

# LEMOORE HIGH SCHOOL GUNS AS ART

## March 28, 2023

### SUMMARY

During a visit to Lemoore High School, the 2022-2023 Kings County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) noticed that there was a display of two rifles, one on the wall and the other in front of a countertop, inside of the art classroom. There were no acknowledgements or certifications posted as to if the rifles were inoperable. The Grand Jury recommend certificates of inoperability from Lemoore Police Department be displayed with the rifles.

### BACKGROUND

Per penal code 933.5 the main function of the Grand Jury is that of a watchdog over Kings County Government. That includes all government entities such as Health and Education, Law and Public Safety, County Government and Local Government and how they conduct the people's business. It is the responsibility of the Grand Jury's Health and Education subcommittee to conduct routine status checks of the schools Kings County to ensure that there are adequate safety measures in place.

It is our obligation to report on matters of concern as school safety is paramount to the citizens of Kings County. When entering a classroom, visitors, parents, staff, and students alike should not be concerned about their safety. A display of weapons in a classroom that contains no certification showing that weapons are inoperable could raise alarm to the public and is a cause for great concern.

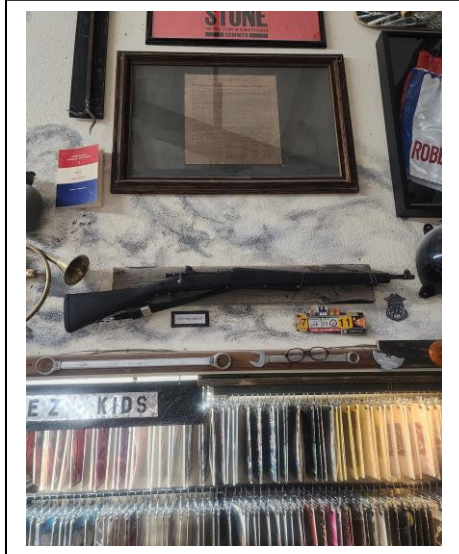
### METHODOLOGY

The Grand Jury conducted a site tour of Lemoore High School on January 30, 2023. The Administrative Staff was contacted regarding the artwork on display in the art classroom on February 13, 2023.

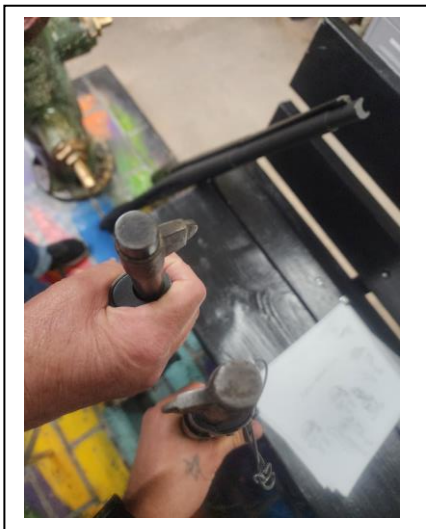
The Lemoore Police Department was contacted on March 27, 2023, regarding our concern of the displayed rifles in a public place such as a school classroom. On April 11, 2023, a follow-up inspection was conducted with Lemoore Police Department for verification and instructions on proper certification of the displayed rifles.

