

# **VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS**

October 13, 2023

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 6, 2023 to October 12, 2023. Readers are reminded an "arrest" is based upon probable cause and does not always mean someone was physically taken into custody. Furthermore, it does not mean 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>)

On July 1, 2021, citizens will be able to access Community Policing data via <u>https://data.virginia.gov/stories/s/rden-cz3h</u>. The Vienna Police Department had started complying with this state law in July of 2020. The portal will contain all non-consensual investigatory stops made by the Vienna Police Departments and other law enforcement agencies in the commonwealth.

## UPDATE – Car Thefts and Tamperings

The National Capital Area, specifically the Northern Virginia area, has seen increased vehicle tampering incidents and vehicle thefts. A recent pattern has been identified where suspects enter the area in stolen vehicles and cruise streets between 3:00 AM and 7:00 AM. In addition to rifling through unlocked cars for valuables and money, they steal the vehicle when they encounter keys left in it. The Vienna Police Department would like to remind our community members to please stay vigilant, secure their cars and take the keys inside, and close and lock all doors of residences and garages to prevent criminals from targeting your property. Additionally, please call the police if you notice suspicious vehicles or people in your area, and share Ring doorbell or other security camera footage with us if you capture video related to these incidents. The Vienna Police Department is working closely with other Law Enforcement agencies in the region, coordinating our resources to investigate these crimes.

If you see suspicious activity or persons, we ask you to immediately notify the police department at 703-255-6366 or, in case of emergency call 911.

## **INCIDENTS**

Fraud 23-009522
200 Block Marian Circle, SW
Between September 19 at 12:00 p.m. and October 6 at 12:00 p.m.
A resident reported someone used her personal information to open several bank accounts.

Petit Larceny 23-009347 Pazzo Pomodoro 118 Branch Road, SE October 2 between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

On October 6, an employee reported a larceny that occurred on October 2 when a man came into the restaurant, picked up his take-out order, and left without paying for it.

Found Property 23-009307 400 Block Blair Road, NW October 5 8:26 a.m. A resident turned in a found bicycle.

Animal Case 23-009317 Glen Avenue and Liberty Lane, SW October 5 10:50 a.m. ACO Barker responded to the report of a sick fox. He found the animal in grave condition and euthanized the fox.

#### Suspicious Person 23-009337 400 Block Maple Avenue, East October 6 3:19 a.m.

An officer observed a man walking eastbound on Maple Avenue. The man was acting suspiciously and matched the description of a lookout given by Virginia State Police of a suspect who fled from the scene of a stolen vehicle. The officer detained the man until a State Police trooper arrived to identify him. After identifying the man and confirming there were no outstanding warrants for him, the man was released.

Death Investigation 23-009358 800 Block Plum Street, SW October 7 6:29 a.m.

Officers responded with rescue personnel when a resident found a relative unresponsive in their home. Attempts to resuscitate the resident were unsuccessful.

Telephone Case 23-009385 200 Block Locust Street, SE October 8 8:00 a.m.

A resident reported harassing communication she received from an ex-boyfriend.

#### Suspicious Event 23-009414 400 Block Mashie Drive, SE October 9 1:30 a.m.

A resident reported his security camera captured two individuals approaching his front door in the middle of the night and using their cell phone flashlights to look in his front window.

## Animal Case – Quarantine 23-009419 Hope Advanced Veterinary Center 140 Park Street, SE October 9 6:00 a.m.

An employee was bitten by a dog at the veterinary center. The dog was released to its owner who resides in McLean. The Fairfax County Health Department will follow up with the quarantine.

#### Suspicious Event 23-009400 Chick-Fil-A 540 Maple Avenue, West October 9 6:10 a.m.

Field.

Officers responding to the report of a fight in the parking lot located a man and woman arguing. The woman lived with the man's relative and was asked to leave the home, leading to the argument. The two parties agreed to go their separate ways.

#### Civil Dispute 23-009407 400 Block Fellini Court, SE October 9 9:11 a.m. A realtor reported a civil matter she had with an inspector.

Fraud 23-009411
200 Block Cedar Lane, SE
October 9 11:47 a.m.
A resident reported someone made an unauthorized charge on her Virginia (EBT) Electronic Benefit Transfer card.

