

## VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

**September 13, 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 September 6, 2024 to September 12, 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**

Fraud 24-009832

1100 Block Kings Way Court, SW

Between August 25 at 12:00 p.m. and August 27 at 12:00 p.m.

A resident reported fraudulent activity on his bank account.

Suspicious Person 24-010041 200 Block Yeonas Drive, SW September 5 6:54 a.m.

Officers responded to a report of a suspicious man on a bicycle in the area. They located and identified the man. There was no indication that he had committed any crime.

Animal Case – Quarantine 24-010085 500 Block Council Court, NE September 5 11:00 a.m.

An employee was bitten by a cat during a procedure at the Hope Advanced Veterinary Center. The cat's owner was advised of the 10-day quarantine.

Trespassing 24-010051 McDonald's 544 Maple Avenue, West September 5 12:40 p.m.

An employee reported a disorderly man in the restaurant who was yelling and making threats toward the manager. At the employee's request, the man was trespassed from the restaurant and advised that he may be charged if he returned.

A short time later citizens reported the same man acting disorderly walking through the neighborhood in the area of Roland Street and Liberty Lane, SW. Officers located the man on Johnson Street, SW. There was no indication that he had committed any crime.

Found Property 24-010052 600 Block Mill Street, NE September 5 12:59 p.m. A citizen turned in a found wallet.

Fraud 24-010055 100 Block Casmar Street, SE September 5 1:55 p.m.

A resident reported an unauthorized charge to his credit card.

## Arrest – Driving While Intoxicated 24-010068 Kingsley Road and Potterton Circle, SW September 6 12:31 a.m.

An officer observed a driver commit a traffic offense and initiated a traffic stop. Upon the officer's interaction with the driver, he detected signs of impairment. The man failed to complete a series of field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest.

Ofc. Temple transported the 35-year-old man from Hallran Road in Falls Church, Virginia to the Vienna Police Station where he provided a sample of his breath for analysis. The man was then transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Driving While Intoxicated and Driving While Intoxicated Second Offense.

Arrest – Alcohol Violation 24-010091 Park Street and Adahi Road, SE September 6 12:56 p.m.

An officer observed a man drinking alcohol in public.

PFC Mayar issued a summons to the 28-year-old man from Monument Drive in Fairfax, Virginia. The man was released on his signature.

**Petit Larceny 24-010115** 

7-11

537 Maple Avenue, West September 6 10:19 p.m.

An employee reported two men entered the store, stole wine, and fled the area in a vehicle.

Police Service 24-010136 Vienna Gun & Gold 386 Maple Avenue, East September 7 10:52 a.m.

A citizen found a gun while cleaning out a vacant house in Washington, DC, and was attempting to sell it at the store. The employees were unable to take the gun without knowing its history. The citizen turned the firearm over to an officer for destruction.

# Driving Under the Influence of Drugs 24-010150 400 Block Courthouse Road, SW September 7 7:40 p.m.

An officer observed a driver commit a traffic offense and initiated a traffic stop. Upon the officer's interaction with the man, he detected signs of impairment. The man failed a series of field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest. The man was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he provided a sample of his blood for analysis. The magistrate declined to issue a warrant for the man until his blood test results were received. The man was released from custody, and charges are pending the blood draw results.

#### Fraud 24-010152

1100 Block Lakewood Drive, SW

September 7 8:46 p.m.

A resident began receiving notifications of fraudulent charges to one of her credit cards. She later found the card had been stolen from her wallet that she had left in her vehicle.

Arrest – Drunk In Public 24-010165 Pazzo Pomodoro 118 Branch Road, SE

September 8 1:39 a.m.

An employee reported a customer was refusing to pay his tab and leave the restaurant. Upon the officer's interaction with the man, they detected signs of impairment.

PFC Fitchue arrested the 32-year-old man from Oak Valley Drive in Vienna. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Drunk In Public.

Trespassing 24-010196 FB Meekins Preschool 900 Maple Avenue, East September 9 1:24 p.m.

A school employee reported a suspicious man who was walking past the school and making threatening gestures toward the students and teachers. Officers spoke to the man and trespassed him from the school.

