

## VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

January 29, 2021

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department from January 22, 2021 – January 28, 2021. 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.\*\*

The Vienna Police Department would like to warn citizens that mail has been stolen from the US Post Office collection boxes at the corner of Church St NW and Lawyers Rd NW after being broken into several times this year. The most recent incident occurred overnight from November 22nd to November 23rd. If you used these mailboxes during that time, please ensure that any checks, banknotes, or other important mail reached its intended destination. Mail theft or tampering is investigated by the US Postal Inspection Service and may be reported via their website at <a href="https://www.uspis.gov/report/">https://www.uspis.gov/report/</a>. The Vienna Police department cooperates fully with their investigations and forwards all mail theft reports to the Postal Inspection Service. If you see suspicious activity at the mail collection boxes, contact the Vienna Police Department for an immediate response.

To avoid theft, citizens are advised to use the collection mailboxes inside the post office.

# **INCIDENTS**

Arrest – Fraud 21-000347 Companion Pet Store 144 Maple Avenue, West

Between August 22, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. and January 17 at 11:59 p.m.

A fraud investigator who was contracted by the store reported that a former employee stole a credit card reader and took money from the business by false pretense.

Sgt. Sheeran obtained two felony warrants for the former employee. On January 19, Ofc. Williams arrested the 35-year-old man from Kennedy Lane in Falls Church, Virginia. The man was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, where he was charged with Grand Larceny and Obtaining Money by False Pretense.

Fraud 21-000448 900 Block Potterton Circle, SW

Between December 1, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. and January 2 at 2:00 p.m.

A resident reported that someone used his personal information to open a bank account.

Animal Case 21-000344 600 Block Park Street, SE January 4 12:00 p.m.

On January 13, the Health Department reported a dog bite that occurred on January 4. ACO Barker spoke to the owner of the dog who reported his two dogs were fighting and when he attempted to break it up, he was bitten by one of the dogs. The dog is current with its rabies vaccination and showed no signs of being sick after a 10-day quarantine.

#### Illegal Dumping 21-000356 900 Block Glyndon Street, SE

### Between January 11 at 1:00 p.m. and January 19 at 2:00 p.m.

A member of the condo association reported a resident who is continuously throwing bags of dog feces onto the property.

#### Animal Case – Quarantine 21-000482 600 Block Echols Street, SE January 15 12:00 p.m.

The Fairfax County Health Department reported a dog who resides in Vienna bit a family member while visiting a home in the County. The Health Department requested ACO Barker follow up on the quarantine for the animal. ACO Barker spoke to the dog's owner who reported the dog completed the quarantine period without any issues or signs of illness.

### Destruction of Property 21-000334 200 Block Locust Street, SW January 18 6:39 p.m.

A resident reported that a group of juveniles egged her home and fled the scene. She advised that these were the same juveniles who had recently been harassing her and her husband by stealing packages, ringing their doorbell and running, and exposing themselves.

Officers identified a group of juveniles who were involved and notified their parents. This investigation is continuing.

#### Animal Case – Quarantine 21-000353 500 Block Creek Crossing Road, NE January 19 10:00 a.m.

A resident was bitten by her dog after she accidentally startled the animal. The dog was placed on a 10-day quarantine.

#### Fraud 21-000452 600 Block Pine Street, SE January 20 12:00 p.m.

A resident received a phone call from someone he believed was a family friend who advised he was in jail and needed money to be bonded out. The resident was given the contact information for a man claiming to be the friend's public defender. The man convinced the resident to deposit money into his account. After depositing the money, the resident realized the call was a scam.

Open Door 21-000456 Vienna Inn 120 Maple Avenue, East January 23 1:53 a.m.

Officers responding to the report of an alarm found an open door. The business was searched and nothing appeared to have been disturbed.

Open Door 21-000461 Carient Heart & Vascular 415 Church Street, NE, Suite 101 January 23 11:17 a.m.

Officers responding to the report of an alarm found an open door to the business. The business was searched and nothing appeared to have been disturbed.

Animal Case 21-000470 600 Block Alma Street, SE January 24 11:44 a.m.

A resident reported a deer stuck in a fence. Officers found the deer was gravely injured and euthanized the animal.

Open Door 21-000473 100 Block Tapawingo Road, SE January 24 3:26 p.m.

Officers responded to the report of an open door at a vacant house. The officers searched the house and found nothing suspicious.

Arrest – Drunk In Public 21-000477 600 Block Frederick Street, SW January 25 1:54 a.m.

A resident reported that his roommate was acting disorderly. When officers arrived the roommate exited the house and continued to act disorderly with the officers.

MPO Shaw arrested the 44-year-old man from Frederick Street, SW in Vienna. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged with Drunk In Public.

Animal Case 21-000489 Oakton-Vienna Animal Hospital 320 Maple Avenue, East January 26 8:00 a.m.

Fairfax County ACO requested that our ACO transport a dog from the Animal Hospital to the Health Department for testing. The dog was brought to the hospital by its owner to be euthanized after being involved in a case in the County. ACO Barker transported the dog to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter where it will be tested.

# **CRASHES**

#### Nutley Street and Malcolm Road, NW 21-000443 January 22 11:25 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was on Malcolm Road stopped at the stop sign for Nutley Street. Vehicle-1 ran into the rear of Vehicle-2.

Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Pay Full Time and Attention.

# Glyndon Street and Ayr Hill Avenue, NE 21-000494 January 26 10:39 a.m.

Two vehicles were traveling southbound on Glyndon Street, NE approaching Ayr Hill Avenue. Vehicle-2 (a Town of Vienna Department of Public Works trash truck) stopped to pick up resident refuse. Driver-1 stopped behind the trash truck until the Vienna employees made sure it was clear for him to drive around the truck. Driver-1 attempted to turn back into the southbound lane, cut the turn too short, and collided with the front left corner of Vehicle-2.

# CASE UPDATES

Arrest – Vandalism 21-000316 and 21-000335 DeSale Street, SW

Between January 17 at 1:00 p.m. and January 18 at 7:52 p.m.

On January 22, Lieutenant Taylor obtained three misdemeanor warrants for a resident charging destruction of property. On January 23, the warrants were served on the 65-year-old woman from Druid Hill Road, NE in Vienna. The woman was released on her signature.

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

On December 10, 2020, Governor Northam issued Executive Order #72, which incorporates earlier Executive Orders Sixty-Three Sixty-Seven that will take effect on Monday, December 14, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. This amended order remains in effect until rescinded or amended by further executive order. Questions, concerns, and complaints of this order's violations should be directed to the VA Department of Health at 1-877-275-8343.

For more information about COVID-19, navigate to <a href="https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus-updates/">https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus-updates/</a>
The full text of Executive Order Seventy-Two is available <a href="here">here</a>



# Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

#### **Operations Modifications in**

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. There 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



# Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

#### 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**



Starting with this week's highlights, we will include a special section called "HARD HAT CORNER." This section will have information to keep our Vienna citizens informed on what is going with the new police headquarters' construction project and updates on what to expect.

#### WEEK OF JANUARY 25, 2021

- Abatement operations started at the police station and the adjoining house.
- Groundbreaking Ceremony on January 29, 2021, at 10 a.m. at 215 Center Street, South, Vienna, VA 22180

#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 2021

- Abatement Operations continue
- Dumpster removed from back parking lot old police station

\*\* As we move forward with the new facility's construction, Chief Morris is committed to keeping the Vienna community informed and involved in the process. A link has also been established on the Town of Vienna website (<a href="https://www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?NID=1225">https://www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?NID=1225</a>) for your information.

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.