## DISCUSSION

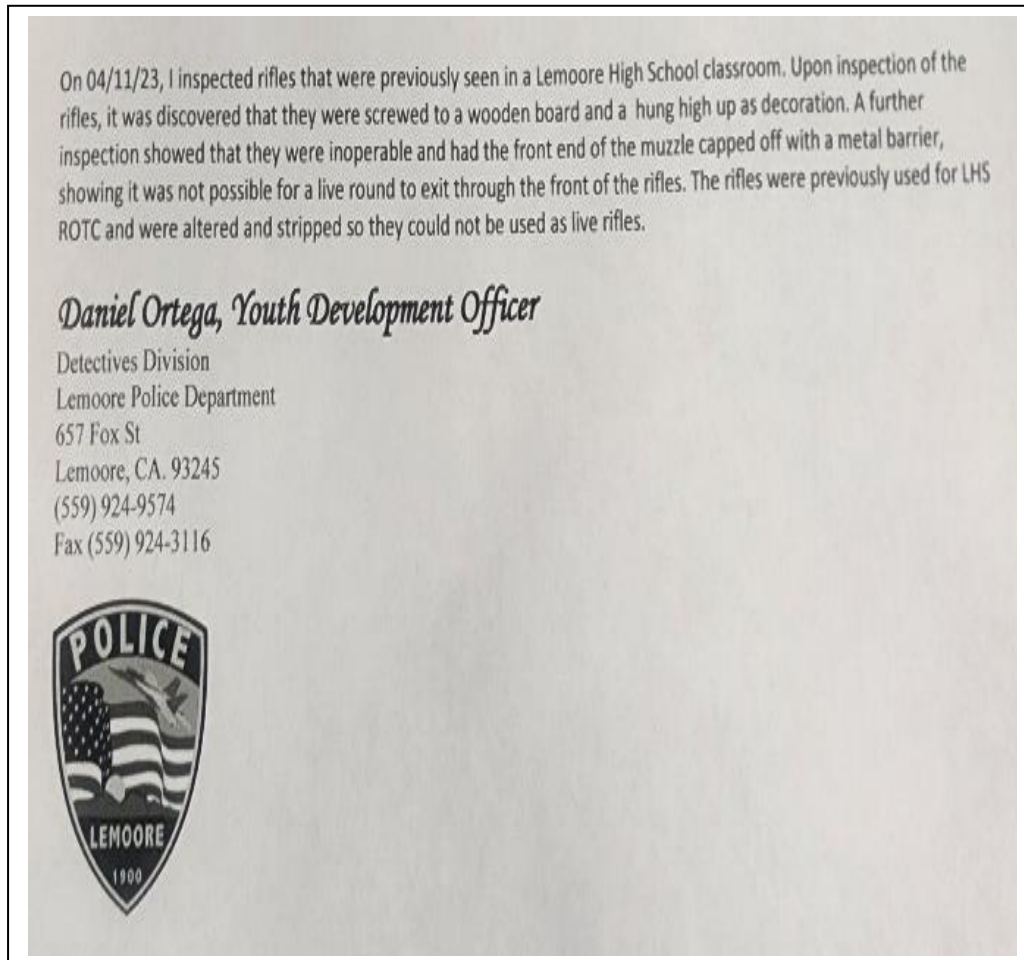
The Grand Jury's Health and Education subcommittee conducted a site tour of Lemoore High School on January 30, 2023. This tour included the art classroom, where a display of rifles was seen, : one was hanging on the wall and another in front of a countertop.



The Grand Jury members inquired of the rifles' history and if they were real and still operable. Current members of staff had no idea where they came from or knowledge of their history. No notifications were posted on or near the display as to whether the rifles were inoperable or not. The rifles were attached with wires and screws to their fixtures. After further investigation, the Grand Jury determined that the rifles on display were inoperable. The barrels were capped off with a metal barrier and the bolts were screwed shut in a way so the bolt opening could not be accessed. The two rifles were donated from the NJROTC program at Lemoore High School due to the stocks being broken.



Contact was made with Lemoore Police Department and the following was received as a response to our inquiry.



## FINDINGS

F1. The Grand Jury found a display of rifles, one on the wall and the other in front of a countertop, inside of the art classroom at Lemoore High School.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. Any display of firearms, in schools, should include a notification or a document (attached or prominently displayed near the firearm(s)) showing that the firearm(s) have been certified by law enforcement to be rendered inoperable.

## REQUIRED RESPONSE

California Penal Code 933c, provides in part: “No later than 90 days after the grand jury submits a final report on the operations of any public agency subject to its reviewing authority the governing body of the public agency shall comment to the presiding judge of the superior court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body and every elected county officer or agency head for which the grand jury had responsibility pursuant to section 9141 shall comment within 60 days to the presiding judge or the superior court...”

Dr. Miguel A. Guerrero  
Superintendent of Lemoore High School  
5 Powell Avenue  
Lemoore CA 93245

## REQUESTED RESPONSE

Rodney Brumit  
Lemoore High School Principal  
101 East Bush Street  
Lemoore CA 93245

## SEND FINAL REPORT RESPONSES TO:

Original to:  
Michael Reinhart, Presiding Judge  
c/o Shane Burns, Advising Judge  
Kings County Superior Court  
1640 Kings Court Drive  
Hanford, CA 93230

Copy to:  
Kings County Grand Jury  
P. O. Box 1562  
Hanford, Ca 93232