

# **VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS**

May 14, 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

May 7, 2021 – May 13, 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**

Animal Case 21-002321 Hope Advanced Veterinary Center 140 Park St., SE May 1 12:00 p.m.

A citizen brought her cat to the Hope Advance Veterinary Center for treatment. She advised the staff that the cat had bitten or scratched her before leaving their home in Alexandria. The cat was treated and released to go home with the owner. The information was forwarded to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria to follow up on quarantine.

#### Petit Larceny 21-002397

#### 100 Block Elm Street, SW

#### Between May 5 10:00 p.m. and May 6 8:40 a.m.

A resident reported that someone entered their unlocked vehicle and rummaged through it. Some items were reported stolen.

#### Animal Case 21-002475 1400 Block Desale Street, SW May 6 12:00 p.m.

ACO Barker received a bite report from the health department, advising that a resident was bit by his dog on the right upper arm. When contacted by the Animal Control Officer, the dog owner denied being bit. The health department was notified of the findings.

#### Animal Case 21-002394 Peterson Lane Park

#### 575 Block Malcolm Road, NW

#### May 7 8:45 a.m.

ACO Barker responded to the report of a sick raccoon. The officer observed that the animal was in grave condition and euthanized the raccoon. The carcass was transported to the animal shelter for disposal.

#### Animal Case 21-002395 200 Block Church Street, NE May 7 9:14 a.m.

Officer Lyons responded to the report of a sick raccoon. The officer observed that the animal was in grave condition and euthanized the raccoon. ACO Barker responded to collect the carcass.

#### Suspicious Event 21-002399 Cunningham Park Elementary School

**1001 Park Street, SE May 7 3:11 p.m.** School staff requested police assistance handling an issue with a parent.

### **Emotionally Disturbed Person 21-002428**

**100 Block Patrick Street, SE** 

#### May 8 6:49 p.m.

A resident requested police to assist with an emotionally disturbed person. Officers assessed the person and determined that no additional medical assistance was necessary.

#### Animal Case 21-002476 200 Block Harmony Drive, SW May 10 9:00 a.m.

ACO Barker received a bite report from the Hope Advance Veterinary Center advising a 16year-old cat bit a technician during a procedure.

#### Juvenile 21-002460 500 Block Orchard Street, NW May 10 8:45 p.m.

A resident requested police assistance with a juvenile. Police arrived on the scene and spoke to both parties. The dispute was resolved, and police left the scene.

Animal Case 21-002477 Hope Advance Veterinary Center 140 Park Street, SE May 11 9:00 a.m. ACO Barker received a bite report from the Hope Advance Veterinary Center. A 14-year-old cat bit a technician during a procedure.

#### Domestic Dispute 21-002484 900 Block Ninovan Road, SE May 11 9:56 p.m.

A resident requested police assistance with a domestic dispute. Officers arrived on the scene, spoke to the parties involved, and determined that no violation of law had occurred. One of the parties involved in the verbal dispute left the residence for the night to avoid any further conflicts.

#### Abandoned Vehicle 21-002498 100 Block Yeonas Drive, SW May 12 10:47 a.m.

An Officer responded to investigate a report of an abandoned trailer. The officer issued two parking citations and a 48-hour tow notice.

#### Found Property 21-002502 300 Block West Street, NW

#### May 12 1:59 p.m.

A resident reported that someone left a bicycle on his property. The bike was placed into VPD property for safekeeping.

#### Fraud 21-002507 500 Mashie Drive, SE May 12 5:06 p.m.

A resident reported that someone stole his identity and applied for unemployment benefits on his behalf. The resident was advised to file a claim with the Virginia Employment Commission.

#### Animal Case 21-002512 Battle St / Birch Street, NW May 13 9:00 a.m.

ACO Barker responded to the report of a sick raccoon. The officer observed that the animal was in grave condition and euthanized the raccoon. The carcass was transported to the animal shelter for disposal.

## **CRASHES**

## Lawyers Road and Church Street, NW 21-002403

#### May 7 5:39 p.m.

Two vehicle accident. Vehicle-2 was proceeding southbound on Lawyers Road NW. While entering the turn lane of Lawyers Road NW from Church Street NW, Vehicle-1 attempted to pass a stopped vehicle on Lawyers Road NW. The driver of the stopped vehicle waived the driver of Vehicle-1 into the intersection, signaling the lane was clear when it was not. Vehicle-1 struck Vehicle- 2's right front wheel. The driver of Vehicle-2 did not see Vehicle-1 due to the southbound vehicle on Lawyers Road NW.

Vehicle-2 was disabled in the accident and was towed from the scene. The driver of Vehicle-2 had the right of way. The driver of Vehicle-1 was issued a summons for failure to pay full-time attention.

#### 100 Block Church Street, NW 21-002440 May 8 6:10 p.m.

Vehicle-1 made a right turn from the alley at 100 Church Street NW. Vehicle-2 was parked and unoccupied. Vehicle-1 took the turn too sharp onto Church Street NW and collided with Vehicle-2. The driver of Vehicle-1 left a note for the owner of Vehicle-2. The officer and the owner of Vehicle-2 contacted the Driver of Vehicle-1 to facilitate the exchange of information.

### CASE UPDATES

None

Please contact MPO Juan Vazquez for further information on any of these cases at <u>Juan.vazquez@viennava.gov</u> or 703-255-7845.

## **CITIZEN NOTES**



#### Week of May 17, 2021

- Continue forming and pouring building foundation
- Start forming foundation walls and pour concrete
- Haul in suitable soils
- Haul of spoils from building footings

#### Week of May 24, 2021

- Continue with pouring building foundations
- Continue forming and pouring foundation walls
- Haul of spoils from building footings
- Haul in and compact suitable soils on East elevation

\*\* 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://vienna.prod.govaccess.org/your-government/town-departments-at-your-service/police-station-construction/-fsiteid-1</u>) for your information.

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.



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.