Lost Property 23-009463 Caffi Field 120 Cherry Street, SE October 10 between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. A Vienna Parks and Recreation employee reported he lost his wallet while mowing at Caffi Lost Property 23-009455 800 Block Plum Street, SW October 10 1:11 p.m. A resident reported she lost a bottle of prescription medication.

Found Property 23-009468 DeSale Street and Tapawingo Road, SW October 10 9:10 p.m. A resident found a fanny pack at the intersection.

Petit Larceny 23-009523 Smoothie King 258 Maple Avenue, East October 12 3:17 p.m. An employee reported a man grabbed the tip jar from the front counter and fled the store with it.

## **CASE UPDATES**

None

## **CRASHES**

## 200 Lawyers Road, NW 23-009316

#### October 5 10:45 a.m.

Vehicle-2 was legally parked when it was struck by Vehicle-1. Vehicle-1 left the scene without providing their information.

#### Nutley Street and Courthouse Road, SW 23-9348 October 6 4:41 p.m.

Two vehicles were stopped northbound on Nutley Street at Courthouse Road. Vehicle-2 was in the center lane. Vehicle-1 was attempting to enter the left turn lane and struck the rear of Vehicle-1 causing minor damage to both vehicles.

#### Maple Avenue and Beulah Road, NE 23-009359 October 7 11:00 a.m.

Vehicle-2 was traveling westbound in the right lane of Maple Avenue. Vehicle-1 was eastbound, attempting to turn left onto Beulah Road when the two vehicles collided.

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

#### 540 Maple Avenue, West 23-009362 October 7 11:53 a.m.

Vehicle-1 reversed into Vehicle-2 in the carwash bay. Vehicle-1 continued to drive off, striking a wall while trying to exit the bay. Vehicle-1 fled the scene without stopping to provide their information.

#### Nutley Street and Tapawingo Road, SW 23-009432 October 10 8:00 a.m.

Two vehicles were traveling southbound on Nutley Street. Vehicle-2 was in the left lane. Vehicle-1 attempted to maneuver from the right lane into the left lane and sideswiped Vehicle-2 causing minor damage to both vehicles.

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

#### Windover Avenue and Knoll Street, NW 23-009517 October 12 3:20 p.m.

Vehicle-1 (a bicycle) was traveling eastbound on the sidewalk of Maple Avenue. Vehicle-2 was exiting from the parking garage when the two vehicles collided, causing the bicyclist to fall off the bicycle. Driver-2 stopped and assisted Driver-1 who advised she was fine and did not require any assistance. After Vehicle-2 left the scene, Driver-1 began to feel some pain and reported the accident but declined to be assessed by rescue personnel.

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

## **CITIZEN NOTES**



## Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

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

## Saturday, October 28, 2023, 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 28, 2023, between 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 temporary facility 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 consumers only after the batteries are removed. It is important to stress that the DEA is not responsible for removing batteries from the devices.

Intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will not be accepted due to associated hazards (The only exemption is EpiPens).

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

For DEA Authorized Collectors that provide year-round drop-off locations to the public to dispose of unwanted pharmaceuticals, go to <u>Controlled Substance Public Disposal Locations</u>.

For further information, please contact: MPO Juan Vazquez - Town of Vienna Police Department Juan.vazquez@viennava.gov or 703-255-7845 As we see a rise in these cases across the area and the country, we would like to share this important FBI Public Service Announcement and make the community aware.

**Vienna Police Department** 



Alert Number

I-091223-PSA

Questions regarding this PSA should be directed to your local FBI Field Office.

Local Field Office Locations: www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices

#### Violent Online Groups Extort Minors to Self-Harm and Produce Child Sexual Abuse Material

The FBI is warning the public of violent online groups deliberately targeting minor victims on publicly available messaging platforms to extort them into recording or live-streaming acts of self-harm and producing child sexual abuse material (CSAM). These groups use threats, blackmail, and manipulation to control the victims into recording or live-streaming self-harm, sexually explicit acts, and/or suicide; the footage is then circulated among members to extort victims further and exert control over them.

