wasn't sure what was going on and I didn't know. I never saw a weapon! Me, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

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████ pulled them away from each other so we could leave.

I asked █████ Why would you refer to it as a "starter pistol" if you never saw it? █████ stated, I brought Brian Rodrigues to █████ to look for █████, we couldn't find him so we left, going to his house that's when he pulled out the gun and I figured out that he brought it. I had no idea why he brought it! He unlocked it and an orange cap came out. I didn't say anything about it. He just pulled it out and he was fixing it. It looked like a cap gun. I asked █████ to draw a picture what look like. See attached drawing and statement. Officer Sullivan google imaged (cap-gun caps) and showed █████ █████ advised that's what look like. An orange colored cap. █████ was upset and nervous.

I met with █████ at 1615 hrs. I asked █████ what happened yesterday at McDonald's? █████ stated, some kid in a car called █████ (██████████) over, so I went with him. █████ and the kid were talking about the game. Big Brian (Rodrigues) came to the car and called █████ a bitch for putting his cousin █████ on the spot. Then he reached into his jacket and flashed the butt of a gun which was about a good 8 inches long! █████ went up to █████ tried to pull the gun out of his hand and they started yelling. █████ broke it up and told the kid in the car to take him home. I asked █████ if he thought the gun was real? █████ stated, at first he did but then something fell on the ground. It look like a cup to cover the front part plastic, Brian picked it up and put it in his jacket. I asked █████ if Brian Rodrigues called him today? He stated, he did at 2:59. Brian said, if you ever hit my cousin █████ I'm going to break your fucking neck! When you see █████ tell him to call me. █████ stated, I used to be friends with his brother █████, but █████ told him I was talking about him. █████ described the weapon as a long black revolver.

I returned to meet █████ in █████ office. █████ described the weapon stated it was long and black. He described a revolver style and stated it must have been heavy because when he pulled it out it dropped to his side like it was heavy and demonstrated. █████ stated, Rodrigues called him from (████) three times the last being @ 2:58. then he got a call from █████ that Rodrigues called him. █████ heard me arguing with someone about it. █████ stated, she heard gun and notified me. █████ stated, he is not afraid of Rodrigues but was concerned for █████ He advised they are very close.

Both █████ and █████ parents were notified and requested to come to the school. █████ called down the two basketball players. Both stated they never witnessed any weapon and went over to break them up and left. See attached statement from █████ I advised both █████ mother and then met with █████ mother of both █████ and █████.

I returned to the police station, advised Sgt. McGowan and we both responded to Brian Rodrigues residence located at 404 Technology Center Dr. Apt. 3101. Upon arrival we were greeted at the door by Brian's mother █████ I asked if Brian was home and if we could speak with them? She invited us in. I along with Sgt. McGowan, █████, Brian Rodrigues and his stepfather █████ met in the living room. █████ was in the bedroom. I advised that I was investigating an assault by means of a dangerous weapon. I read Brian his Miranda warning (although not in custody) and had Brian sign a waiver, witnessed by his mother █████ I advised Brian was an adult and asked him if he would rather we questioned him at the station or if he would rather his parents present. Brian stated, he wanted to go to the station. His mother requested Brian tell her what happened. I asked Brian what happened at McDonald's? He admitted going to McDonald's with █████ but never admitted anything about a firearm. I acknowledged to Brian that is version was somewhat true minus the firearm, BB gun or what ever it was! I advised Brian I had several witness

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statements some of which were allies of his. Brian admitted, he had in his possession a BB gun but denied ever pulling it out. I asked him to explain to Sgt. McGowan and his father where they could find the BB gun? Brian advised, it was not in the home and he would take us to it.

