# Waterville teacher’s social media posts prompt joint Secret Service and police investigation



In Waterville, Maine, a series of controversial social media posts allegedly written by a teacher at Waterville Senior High School have led to investigations by both local law enforcement and school officials. The posts, made on Facebook and attributed to JoAnna St. Germain, an English teacher as listed on the school’s website, included provocative language urging the Secret Service and military to “take out” supporters of former President Donald Trump.

Waterville Police Chief William Bonney issued a statement on Wednesday afternoon concerning the matter, without naming St. Germain specifically. He confirmed that school officials and federal law enforcement are collaborating to ensure the community’s safety, particularly that of young people. As of Wednesday afternoon, Bonney stated no charges had been filed.

The situation began on Tuesday when a lengthy post appeared on St. Germain’s Facebook page. In the post, she accused Donald Trump of openly bragging about election interference and planning a “third term.” The message called on Americans in the Secret Service and military to stand against what she referred to as a fascist dictatorship. “If I had the skill set required, I would take them out myself,” the post stated. She acknowledged her distress, saying, “Don’t waste time wondering if I’m okay. I’m not. If you’re ok, you’re lying to yourself.”

By mid-morning Wednesday, a subsequent post from St. Germain expressed regret that her previous message was interpreted as a call for violence against all Republicans. She clarified that her grievance was against individuals in Trump’s circle who endorse his actions, not the broader Republican Party or MAGA supporters. The post also reflected on her long career teaching history and her distress at witnessing historical patterns she found troubling. She wrote, “I love each and every one of you... I love your children. I love the disabled. I love the LGBTQ+ community. I love black and brown people. I love autistic people. My love holds no quarter for people in power actively harming those I love.”

Following this, St. Germain continued to post, acknowledging the anger her statements caused and contemplating the consequences on her decade-long teaching career. A source familiar with St. Germain, who requested anonymity out of concern for safety, described the posts as uncharacteristic and expressed concern for her wellbeing. “I do not believe that this is a woman who is going to harm anyone at all. She’s a very kind person, so this feels a little out of character,” the source said.

In response to the incident, Waterville Public Schools Superintendent Peter Hallen issued an audio message to families on Wednesday morning, informing them of the ongoing investigation and safety measures in place. He emphasised the priority given to due process and the protection of students and staff, while acknowledging the volume of community concerns that limited individual responses. Hallen encouraged anyone with immediate safety concerns to contact local law enforcement directly.

When approached for comment via social media, St. Germain did not respond immediately.

This incident has attracted attention due to the nature of the posts and the involvement of a school staff member, highlighting the complex intersections of personal expression, professional responsibilities, and public safety in contemporary society.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

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