#### **VIOLENT ONLINE GROUPS**

The violent online groups use many names, including 676, 764, CVLT, Court, Kaskar, Harm Nation, Leak Society, and H3ll, but continuously evolve and form subgroups under different monikers. They operate on publicly available platforms, such as social media sites or mobile applications. To gain access to a majority of these groups, prospective members are required to live-stream or upload videos depicting their minor victims harming animals or committing self-harm, suicide, murder, or other acts of violence. The key motivators of these groups are to gain notoriety and rise in status within their groups.

#### TARGETING

The groups target minors between the ages of 8 and 17 years old, especially LGBTQ+ youth, racial minorities, and those who struggle with a variety of mental health issues, such as depression and suicidal ideation.

#### **EXTORTION AND SELF-HARM**

The groups use extortion and blackmail tactics, such as threatening to SWAT<sup>1</sup> or DOX<sup>2</sup> the minor victims, if they do not comply with the groups' requests, manipulate and extort minors into producing CSAM and videos depicting animal cruelty and self-harm. Self-harm activity includes cutting, stabbing, or fansigning<sup>3</sup>. Members of the groups threaten to share sexually explicit videos or photos of the minor victims with their family, friends, and/or post to the internet. The groups control their victims through extreme fear and many members have an end-goal of forcing the minors they extort into committing suicide on live-stream for their own entertainment or their own sense of fame.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The FBI urges the public to exercise caution when posting or direct messaging personal photos, videos, and identifying information on social media, dating apps, and other online sites. Although seemingly innocuous when posted or shared, the images and videos can provide malicious actors an abundant supply of content to exploit for criminal activity. Advancements in content creation technology and accessible personal images online present new opportunities for malicious actors to find and target minor victims. This leaves them vulnerable to embarrassment, harassment, extortion, financial loss, or continued long-term re-victimization. Further, the FBI recommends looking out for warning signs indicating a minor may be experiencing self-harm or suicidal ideations. Being able to recognize the warning signs of self-harm will help you provide immediate support.

The FBI recommends the public consider the following warning signs regarding self-harm or suicide:

- Sudden behavior changes such as becoming withdrawn, moody, or irritable.
- Sudden changes in appearance, especially neglect of appearance.
- Changes in eating or sleeping habits.
- Dropping out of activities and becoming more isolated and withdrawn.
- Scars, often in patterns.
- Fresh cuts, scratches, bruises, bite marks, burns, or other wounds.
- Carvings, such as words or symbols, on the skin.
- Wearing long sleeves or pants in hot weather.
- Threatening to commit suicide and openly talking about death, not being wanted or needed or not being around.

The FBI recommends the public consider the following when sharing content (e.g., photos and videos) or engaging with individuals online:

- Monitor children's online activity and discuss risks associated with sharing personal content.
- Use discretion when posting images, videos, and personal content online, particularly those that include children or their information.

- Images, videos, or personal information posted online can be captured, manipulated, and distributed by malicious actors without your knowledge or consent.
- Once content is shared on the internet, it can be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to remove once it is circulated or posted by other parties.
- Run frequent online searches of you and your children's information (e.g., full name, address, phone number, etc.) to help identify the exposure and spread of personal information on the internet.
- Apply privacy settings on social media accounts—including setting profiles and your friends' lists as private—to limit the public exposure of your photos, videos, and other personal information.
- Consider using reverse image search engines to locate any photos or videos that have circulated on the internet without your knowledge.
- Exercise caution when accepting friend requests, communicating, engaging in video conversations, or sending images to individuals, you do not know personally. Be especially wary of individuals who immediately ask or pressure you to provide them photos or videos. Those items could be screen-captured, recorded, manipulated, shared without your knowledge or consent, and used to exploit you or someone you know.
- Do not provide any unknown or unfamiliar individuals with money or other items of value. Complying with malicious actors does not guarantee your sensitive photos or content will not be shared.
- Use discretion when interacting with known individuals online who appear to be acting outside their normal pattern of behavior. Malicious actors can easily manipulate hacked social media accounts.
- Secure social media and other online accounts using complex passwords or passphrases and multi-factor authentication.
- Research the privacy, data sharing, and data retention policies of social media platforms, apps, and websites before uploading and sharing images, videos, or other personal content.