Brian's brother [REDACTED] attempted to exit the apartment. His father asked him where he was going? [REDACTED] stated, to meet a girl and exited the apartment. Brian Rodrigues stated the BB gun was in the woods outback and stated he would show us where to find it. Sgt. McGowan, Brian, [REDACTED] and I exited the apartment. Approximately 100 yards away and Brian pointed out several freestanding garages that abutted the woods. A vehicle pulled up to me and asked if we were looking for someone? I stated, no maam but thanks anyway. She stated, as there is a kid running from behind the garage. Sgt. McGowan began to run toward the garage. [REDACTED] yelled for [REDACTED] to stop. We were still approximately 60 yards from the garage. Sgt. McGowan gave chase as I radioed for additional cruisers. Approximately 200 yards away on the other side of the apartment complex. Sgt. McGowan had [REDACTED] handcuffed on the ground. McGowan advised, [REDACTED] dumped something and pointed to an area. He stated, he stopped there and opened the case. [REDACTED] had a BB gun case which contained easy wider rolling papers, five lighters, and a plastic container of 2500 Grossman copperhead copper coated BBs. [REDACTED] was placed under arrest for Ch279 Sec 5 interfering w/ Police and Ch 274 Sec 4 Accessory after the fact. [REDACTED] was disgusted with the behavior of his two sons. He asked [REDACTED] why? At one point telling us to take them both. Officer Hartford arrived and transported [REDACTED].

Brian Rodrigues returned to the garage area with Sgt. McGowan and I. Brian pointed out the wooded area where the BB gun could be found. Sgt. McGowan (a firearms instructor) recovered the revolver style BB gun and rendered it safe. Sgt. McGowan stated, if I saw you with that I would shoot you. It looks like a real firearm! no orange markings. Photos and the BB gun were taken and entered into evidence. Evidence number 13-87-PR for the weapon, and 13-88-PR for the disc of photos, 13-89-PR for the case containing drug paraphernalia and a broken knife blade.

Brian Rodrigues agreed to return to the station for additional questioning. Brian was transported in (888) an unmarked cruiser. Brian was advised he was not in custody and brought to the interview room. At aprx 1859hrs. I advised Brian the interview would be recorded both video and audio and pointed to the video camera. I read Brian Miranda and pointed out the already signed document. Brian agreed and he told me what took place.

Brian advised how he went to McDonalds and called out [REDACTED] for what he did to his cousin and called him a "bitch". At first Brian denied having the weapon on his person, (video time 0938) he stated he placed it under the front seat, before ever getting out of the car and pushing [REDACTED] while they exchanged words. At (1244) video time I asked you pulled it out? Rodrigues replied, yeah everybody new it was fake, you could tell it was fake. I asked him what Sgt McGowan had said to him when he recovered it. As firearms instructor with knowledge of firearms. That he in fact thought it was real.

I asked Rodrigues about going to look for [REDACTED] to get the head phones back for a friend. Brian denies going looking for [REDACTED] and tells a story of how he is afraid of [REDACTED] because of a past altercation involving [REDACTED] (AKA one of my gang members [REDACTED]). Brian stated he and [REDACTED] were going to McDonald's to get food, then [REDACTED] was going to practice and he was going to walk to his girls above [REDACTED] store. (Corner of Washington and Porter St) and that he carried it because he would be walking on the main roads an concerned he would bump into [REDACTED] dad.

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Brian Rodrigues also admits to having the weapon with him at a Stoughton High School friday night basketball game on 1/4/13. (see 13-66-AR) At first Rodrigues denies ever looking for [REDACTED], and stated he carried the weapon for protection because he was afraid of Carlos [REDACTED]. (A past incident which I was familiar with) Even after I told him several times that his story was not making sense. His denial of going to look for [REDACTED]. Rodrigues continued that story up until the 36 min. mark of the video. Rodrigues stated, my first story I told you was bullshit now I'm telling you the whole story. [REDACTED] picks me up for food go to McDonald's, he goes inside, I go to the bathroom dap up [REDACTED], dap up [REDACTED]. I didn't want [REDACTED] to be late I was getting in the car. I told [REDACTED] that was some "bitch nigger shit". I'm pushing and trying to get out of the car. I pushed him his glasses fell off, he started talking loud. [REDACTED] and them came out telling [REDACTED] to get me home. I pulled it out, pulled it out and the cylinder fell.

