

NEWS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | April 20, 2026

ND STATE CAPITOL SHELTER-IN-PLACE LIFTED - UPDATE

UPDATE April 21:

The North Dakota State Patrol charged Joseph Pratt of Bismarck, ND with Terrorizing – Class C Felony.

NARRATIVE: A shelter-in-place at the North Dakota State Capitol was lifted following an incident that began shortly after 2:00 p.m. on April 20, 2026.

At approximately 2:00 p.m., a male from Bismarck called 911 stating he intended to harm himself. The individual was located on the south side of the Capitol grounds and had a firearm in his possession.

A shelter-in-place was implemented at the Capitol after the call was received and his location was identified.

Once the scene was secure, employees were allowed to exit the Capitol complex through designated safe exits as directed by law enforcement.

The shelter-in-place remained in effect until 5:55 p.m. after the incident ended safely. The individual was taken into custody.

The incident remains under investigation by the North Dakota State Patrol. The assisting agencies in this incident were Bismarck Police Department and Burleigh County Sheriff's Office.

Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

Contact information: Lt. Jenna Clawson Huibregtse, ndhpsafetyedu@nd.gov, 701-328-2447

Notice: Updates to media releases will be posted to the NDHP website:
<https://www.statepatrol.nd.gov/ndhp-news>