



## Hilliard Division of Police

5171 Northwest Parkway  
Hilliard, OH 43026  
(614) 876-7321

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**CONTACT: [Public Relations: Andrea Litchfield, 614-334-2351, [alitchfield@hilliardohio.gov](mailto:alitchfield@hilliardohio.gov)]**

### *Hilliard Police issue statement following Staley plea*

HILLIARD, OHIO — In Franklin County Common Pleas Court today, John Leonard Staley III, 17, pleaded no contest to a first-degree felony charge of conspiracy to commit murder. Thereafter, he was found guilty by a judge. He is scheduled to be sentenced Feb. 8.

Staley was charged in October 2016 after an investigation found he had plotted a shooting at Hilliard Davidson High School, where he was a student.

In response, the Hilliard Division of Police released the following statement:

“Today is a victory for safety in the Hilliard community. This investigation began with a student confiding in a school resource officer, and illustrates the valuable role those officers play in the schools. We are grateful to our law enforcement partners at the F.B.I.’s Joint Terrorism Task Force and the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office for their assistance.

Working with our partners at Hilliard City Schools, this case shows that our community has a zero tolerance policy for threats of violence in our schools.

Hilliard City Schools also released a statement. The following can be attributed to Superintendent Dr. John Marschhausen:

“We are proud of our partnership with the Hilliard Division of Police and confident in the criminal justice system. We are glad to her this case is one step closer to being resolved.”