

VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

October 9, 2020

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department from October 2, 2020 – October 8, 2020. Readers are reminded that an "arrest" is based upon probable cause and does not always mean that someone was physically taken into custody. Furthermore, it does not mean that an individual is automatically guilty of a crime. Judicial outcomes and post-arrest proceedings can be researched through the appropriate court's website.

(VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS is not meant to be a listing of every incident or call handled by the Vienna Police, but merely a more substantive summary of several incidents, which may be of interest to the community. Some reports may be outside the date parameters due to extended investigations or other circumstances. Some cases are not included at all due to ongoing investigations. Please contact Ruth Rohr for further information at Ruth.Rohr@viennava.gov)

In the last few weeks, the Town of Vienna Police Department responded to multiple cases of vehicle tamperings and stolen vehicles. In almost every case, the vehicle was left unlocked and/or keys left inside. The criminals responsible for these thefts target unlocked vehicles to steal valuables, money, electronics, etc., and all it takes is them pulling on the door handle of an unlocked car. They rarely break into a locked vehicle. Vienna police officers proactively patrol all areas of the town to protect its citizens and their property and would like your assistance in curbing this crime of opportunity by removing all valuables from your vehicles, removing all keys (to include valet keys), and report suspicious activity immediately by calling 703-255-6366 or 911.

INCIDENTS

Suspicious Event 20-007724 Emmaus United Church of Christ 900 Maple Avenue, East Between August 18 at 9:00 p.m. and October 3 at 8:45 p.m.

An employee at the Church reported that on three separate occasions someone had left bags filled with vomit in the parking lot near the playground area. *Reference Incident #20-7756*.

Suspicious Event 20-007653 200 Lawyers Road, NW

Between September 30 at 5:00 p.m. and October 1 at 10:00 a.m.

The Postmaster reported that someone pried open the mail collection box located on the island at Church Street and Lawyers Road and stole the mail. This case is being investigated by the Postal Inspector.

Destruction of Property 20-007669 300 Block George Street, SW October 2 1:30 p.m.

A resident reported that someone placed a trash can on the hood of his vehicle causing deep scratches in the painted finish. It was determined that it was his neighbor's brother who was responsible for the incident. The resident was advised of the warrant process should he wish to pursue charges.

Suspicious Person 20-007670 1000 Block Ware Street, SW October 2 2:30 p.m.

A resident reported that he observed an elderly man in his backyard. When the resident confronted the man, he began walking toward Marshall Road. The resident believes the man may have been stealing chestnuts from the tree in his yard.

Animal Case – Quarantine 20-007705 Hope Advanced Veterinary Center 140 Park Street, SE October 2 6:45 p.m.

An employee was bitten by a cat during a procedure. The cat resides in Burke, Virginia, so the case was forwarded to the Fairfax County Animal Control for follow up on the cat's quarantine.

Assist EMS 20-007676 200 Block Cedar Lane, SE October 3 9:09 a.m.

Officers responded to assist rescue personnel with a man suffering a medical emergency. As CPR was being performed on the man, rescue personnel detected a strong odor of gas in the building and their gas meter indicated a leak. Officers evacuated all residents from the apartment building. The Fire Department's Hazardous Material Unit responded with the gas company and determined there was no leak and believed the odor was caused by burned food in one of the apartments.

The man was transported by rescue personnel to an area hospital for treatment.

Assault 20-007679

200 Block Locust Street, SE

October 3 12:45 p.m.

A resident reported that her roommate attempted to grab her phone from her hand and that the roommate assaulted her. The resident was advised of the warrant process should she wish to pursue charges. (*Reference Incident #20-007688*).

Vandalism 20-007693

200 Block Prescott Circle, SE

Between October 3 at 8:00 p.m. and October 4 12:00 p.m.

A resident reported that someone spray-painted the political signs in her yard and they left several pieces of paper with profanities written on them on the porch.

Shoplifting 20-007686

Giant Food

359 Maple Avenue, East

October 3 between 7:14 p.m. and 8:15 p.m.

An employee reported that two men entered the store separately, but the two appeared to be working together. After loading their carts with several items, one of the men left the store through the rear door with his cart. The other man saw the employee near the front entrance, abandoned his cart, and left the store.

Assault 20-007688

200 Block Locust Street, SE

October 3 11:16 p.m.

The roommate in an earlier incident (*Reference Incident #20-7679*) reported that she was assaulted by the resident. The roommate was advised of the warrant process should she wish to pursue charges.

Domestic Dispute 20-007689

Ridge Road, SW

October 4 2:28 a.m.

A resident reported that she and her boyfriend were having a dispute that escalated when he began breaking and throwing items in the home. The boyfriend left the home before the officer's arrival.

Animal Case 20-007707

Hope Advanced Veterinary Center

140 Park Street, NE

October 4 3:00 p.m.