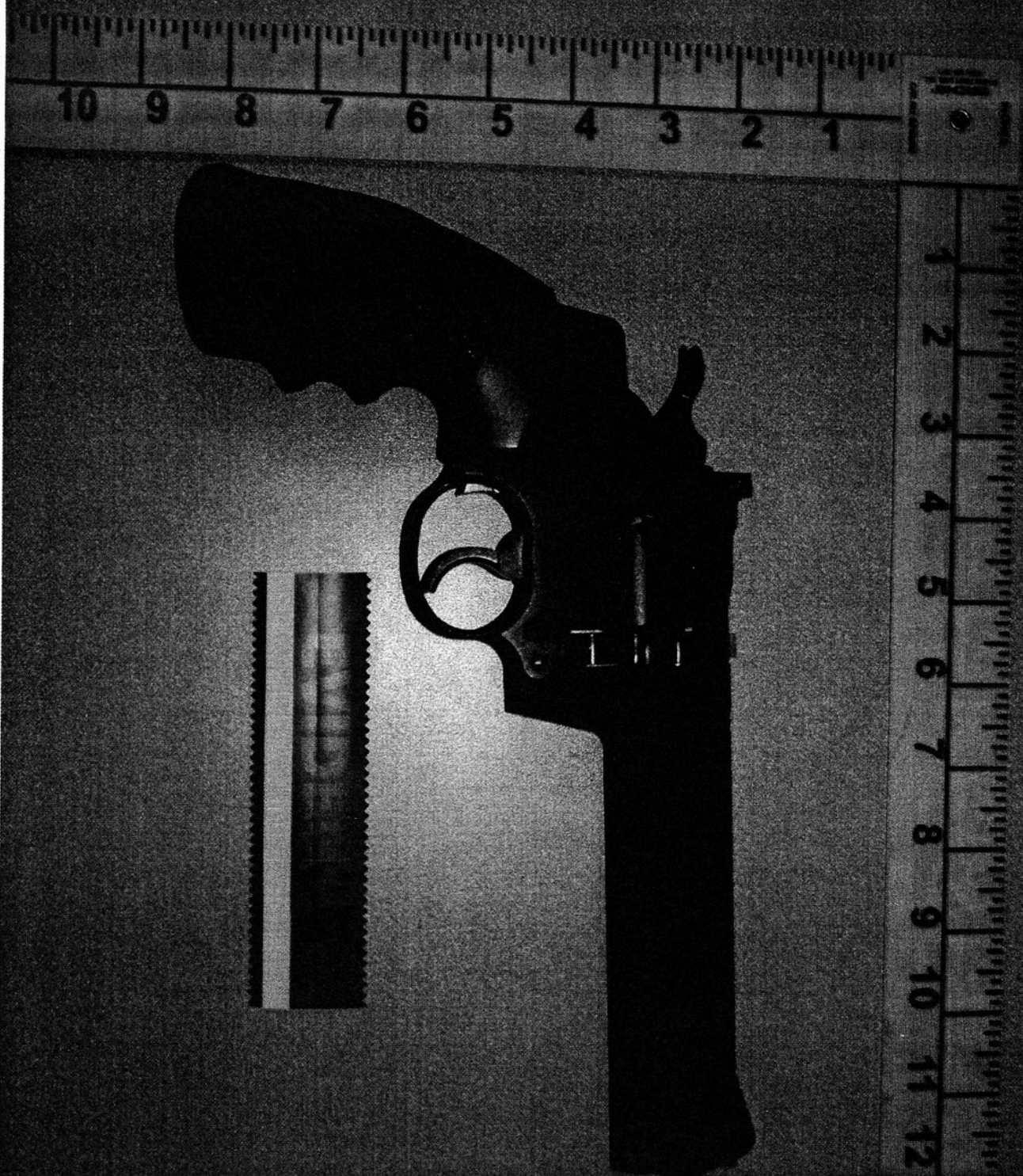
I recapped [REDACTED] statement. (41:28) Brian relid, after the third push I pulled it out the plastic piece fell on the floor. (41:31) I brought you to it I admitted I pulled it out.

