



# ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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SHERIFF-CORONER  
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## NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **OCSD arrests LA man who threatened 'killing spree' in YouTube videos**

**ALISO VIEJO, Ca. (Nov. 6, 2017)** – A 39-year-old man who threatened a staff member at Soka University through bizarre email exchanges and a YouTube channel rant was arrested early Friday, Nov. 3, on suspicion of criminal threats.

Orange County Sheriff's Department deputies at about 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1, received reports that a former university student engaged in an email exchange with an instructor. The emails discussed disciplinary action against the suspect for marijuana use when he attended the university in 2008.

The suspect's frustration in the email correspondence escalated until he finally emailed the staff member a link to a YouTube video that showed him sitting with a semi-automatic pistol on his chest talking about the university. His YouTube channel also included multiple videos recorded in recent days, in which the suspect talked about his desire to engage in a "killing spree." In some of the videos, the suspect is seen holding a firearm.

Members of the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAAC) worked on the case in concert with OCSD investigators.

In less than 48 hours, OCSD personnel took the suspect into custody and recovered nine firearms, all of which were registered to the suspect. The firearms were loaded when they were confiscated by investigators.

Extensive resources were dedicated to the case to ensure the suspect did not have the opportunity to carry out his stated plans. Investigators believed the suspect's threats were credible and an attack possible.

David Kenneth Smith, 39, of Los Angeles, was booked on suspicion of criminal threats. He is being held on \$1 million bail and is expected to appear in court today, Nov. 6.



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