

Grand jury indicts woman for East High threat

Will Cleveland

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Abigail Hernandez, the Rochester City School District student accused of threatening a mass shooting at East High School, was indicted by a grand jury on two counts of making a terroristic threat, the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office announced Friday.

Hernandez, 21, was arrested and charged after she allegedly made a Facebook post threatening to shoot up East High School in Rochester. Rochester police announced the arrest a week later, only after Hernandez had been released on bail and detained by federal immigration officials.

They say she is an undocumented immigrant and faces deportation proceedings.

A judge ordered Hernandez to be returned to the Monroe County Jail while the charge is presented to a grand jury, but she remains in federal custody in Batavia. Hernandez, according to her parents, has very low cognitive capability and is incapable of carrying out the sort of threat she’s charged with making. She is part of a special education program in the Rochester City School District. Police said, “The initial threat came from an anonymous Facebook account, which our investigators had to track down and determine the author of the Facebook account.” Hernandez allegedly made the threat at 5:08 p.m. Feb. 15, stating, “I’m coming tomorrow morning and I’m going to shoot all of ya bitches.”

Eufracio Torres, Hernandez’s father, said he and his wife have green cards, and their two younger children are American citizens. But they did not obtain necessary documents for Abigail when she was brought to this country.

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy allows young people who were brought here unlawfully as minors to live, attend school and work without fear of deportation as long as they abide by the law and meet a range of guidelines.

If a so-called Dreamer is charged with a crime, judged a threat to public safety or found to have violated program rules, ICE can commence removal proceedings.



Hernandez