

PRESS RELEASE



Lawrence Township Police Department

2211 Lawrence Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Kevin Reading, Interim Chief of Police

609-896-1111

kreading@lawrencetwp.com



Release Date:

November 10, 2025

Contact:

Interim Chief Kevin Reading
kreading@lawrencetwp.com

Arrest made following threat incident at Rider University

On Monday, November 10, 2025, at approximately 1:48 p.m., the Lawrence Township Police Department received a report of an individual who had threatened several people and was in possession of a knife at Poyda Dormitory on the campus of Rider University, located at 2083 Lawrence Road.

Rider University Public Safety was immediately notified of the incident and promptly contacted the Lawrence Township Police Department. Officers responded to the scene, met with Rider University Public Safety, and began securing the area while searching for the suspect.

The initial investigation determined that the incident stemmed from a confrontation between the suspect and several other individuals inside Poyda Dormitory. During the confrontation, the suspect allegedly threatened others and brandished a knife. As a precaution, Rider University officials placed the campus under a shelter-in-place order.

Shortly thereafter, Rider University Public Safety and Lawrence Township Police officers located the suspect on campus near the university library. The suspect was identified as Alex Theis, 21, of Delran, New Jersey.

Detective Suzanne Girard of the Lawrence Township Police Department was assigned to the follow-up investigation. Based on her investigation, Theis was arrested and charged with Aggravated Assault, Terroristic Threats, and various Weapons Offenses. Once Theis was taken into custody, the shelter-in-place order was lifted.

No injuries were reported as a result of this incident. Authorities have confirmed that there is no ongoing threat to the campus or the surrounding community. The Lawrence Township Police Department continues to work closely with Rider University officials to ensure the safety and security of all students, staff, and visitors.

Anyone with additional information related to this incident is asked to contact Detective Suzanne Girard at (609) 844-7124 or via email at sgirard@lawrencetwp.com

*****All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law*****