



St. Petersburg Police Department News Release



For Immediate Release

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St. Petersburg Police Department Close Building Due To a Suspicious Package Downtown

On Tuesday March 2, 2010 at 11:31am, the St. Petersburg Police Department received a call of a Suspicious Package at 501 1st Avenue North.

This building contains the downtown courthouse, and several other government offices, including the tag agency, elections supervisor and worker's compensation offices.

Employees in the building found a suspicious brown bag with something inside of it propped up against a door on the third floor of the building. The door is about 5 ft from one of the elevators.

The employees do not recognize the package and have told us that no packages belong in that location.

All ten floors of the building were evacuated and the Tampa Bomb Squad responded to the location.

The roads around the building were sealed off so that no vehicular traffic was allowed near the building.

At about 2:45pm, St. Petersburg Police released all the traffic points and allowed the approximately 70 employees who had been evacuated back into the building at 501 1st Avenue North.

The Tampa Police Department's Bomb Squad did not reveal the contents of the suspicious brown paper bag, but only said that it did not contain any explosive or dangerous devices.

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