#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

If you are worried about someone who might be self-harming or is at risk of suicide the following resources may help:

- Consult your pediatrician or other health care provider who can provide an initial evaluation or a referral to a mental health professional.
- Connecting your child to a mental health resource can help them learn healthy coping skills for intense emotions and help reduce the risk of a serious injury.
- If it is an immediate, life-threatening emergency dial 9-1-1.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children provides a free service known as **Take It Down**, which helps minor victims, even if they are now an adult, but were victimized as a minor, with online

image or video files, remove or stop the online sharing of nude, or sexually explicit content taken while under 18 years old. For more information, visit <u>https://takeitdown.ncmec.org</u>.

If you believe you are the victim of a crime using these types of tactics, retain all information regarding the incident (e.g., usernames, email addresses, websites or names of platforms used for communication, photos, videos, etc.) and immediately report it to:

- FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at <u>www.ic3.gov</u>
- FBI Field Office [www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices or 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324)]
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (1-800-THE LOST or <u>www.cybertipline.org</u>)

Reporting these crimes can help law enforcement identify malicious actors and prevent further victimization.

<sup>1</sup>SWAT also referred to as SWATTING is the action or practice of making a prank call to police or emergency services in an attempt bring about the dispatch of armed police officers such as a SWAT team to a particular address.

<sup>2</sup>DOX also referred to as DOXXING is the action of obtaining and publishing personally identifiable information (PII) on the internet, usually for malicious intent.

<sup>3</sup>Fansigning is writing or cutting specific numbers, letters, symbols, or names onto your body.

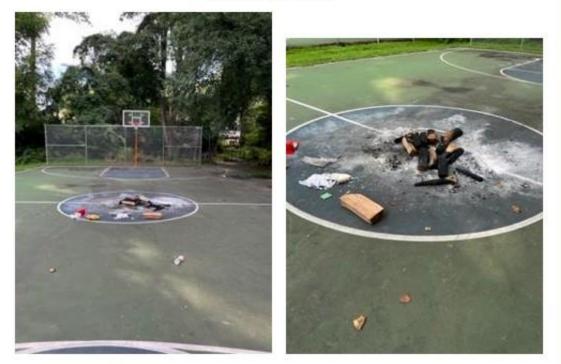


# Vienna Police Department INFORMATION BULLETIN

FOR PUBLIC DISSEMINATION

# **DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY**

On Friday, July 28, 2023, around 10:00 pm, two high school or early college age, white males built a "camp fire" on the Glyndon Park basketball court. The fire caused significant damage to the court surface.



If you have any information regarding this fire, please contact Det. Patrick Crandall, patrick.crandall@viennava.gov or Det. Bradley Reedy, bradley.reedy@viennava.gov (703) 386-4008, reference case number 2023-7214

Detective B. Reedy, #119 215 Center Street South, Vienna VA 22180 Bradley.Reedy@Viennava.gov (703) 386-4008

August 22, 2023



#### Vienna Police Department



The emergency technology company, **RapidSOS**, has partnered with the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, and Direct Relief to sponsor a no-cost voluntary health database. RapidSOS is an intelligent safety platform that securely links life-saving data from 500M+ connected devices, apps, and sensors from 90+ global technology companies to over 450,000 first responders across 15,000 agencies nationwide. Whether there's an unsafe moment or an emergency, RapidSOS Ready devices, homes, or buildings deliver essential data to first responders when it matters most.

Town of Vienna residents may create a free emergency health profile that can be easily shared with first responders during a crisis or emergency to ensure they can access your critical health and medical information when you need help. Your created profile provides real-time details about your medical history, emergency contacts, allergies, etc. It only takes a few minutes to set up and is voluntary.

You can enter behavioral health information, pre-existing medical conditions, allergies, emergency contacts, and other relevant details into the database. This information is associated with your mobile phone number and will only be available to first responders when they receive an emergency call from your provided telephone number. You can choose the amount of information you provide based on your discretion.

Regularly reviewing and updating your profile is vital to ensure first responders have the most up-to-date information, especially after significant health or life changes.

We encourage Vienna residents to take the first step in ensuring their safety during an emergency by creating a free emergency health profile today at <u>https://www.emergencyprofile.org/</u>.

