

# VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

March 1, 2024

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 23, 2024 to February 29, 2024. 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 Juan Vazquez for further information at Juan.vazquez@viennava.gov)

On July 1, 2021, citizens will be able to access Community Policing data via <a href="https://data.virginia.gov/stories/s/rden-cz3h">https://data.virginia.gov/stories/s/rden-cz3h</a>. 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**

Petit Larceny 24-001859

Wawa

465 Maple Avenue, West

February 13 5:43 p.m.

On February 20, an employee reported an incident on February 13 when a customer completed a transaction at the self-checkout kiosk, took a charity coin case, and left the store.

Shoplifting 24-002054 Giant Food 359 Maple Avenue, East February 18 10:22 p.m.

On February 26, a manager reported a shoplifting that occurred in the store on February 18 when a man and woman came into the store, placed personal items into backpacks, and left the store without paying for them.

Residential Alarm 24-001940 1100 Block Drake Street, SW February 23 7:45 a.m.

Officers responding to a residential alarm found an unsecured door. The officers searched the residence and found nothing suspicious. Officers spoke to the homeowners at the scene.

Found Property 24-002008 1100 Block Drake Street, SW February 24 3:13 p.m.

A resident found a bag of suspected marijuana in the neighborhood and turned it in for destruction.

Lost Property 24-002104 Marshall Road Elementary School 730 Marshall Road, SW February 24 4:00 p.m.

A resident reported she lost her Apple watch in the area of the basketball court at the school.

Destruction of Property 24-002071 100 Block East Street, NE

Between February 25 at 6:00 p.m. and February 26 at 10:30 p.m.

A resident reported someone covered the driver's door handle of her vehicle with peanut butter.

Juvenile 24-002041 Vienna Police Station 215 Center Street, South February 25 11:08 p.m.

A juvenile came to the police station stating he had run away from the Fairfax Juvenile Shelter Care. While officers were confirming the juvenile's statements with the shelter, the juvenile left the station and attempted to evade capture. The officers detained the juvenile in the parking lot of Whole Foods, where he began complaining of pain, but showed no visible injuries. Rescue personnel were summoned to assess the juvenile and he began making concerning statements. Ofc. Mayar took the juvenile into custody on an Emergency Custody Order and rescue personnel transported him to an area hospital for evaluation and treatment.

Arrest – Alcohol Violation 24-002066 200 Block Cedar Lane, SE February 26 2:38 p.m.

An officer was on patrol when he observed a man behind the building drinking alcohol. PFC Garcia issued a summons to the 46-year-old man from Patrick Street, SE in Vienna charging Drinking Alcohol in Public. The man was released on his signature.

Suspicious Event 24-002106 Marshall Road Elementary School 730 Marshall Road, SW February 27 2:00 p.m.

The school staff reported a student was being disruptive and they were trying to handle the situation when a suspicious man began to interfere and started filming the interaction.

Animal Case 24-002159 300 Block Locust Street, SE February 28 1:15 p.m.

A resident advised he was walking in the area of the tot lot near the intersection of Branch Road and Locust Street when he saw a man with his dog off-leash. The resident reported the dog was acting aggressively toward him, even after the owner put the leash back on it. ACO Barker spoke to the owner and advised him of the Town's leash ordinance.

Arrest – Warrant Service 24-002165 Vienna Police Station 215 Center Street, South February 28 5:30 p.m.

A man came to the station advising there was an active warrant for him in Louisa County, Virginia. Ofc. Fitchue confirmed their Sheriff's Department held a misdemeanor warrant charging Petit Larceny for the 33-year-old man from Congressional Lane in Louisa, Virginia. Ofc. Fitchue served the warrant and released the man on his signature.

### **Assist EMS 24-002191**

# **Courthouse Road, SW**

# February 29 11:21 p.m.

Officers responded to the report of a juvenile having physical and emotional issues. The juvenile was transported to an area hospital by rescue personnel for evaluation.

# CASE UPDATES

None

# **CRASHES**

# 600 Block Tapawingo Road, SW 24-001947

# February 21 4:00 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was legally parked facing westbound on Tapawingo Road. Vehicle-1 struck Vehicle-2 and fled the scene.

# Church Street and Mill Street, NE 24-001949

# February 23 10:49 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was traveling eastbound on Church Street, NE. Vehicle-1 was parked on Church Street, the driver attempted to pull into the roadway and collided with Vehicle-2.

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

# Church Street and Center Street, NE 24-002093

# February 27 10:50 a.m.

Vehicle-2 was traveling northbound on Center Street and Vehicle-1 was traveling westbound on Church Street when the two vehicles collided.

Driver-1 was charged with Failure to Pay Full Time and Attention.

# Maple Avenue and Follin Lane, SE 24-002153

### February 28 12:52 p.m.

Two vehicles were eastbound in the left turn lane on Maple Avenue, turning into the parking lot of 800 Maple Avenue, East. Vehicle-1 ran into the rear of Vehicle-2.

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

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

# **CITIZEN NOTES**

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** 



**September 12, 2023** 

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 SWAT¹ or DOX² 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 fansigning³. 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 <a href="https://takeitdown.ncmec.org">https://takeitdown.ncmec.org</a>.

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>2</sup>Fansigning is writing or cutting specific numbers, letters, symbols, or names onto your body.



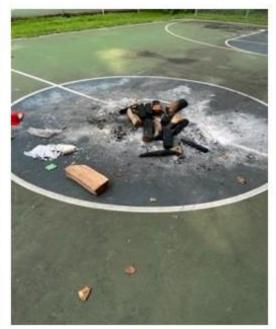
# Vienna Police Department INFORMATION BULLETIN

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, <a href="mailto:patrick.crandall@viennava.gov">patrick.crandall@viennava.gov</a> or Det. Bradley Reedy, <a href="mailto:bradley.reedy@viennava.gov">bradley.reedy@viennava.gov</a> (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 <a href="https://www.emergencyprofile.org/">https://www.emergencyprofile.org/</a>.

