



# ***LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT***

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For Immediate Release: Update

January 13, 2026

The Lincoln Police Department would like to provide an update to the community regarding the ongoing investigation into the discovery of Child Sexual Abuse Material in the home of John Buffington, 67, now deceased, from Princeton, Massachusetts.

On Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup> the Lincoln Police Department was contacted by the Middlesex District Attorney's Office who made the Town and District aware of the death of Mr. Buffington who was under investigation by the Massachusetts State Police Cyber Crime Unit for possible possession of child sexual abuse material.

Town and School officials learned that the suspect, who died by apparent suicide, had previously been employed as a staff member with the Lincoln Extended-day Activities Program (LEAP), a private not-for-profit program located on the Ballfield Road Lincoln School campus. Mr. Buffington was employed by LEAP beginning in September 1988; in March 2014, he separated from LEAP.

The matter remains under investigation by the State Police and the District Attorneys of Worcester and Middlesex Counties. County and State authorities are in the early stages of their investigation. They are working diligently to identify any parties affected by Mr. Buffington in his role as a community member of trust so that they are able to receive appropriate support and services.

The Lincoln Police Department will continue to coordinate with the Massachusetts State Police and other state, local and federal partners and will offer whatever support the LEAP organization and community requires.

Questions or concerns should be directed to the Lincoln Police Department at 781-259-8111, and parents with concerns about their children's interactions with Mr. Buffington can also contact the Middlesex Children's Advocacy Center at 781-897-8400.

Please See Attached Press Release from the Massachusetts State Police for further details.  
<https://www.mspnews.org/post/discovery-of-child-sexual-abuse-material-discovered-in-princeton-home-of-after-school-program-instru>