An employee was bitten by a cat during a medical procedure. The cat resides in Herndon, Virginia, so the case was forwarded to the Fairfax County Animal Control to follow up on the cat's quarantine.

Vehicle Tampering 20-007737 1100 Cottage Street, SW

Between October 4 at 10:00 p.m. and October 6 at 6:40 p.m.

A resident reported that someone rummaged through his unlocked vehicle.

Trespassing 20-007704 Wesley United Methodist Church 711 Spring Street, SE October 5 8:32 p.m.

An employee from the preschool at the Church reported a man sitting in his vehicle in the parking lot whom the staff had previously asked the man not to park in the lot. Officers spoke to the man who advised he is staying locally with a relative and comes to the parking lot to work in his vehicle. The man was advised that he may be charged with trespass and he agreed to leave.

Police Service 20-007719 Orchard Street, NW October 5 4:30 p.m.

Officers checked on the welfare of a resident after she made some concerning statements over the phone to a bank employee. The resident agreed to go with her parents to an area medical facility for evaluation.

Vehicle Tampering 20-007729 1100 Block Kings Way Court, SW October 6 between 3:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

A resident reported that someone rummaged through his unlocked vehicle.

Suspicious Vehicle 20-007732 Wells Fargo Bank 212 Maple Avenue, East October 6 3:12 p.m.

An employee reported a vehicle that was parked in their parking lot for several weeks. The owner of the vehicle initially had permission to stay in the lot from a bank employee. However, customers and employees were concerned about the man. The man agreed to leave the property.

Suspicious Event 20-007756 Emmaus United Church of Christ 900 Maple Avenue, East Between October 6 at 3:30 p.m. and October 7 at 8:00 a.m.

An employee reported that someone left a bag of vomit in their parking lot near the playground. *Reference Incident #20-7724*.

Found Property 20-007736 400 Block Beulah Road, NE October 6 4:00 p.m.

A resident turned in a car key they found.

Assist EMS 20-007760 100 Block Wilmar Place, NW October 7 9:15 p.m.

Officers responded to assist rescue personnel when a resident reported his girlfriend was suffering a medical emergency. The woman refused any medical assistance.

CRASHES

Beulah Road and Ayr Hill Avenue, NE 20-007648 October 1 10:37 a.m.

Vehicle-2 was traveling southbound on Beulah Road. Vehicle-1 was eastbound on Ayr Hill Avenue, turning left to go north on Beulah when the two vehicles collided.

Follin Lane and Hine Street, SE 20-007708 October 5 10:05 a.m.

Vehicle-2 was traveling northbound on Follin Lane. Vehicle-1 was traveling westbound on Hine Street. Vehicle-1 stopped at the stop sign, then proceeded into the intersection and struck Vehicle-2.

Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Obey a Stop Sign.

CASE UPDATES

None.

Please contact Ruth Rohr for further information on any of these cases at Ruth.Rohr@viennava.gov or 703-255-6324.

VIRGINIA ENTERS PHASE THREE OF GOV. RALPH NORTHAM'S FORWARD VIRGINIA

For more information, navigate to https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus-updates/



Vienna Police Department to Participate in the DEA Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative

Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

In conjunction with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and state and local law enforcement agencies, the Vienna Police Department will again participate in a one-day initiative to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from area homes.

On October 24, 2020, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., the Vienna Police Department will have a collection site for old, expired, unused, or unwanted medications. Prescription medications, controlled or non-controlled substances, and over the counter drugs may be turned in anonymously at the collection point inside the Vienna Police Department located at 215 Center Street, South, Vienna, Virginia 22180.

Participants may dispose of medication in its original container or by removing it and disposing of it directly into the collection box. If an original container is used, the individual should consider removing any identifying information from the prescription label. Liquid products should remain sealed in their original container to prevent leakage.

DEA will collect vape pens or other e-cigarette devices from individual consumers **only** after the batteries are removed from the devices. It is important to stress that the DEA is not responsible for removing the batteries from the devices.

Intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will not be accepted due to associated hazards.

Commercial businesses, pharmacies, or other medical facilities may not use this as a means to discard expired medications or medical waste.

For further information, please contact:
M.P.O. Juan Vazquez - Town of Vienna Police Department
Juan.vazquez@viennava.gov or 703-255-7845





(Pictured from left to right: Sgt. Pamela Juelharte and Town of Vienna Mayor Linda Colbert)



(Pictured from left to right: Sgt. Pamela Juelharte and Chief James Morris)

Sergeant Pamela Juelharte Retires from the Vienna Police Department after 20 years of service

On September 22, 2020, a ceremony was held at the Vienna Community Center to celebrate the retirement of Sergeant Pamela Juelharte, who retires with 20 years of dedicated service with the Town of Vienna Police Department. Sergeant Juelharte started her career with the Vienna Police Department on September 21, 2000. After she graduated from the 38th Session of the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy, she was assigned to the Patrol Division. In 2006, she was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, where she gained respect as a leader and mentor. In 2015, Sergeant Juelharte was assigned as the Criminal Investigations Section Sergeant. She concluded her career by returning to the Patrol Division, supervising a midnight patrol squad from 2018 through 2020.

