



APD NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARREST MADE IN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE CASE

The Joint Terrorism Task Force has arrested an individual in connection with the explosive device located at 1902 South I-35 on Wednesday, April 25th. Paul Ross Evans, 27, has been charged with violations of Title 18 United States Code, Sections 2332(a) Use of Weapons of Mass Destruction; 844(i) Manufacture of Explosive Material; and 248(a)(3) Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances. The Joint Terrorism Task Force is comprised of representatives from the FBI, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S. Marshals Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Internal Revenue Service, Austin Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety and University of Texas Police Department.

On Wednesday, April 25th, at approximately 2:15 p.m. APD patrol officers responded to a suspicious package call at the Austin Women's Health Center parking lot located at 1902 South I-35. The 9-1-1 call was placed by a clinic employee who also notified ATF and FBI per the clinic protocol. The clinic and an insurance agency were evacuated, as well as one apartment building behind the incident location.

The Bomb Squad was notified and examined the package. After reviewing the information collected, the decision was made to render the package safe. All four southbound lanes of I-35 were briefly closed while the package was rendered safe. Closer examination of the package revealed an unknown powdery substance in the device. The Homeland Defense Team and the Austin Fire Department responded with specialized equipment to conduct field analysis to determine the chemical makeup of the substance. After the initial field analysis, it was determined that the powder was an explosive powder, not a biological health hazard.

It was determined that the package was an explosive device and would have caused serious bodily injury and/or death had it functioned. A criminal investigation is being conducted by local and federal authorities.

