

VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

February 19, 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 February 12, 2021 – February 18, 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 <u>Ruth.Rohr@viennava.gov</u>)

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 <u>https://www.uspis.gov/report/</u>. 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

Petit Larceny 21-000630 600 Block Upham Place, NW Between December 16 at 12:00 p.m. and February 2 at 12:00 p.m. A resident reported a firearm was missing from his home.

Civil Dispute 21-000727 100 Block Patrick Street, SE February 7 8:03 p.m. A resident reported a child custody dispute he had with his child's mother.

Suspicious Event 21-000729 100 Block Patrick Street, SE February 7 10:19 p.m.

A security officer reported a suspicious bottle that he found on the ground outside of one of the apartments. The security officer disposed of the bottle before speaking to the police.

Suspicious Person 21-000871 Vienna Firehouse 400 Center Street, South

Between February 8 at 12:00 a.m. and February 16 at 3:00 a.m.

A firefighter reported that on February 8, she assisted a resident who came to the firehouse advising that he was under the influence of an unknown narcotic and requesting to be transported to the hospital. After that incident, the resident began calling the firehouse claiming to be a family member of the firefighter and wanting to know her whereabouts and her schedule. At 3:00 a.m. on February 16, the resident began banging and kicking on the door to the firehouse, demanding the firefighter come outside to treat him. After being confronted by other staff, the man left the area. The man will be sent a Notice of Trespass to ban him from the property of the firehouse.

Assault 21-000732 600 Block Frederick Street, SW February 8 3:12 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of a landlord and tenant complaint. Both parties stated they had been threatened by the other. Both men were advised of the warrant process should they wish to pursue charges. The landlord was also advised of the eviction process.

Suspicious Event 21-000829 200 Block Old Courthouse Road, NE February 11 10:30 a.m.

A resident reported that she notified Verizon when her internet suddenly went out. The Verizon employee found both of the Verizon boxes on the exterior of the home were open. There did not appear to be any damage.

Fraud 21-000836 400 Block Ayr Hill Avenue, NE February 12 12:00 a.m.

A resident reported that they sold a chair over the internet. The buyer mailed a check for the chair and moving costs. The buyer requested the resident to send the remaining difference back to her through Venmo. After reimbursing the buyer, the resident attempted to cash the check and found that it was fraudulent.

Emotionally Disturbed Person 21-000833 1400 Ross Drive, SW February 12 4:45 p.m.

A resident reported that a family member became emotionally upset, made some concerning statements, and walked away from the house. Officers located the family member and spoke to him regarding the incident. The man stated he was upset and going to the park to calm down. He further stated that he did not need any assistance. The resident was advised of resources available to them if they needed additional help.

Animal Case 21-000843 Giant Food 359 Maple Avenue, East February 13 7:18 p.m.

An officer responded to the Giant Food Store for the report of a found dog. A citizen reported that they found the dog in the street in the area of Lawyers Road and Windover Avenue. The owner could not be located as the dog, a white and brown Bulldog, had no tags or microchip. The dog was transported to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter.

Grand Larceny 21-000846 CVS 337 Maple Avenue, East February 14 5:05 a.m.

At 12:26 p.m. an employee reported that a cash register was taken from the store earlier in the day. The security camera showed three young men walk into the store, take the register, and leave the store without being noticed. The same men also stole a register from a CVS in Fairfax County.

Assault 21-000854 700 Block Upham Place, NW February 15 11:55 a.m.

Two employees with a tree service got into a verbal dispute that escalated when both men struck each other. The two men were advised of the warrant process should they wish to pursue charges.

Animal Case – Quarantine 21-000864 200 Block Park Terrace Court, SE February 15 12:00 p.m.

A resident was advised of the 10-day quarantine process after her cat scratched her on the nose.

Vienna Police Station 21-000892

301 Center Street, South

Between February 17 at 12:30 a.m. and February 19 at 5:00 a.m.

An unknown person began calling the police non-emergency number and harassing the police dispatchers. Hundreds of calls were received and recorded from the same caller. This case is being investigated

Assist EMS 21-000869 100 Block Oak Street, SW February 17 8:10 a.m.

Officers responded to assist rescue personnel with a medical emergency. The resident reported that a relative was staying with them while he was recovering from a recent surgery. Rescue personnel was performing CPR on the man when they transported him to an area hospital.

Fraud 21-000890 Walgreens 225 Maple Avenue, East February 17 between 1:30 p.m. and 4:15 p.m.

Two employees reported that their personal property, including credit and debit cards, was stolen from the break room and employee lockers. One of the employees reported that their bank cards were used to make several unauthorized purchases at Giant Food, 359 Maple Avenue, East.

Found Property 21-000889 West Street and Lawyers Road, NW February 17 3:45 p.m. A citizen turned in keys that they found in the area.

CRASHES

Kingsley Road and Park Street, SE 21-000835 February 12 5:33 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was at the stop sign on Kingsley Road, attempting to turn left onto northbound Park Street. Vehicle-1 was behind Vehicle-2. As Driver-1 attempted to go to the right of Vehicle-2 to turn right onto Park Street, he struck the right rear fender.

Maple Avenue and Branch Road, SE 21-000883 February 17 11:17 a.m.

Two vehicles were traveling eastbound in the same lane of travel on Maple Avenue. Vehicle-2 stopped in traffic. Vehicle-1 ran into the rear of Vehicle-2 causing minor damage.

Maple Avenue and Branch Road, SE 21-000891

February 17 at 5:37 p.m.

Vehicle-1 was stopped in the right turn lane of Branch Road at the intersection of Maple Avenue. Driver-1 began to make his turn as Pedestrian-1 entered the crosswalk westbound across Branch Road. The vehicle ran over the foot of the pedestrian.

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

CASE UPDATES

None

Please contact Ruth Rohr for further information on any of these cases at <u>Ruth.Rohr@viennava.gov</u> 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 <u>https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus-updates/</u> The full text of Executive Order Seventy-Two is available <u>here</u>



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



WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2021

- Construction entrance put into place
- Arrival of construction equipment at the site
- Complete sediment and erosion control
- Start of soft demolition and removal of designated trees.

WEEK OF MARCH 1, 2021

- Complete soft demo and designated trees to be removed
- Disconnection of electric and gas utilities
- Utility Contractor Mobilization

** 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 (<u>https://www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?NID=1225</u>) 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.