Sergeant Juelharte graduated in 2017 from Old Dominion University with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and was the recipient of a Meritorious Service Award for saving the life of a teen. Sergeant Juelharte was also a firearms instructor and a member of the Town of Vienna Honor Guard. The Vienna Police Department wishes her well in her retirement.

For further information please contact:
MPO Juan Vazquez - Town of Vienna Police Department
Public Information Officer

juan.vazquez@viennava.gov or 703-255-7845



Operations Modifications in Response to COVID-19

March 18, 2020

In the interest of public safety for our residents, businesses, and visitors, the Vienna Police Department has modified its operations to increase social distancing and reduce the chance of spreading the COVID-19 virus.

This modified operation entails taking certain police reports for relatively minor and non-violent crimes by telephone. These will be cases where there is no need for evidence collection, not a crime in progress, but the incident still needs to be documented.

If you are calling to file a police report, Communications personnel will ask you questions to help determine if your call meets the criteria for a telephone follow-up and if so, you may be advised that an officer will call you back to assess the need to respond in person or complete the report via telephone. If you feel that an officer is required, you may make that request, and an officer will respond. The incident report over the telephone will go into the same records management system and will be tracked the same as if an officer responded.

If a police officer responds to your location, please be prepared to step outside to meet the officer to encourage social distancing and avoid the spread of the virus.

By using telephone reporting, you will help us limit exposure. We thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to maintain our mission of providing a safe community for all of our citizens, businesses, and visitors.

Out of an abundance of caution, we have also suspended some low priority services, which include: Ride-Along, PIO public engagements, VIN verifications, and child safety seats installations. Access to our police lobby will be restricted to immediate police assistance only. We do encourage our citizens to call the police department with questions at 703-255-6366 instead of visiting our lobby.

The Vienna Police Department continues to remain staffed, operational, and ready to respond to all emergencies, in-progress incidents, and priority calls. Day and night patrols remain at full strength, so you should not hesitate to call for assistance.

The process of handling some calls for service over the phone and limiting other services is temporary and will be continually reevaluated in the coming weeks.

Thank You, Chief Jim Morris



Reminder

Prevention of Stolen Vehicles/Vehicle Tamperings

With the advent of warmer weather, the Town of Vienna Police Department would like to remind all Town of Vienna residents to secure their vehicles and personal belongings. Recently there have been several vehicle tamperings to include stolen vehicles from Vienna and the neighboring jurisdictions.

The Vienna Police Department would like to remind citizens of the following steps to assist in the prevention of your vehicle being tampered with or stolen:

Lock your Car Doors.

The majority of the vehicles being entered and/or stolen have been unlocked.

Remove all Valuables.

In most cases, the subjects responsible for these acts have been targeting vehicles that contain valuables such as, but not limited to, laptop computers, GPS's, pocketbooks/purses, loose change, cameras, etc. If you must leave valuables in your vehicle, please be sure to conceal the items, in the trunk, under the seats or use any other means to make them undetectable. Also, make sure to record all serial numbers, and if possible, engrave them or permanently mark the items with easily identifiable markings, in the event the items are recovered.

Remove all Keys.

The subjects who commit these crimes are aware that most new vehicles come with valet keys. Most of these keys are kept inside the vehicles, either in the center consoles, or the glove compartments, or other areas easily accessible. In some instances, the owners have left their keys rings containing their house keys, providing access to their homes.

Report Suspicious Activity

In some cases, the subjects have been observed wearing several layers of clothing, not consistent with the weather conditions. This is used to conceal stolen items and also to make identification difficult as they will shed layers of clothing as they flee the area when they suspect they have been observed committing a crime.

The Town of Vienna Police Department is dedicated to the safety and protection of all persons and property in the Town of Vienna. However, much of our success comes from the assistance of its concerned and observant residents.

**A reminder to secure your vehicles and remove all valuables! **
Even if your vehicle is parked in your driveway, please secure all windows and doors and remove all valuables.



CITIZEN NOTES

Vienna Police Department Construction Project Updates

Updates about the police department construction project will be posted regularly to the "Police Department Renovation" page, located under the Police Department section, at **viennava.gov**, or follow the below link.

** As we move forward with designing and ultimately constructing a new facility, Chief Morris is committed to keeping the Vienna community informed and involved in the process. To begin that effort a link has been established on the police department page of the Town of Vienna website (https://www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?NID=1225), and we will be providing regular updates about the process in these Highlights.

Citizens are reminded to PLEASE call and report suspicious activity. Even if you choose not to provide your name or other personal information, we still need your help as extra eyes and ears in the community.

See or Hear Something? Say Something! We *WANT* to be Bothered! Call 9-1-1.