

# JOPLIN

# POLICE

303E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street \* Joplin, MO 64801-2274 \* 417-623-3131 \* Fax 417-624-9820

Jason Burns  
Chief of Police

**Date:** November 13, 2015  
**Origin:** Department PIO  
**Contact:** Sergeant Rusty Rives  
**Phone:** 623-3131 #639

### Media Release Update

The driver of the van has been contacted by investigators. It was a parent dropping off a student at the school. At this time it has been determined there is no validated threat.

### Media Release

This morning a couple of students at the North Middle School reported the driver of this van had stopped and tried to get them to approach the vehicle. This happened at the intersection of A & Gray on Thursday morning 11/12/2015 around 8:00a.m. The driver was described as being an older white male with glasses, wearing a red hat. This is the first time the van has been noted by the students in the area. If you know who the van belongs to please contact the Joplin Police Department.

We would also recommended taking this opportunity to discuss these types of incidents with your children, help them develop a plan and how to handle it. Several tips include explaining to them why and how to avoid the situation. Develop a password signaling the communication is authorized by the parents. Children should also understand the importance of reporting such incidents and who to report them to.

Photo is attached.