At (42:32) Brian still denied ever going to [REDACTED] looking for [REDACTED]. At (44:25) Brian admitted, Yeah I did go to [REDACTED] and continued talking about trying to get the headphones back, at (48:20) Brian Rodrigues admits Mcdonalds wasn't planned, the plan was to get the headphones back. I asked why do you have a firearm? Rodrigues stated he heard [REDACTED] has a gun and he hangs out with [REDACTED]. They sell weed!

In closing Brian stated he did pull it out but denies ever pointing it in the air, after having it by his side the plastic piece fell and he put it under the seat. I asked where he got it? Brian stated [REDACTED] got it from a kid name [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] in Randolph a couple weeks ago.

Brian Rodrigues is being charged with Assault w/ Dangerous weapon. for pulling the weapon out at Mcdonalds. Assault and Battery for pushing [REDACTED] and threats for the phone conversation with [REDACTED]. The video was memorialized on DVD and entered into evidence.

13-53-AR



NARRATIVE FOR DETECTIVE ROGER S HARDY

Ref: 13-66-AR

Entered: 01/24/2013 @ 1520

Entry ID: RSH

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Modified ID: RSH

On 1/18/13 I, Detective Hardy while investigating in assault by means of a dangerous weapon interviewed Brian Rodrigues. See Stoughton Police Case # 13-53-AR. During that investigation I recovered a revolver style BB gun which was entered into evidence #13-87-PR. While interviewing students it was reported to the High School Principal [REDACTED] that Rodrigues may have brought the weapon in question to a past Boys high school basketball game. Possibly vrs Franklin.

While conducting an interview at Stoughton police headquarters located at 26 Rose St. Brian Rodrigues was read Miranda and signed a waiver. It should be noted Brian was not in custody and agreed to be interviewed. At aprx 1859hrs the interview was audio and video recorded and memorialized on DVD.

While being interview, Brian disclosed of his involvement with the BB gun (13-53-Ar). At the 22 min. mark Brian disclosed that he was in fear of the father ([REDACTED]) of another student at the high school. So he was carrying a BB gun with no bullets or CO2 just to scare. I asked, for intimidation? Yeah intimidation, Brian replied. I asked Brian if that went back to the high school basketball game two Fridays ago Foxborough or Franklin, you brought that with you? Brian replied, Yeah, because of the incident with the father. I asked, you brought that with you to student high school in your backpack and showed people? I didn't show it to anybody Brian replied, I left my backpack over there went to talk to my boyfriend [REDACTED], I left my bag with [REDACTED] I had a monster in my bag and that my bag I didn't pull it out. I did know if [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) was probably trying to show it off. People said [REDACTED] showed off. I replied, [REDACTED] knew you had a bb gun in my school never told me? Brian stated, I don't know I thought he told you all this, he's an informant. I didn't show anybody! I asked if he ever brought to school during school hours? Brian replied, no I did not, never, never swear the holy Bible.

I continued and explained our past relationship about being honest and past incidents. Brian had been searched in the past by school administrators for accusations that he had a weapon on school grounds. Brian admitted to being searched and disclosed he was never searched by me and only school administrators.

I asked Brian again if he had ever brought the weapon to school. You you brought it to school one time? Brian replied, I never, never swear my grandmother. I corrected my question meaning the high school basketball game. The only time you ever walked in the school with a firearm? (At the 25:05 mark of the video) Brian replied, yeah that's the only time, the only time, the only time I would never put myself in that situation, that's the worst situation, to bring during school hours, that's the worst!

I continued asking about the prior rumors, Brian stated, I don't know I don't bring a bag with me and leave my work in my locker asked my teachers, and talked about a book bag, he stated it would show if it was jocked. "I don't have it on me to be cool, I felt intimidated, that's why I had it on me. I asked if it was Foxborough or Franklin? Brian stated, It was Franklin. It should be noted still in high school boys basketball played a home game against Franklin on Friday 1/4/13. The interview continued and conversation returned about the incident at McDonald's. (13-53-AR)

Brian Rodrigues is being charged with possessing a dangerous weapon in a school zone.

** Portions of this report have been redacted **