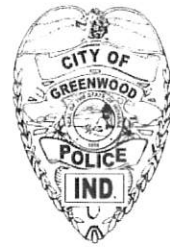




EST 1864

MARK W. MYERS, MAYOR



JAMES G. ISON, CHIEF

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In a joint press conference held on December 21, 2022 Greenwood Police Chief James Ison informed members of the media that the FBI in Quantico VA was working to unlock the cell phone of Jonathan Sapirman, the gunman in the Greenwood Park Mall shooting that took place on July 17, 2022. Chief Ison stated that a follow-up release would be issued if the phone was found to contain pertinent information related to the case.

In May 2023 the FBI was successful in unlocking the cellphone and extracting the data stored on the phone. There were 206 videos, and 3458 images recovered. Also recovered were notes kept on the phone, call & text logs, and internet searches.

Many of the images and videos were of the same nature reported in previous press conferences regarding Sapirman's social media posts. There were many pictures of Adolf Hitler, Nazi propaganda, and firearms. Many of the videos extracted were of mass killings and extremely graphic in nature. One of the video's was security camera footage of the mass shooting that occurred at the Cascade Mall in Burlington Washington on September 23, 2016.

The most notable discovery was an image of a handwritten note taken on April 9<sup>th</sup> 2020. The note appears to be a suicide note written by Jonathan Sapirman. The note begins with, "My final thoughts on paper." In the note Sapirman wrote, "I'm a sociopath. I want to hurt people." He alluded to shooting himself with a shotgun and cited the reasons for his actions as, "This was the result of my issues: mental instability, depression, frustration, and sexual isolation."

The fact that this note was written over two years prior to the Greenwood Park Mall shooting leads us to believe that Sapirman's homicidal and suicidal thoughts had been manifesting for years.

Also extracted was a note written by Sapirman on June 18, 2022. It appears the note was a draft of a text that he was going to send to his brother. In the note Sapirman expresses his frustration about his phone being turned off. He then wrote, "I'm gonna shoot myself." On the same day Sapirman conducted an internet search titled, "how to go through with committing suicide."

There was nothing located on the phone relating to the Greenwood Park Mall or Sapirman's plans to carry out his attack on July 17, 2022.