Trespassing 24-010198
The Red Bird Hot Chicken & Fries
282 Cedar Lane, SE
September 9 4:39 p.m.

An employee reported a disorderly man. Officers spoke to the man who advised he was seated outside the restaurant with another man when the employee asked him to leave leading to an argument. At the employee's request, the man was trespassed from the premises.

Found Property 24-010201 Maple Avenue and W&OD Bike Trail, SE September 9 9:24 p.m.

A citizen found a key fob in the area.

Police Service 24-010237 400 Block Hine Street, SE September 10 6:50 p.m.

A resident turned in ammunition for destruction.

#### Stolen Vehicle 24-010251

#### 9600 Block Counsellor Drive, NW

### Between September 10 at 7:30 p.m. and September 11 at 6:45 a.m.

A resident reported her vehicle was stolen from in front of her home. She had left her purse with a spare key inside the vehicle when she parked it on the roadway.

## **CASE UPDATES**

None

## **CRASHES**

### Desale Street and Moore Avenue, SW 24-009546

### August 23 2:34 p.m.

Two vehicles were traveling eastbound. Driver-1 believed Vehicle-2 was parked on the right side of the road and pulled into traffic striking her vehicle. Driver-2 stated that a school bus stopped going westbound and she stopped for it when Vehicle-1 tried to pass her and struck the left side of her vehicle.

### 100 Block Kingsley Road, SW 24-009696

## August 27 11:50 a.m.

Vehicle-1 (a pizza delivery driver) pulled into a resident's driveway, struck the midpole of the carport, and left the scene without leaving their information.

## 700 Block Kingsley Road, SW 24-009917 September 1 4:45 p.m.

Vehicle-1 was traveling eastbound on Kingsley Road, SW when the driver lost control and struck two legally parked vehicles. Vehicle-1 and Vehicle-2 were towed from the scene. Vehicle-3 was damaged, but driveable.

Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Texting While Driving.

## 1400 Block Cottage Street, SW 24-010061 September 5 8:37 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was legally parked with the driver inside on Cottage Street facing southbound. Vehicle-1 was southbound on Cottage Street, SW when he struck Vehicle-2. Both drivers were assessed by rescue personnel but refused to be transported to a hospital.

## Nutley Street and Tapawingo Road, SW 24-010114 September 6 10:10 p.m.

Vehicle-1 was southbound on Nutley Street, turning left onto Tapawingo Road. Vehicle-2 was traveling northbound in the left lane on Nutley Street when the two vehicles collided.

Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Yield Right of Way.

## Cottage Street and Elm Street, SW 24-010135 September 7 10:41 a.m.

Vehicle-1 was traveling eastbound on Elm Street, SW. Vehicle-2 was traveling northbound on Cottage Street, SW when the two vehicles collided.

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

## Marshall Road and Hillcrest Drive, SW 24-010179 September 8 6:55 p.m.

Vehicle-1 was eastbound on Marshall Road, disregarded the stop sign, and attempted to turn left onto Hillcrest Drive. Vehicle-2 was northbound on Hillcrest, turning left onto Marshall Road when it was struck by Vehicle-1, causing it to strike the road signs and come to a stop in the yard of 400 Marshall Road.

Driver-1 was issued two summonses charging Failure to Obey a Stop Sign and Driving Outside of the Provisions of their Learner's Permit.

## 300 Block Courthouse Road, SW 24-010209 September 9 7:00 p.m.

Vehicle-1 struck a portable message board and fled the scene without stopping.

## 200 Block Maple Avenue, West 24-010231 September 10 5:20 p.m.

Two vehicles were traveling westbound on Maple Avenue. Vehicle-1 ran into the rear of Vehicle-2

## Maple Avenue and Lawyers Road, NW 24-010236 September 10 6:45 p.m.

Two vehicles were traveling eastbound on Maple Avenue. Vehicle-1 was in the left lane turn lane, merging into the lane to go straight. Vehicle-2 was in the right lane, merging left into the same lane when the two vehicles collided.

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

## **CITIZEN NOTES**



#### **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: <a href="https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices">www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices</a>

#### 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 <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 www.ic3.gov
- 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 www.cybertipline.org)

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**



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>.

