

# **VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS**

October 11, 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 October 4, 2024 to October 10, 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**

Property Found 24-11040 100 Block Church St, NE October 3, 09:00 a.m.

A Town of Vienna employee turned in a Bank of America debit card.

Assault 24-11061 7-11 537 Maple Ave, W October 4, 2:20 p.m.

An employee reported that a man had come into the store who had previously stolen items. The employee attempted to keep the man in the store by blocking the doorway while he called the police. The man bit the employee and fled out of the store. An officer was able to identify the suspect and responded to the magistrate's office and obtained a warrant for assault and battery.

Suspicious Event 24-11075 500 Block Tapawingo Rd, SW October 5, 9:00 a.m.

A resident reported they had received a series of threatening text messages. Officers responded and reviewed the messages. After determining no crime had been committed officers provided the resident with resources to help address the issue.

Drunk In Public 24-11084 100 Block Maple Ave, E October 5, 6:13 p.m.

Officers responded to the area for a report of a female stumbling around the parking lot. When officers arrived, they made contact with a subject matching the description. Officers observed numerous signs of intoxication and placed the woman under arrest.

PFC Stroh arrested the 60 year-old woman from Vienna, VA. She was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention center where she was charged with Drunk in Public.

Grand Larceny 24-11086 100 Block Church St, NE

October 5, between 2:30 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

A resident reported that while attending Oktoberfest her wallet containing credit cards, cash, and an ID was stolen out of her purse. After contacting her bank, she noticed that the credit cards from her wallet were used numerous times to make purchases in and around Vienna.

Open Door 24-11102 Crumbl Cookie 203 Maple Ave, E October 6, 12:27 p.m.

A caller stated they found the front door to the business unlocked despite it being closed. Officers responded and searched the building but did not find anything suspicious. An employee responded to the scene and secured the door.

Welfare Check 24-11110 100 Block Shepherdson Ln, NE October 6, 11:04 p.m.

A resident called and was concerned her husband had taken their eleven-month-old daughter and left the house after an argument. Officers were eventually able to make contact with the husband and he returned home with the daughter.

Trespassing 24-11121 Westwood Country Club 800 Maple Ave E October 7, 11:18 a.m.

Employees called to report a man who had previously been trespassed from the property had returned. Officers responded and attempted to make contact with the man who was parked in his vehicle. As officers tried to speak with him the man fled the scene in his vehicle at a high rate of speed.

Officers were able to identify the suspect and responded to the magistrate's office to obtain warrants. The next morning the subject was arrested by Fairfax County Police. The 36 year-old man from Vienna, VA was charged with four counts of Trespassing, Obstruction, Fleeing to Elude, and Reckless Driving.

Fight 24-11122 100 Block Cedar Ln, SW October 7, 11:38 a.m.

Officers responded to the area for a fight that had just occurred. After speaking with both parties and reviewing security camera footage no charges were filed.

Property Found 24-11129 100 Block Saint Andrews Dr, NE October 7, 5:27 p.m.

A resident turned in a wallet they had found on the street.

Petit Larceny 24-11132 Whole Foods 143 Maple Ave, E October 7, 7:05 p.m.

A customer called to report his wallet had been stolen out of his shopping cart. After speaking with the victim and the store employees, officers were able to identify the suspect. Officers notified the victim and he decided not to pursue charges.

Mental Case 24-11140 100 Block Market Square, NW October 7, 11:28 p.m.

Officers responded to the area for the report of an individual who was combative and possibly suicidal. After making contact with the individual and her parents it was determined this was largely due to a substance abuse issue. The individual was transported to Fairfax Hospital for treatment.

Fraud 24-11155 300 Block Center St, N October 8, 11:32 a.m.

An officer responded to the area to meet with a caller who was the victim of a fraud. She advised while in the process of closing on the purchase of a home she received an email with instructions to wire money to the title company. After wiring the money she contacted the employee she was working with and discovered that the email was fraudulent, and she had sent the money to someone posing as the company.

Suspicious Event 24-11168 Wawa 465 Maple Ave, W October 8, 2:46 p.m.

An employee called to report a man was acting disorderly in the store. Officers checked the area but could not locate the individual. After speaking with employees and reviewing camera footage it was determined no crime had occurred.

Animal Case 24-11136 900 Block Sioux Ct, SE October 8, 8:40 p.m.

A caller advised her dog had been in a fight with a raccoon. Officers responded and found the raccoon was deceased and the dog had no injuries. The officer confirmed the dog had a current rabies vaccine and issue a quarantine form to the owner. The raccoon was transported to the shelter to be tested.

Property Found 24-11202 500 Block Maple Ave, W October 9, 10:45 a.m.

A resident turned in a driver's license they had found on the street.

Suspicious Event 24-11204 500 Block Meadow Ln, SW October 9, 12:00 p.m.

A UPS employee came to the station to report an ongoing issue with a homeowner. He reported the homeowner has been verbally attacking him when he tries to deliver packages to her home. The driver has already been pursuing solutions with his company, he just wanted to make VPD aware of the issue. Although no crime had occurred officers gave him resources he could use to help remedy the situation.

Fraud 24-11207 7-11 537 Maple Ave, W October 9, 3:45 p.m.

An employee reported they were a victim of a scam over the phone. An individual called the store and advised they were from corporate headquarters. They were able to convince the employee to scan barcodes from numerous gift cards, which were then stolen.

Service 24-11213 100 Block Maple Ave, E October 9, 5:30 p.m.

A resident came to the station to report an incident involving his ex-wife. The resident advised he encountered his ex-wife, who has a protective order against him, while shopping with his daughter. When he noticed her, he immediately left the area and notified a store employee before calling the police. It was determined the contact was incidental and a product of both parties still living in the area.

Petit Larceny 24-11222 200 Block Locust St, SE October 10, 7:46 a.m.

A resident called and reported she believed someone had stolen prescription medicine out of her house. The caller advised she left her house for thirty minutes and was unsure if she left her door unlocked. The next time she went to take her medicine she noticed several pills were missing.

Service 24-11225 600 Block Kearney Ct, SW October 10, 9:00 a.m.

A resident came to the station to turn in ammunition to be destroyed.

Trespassing 24-11228 100 Block Park St, SE October 10, 10:36 a.m.

A company called to report a former employee had come to the store and was harassing employees. Officers arrived and made contact with the subject, who advised he was there to collect his final paycheck. The company advised he would receive his paycheck next week and the subject was trespassed from returning to the property.

Petit Larceny 24-11232 7-11 427 Maple Ave, W October 10, 11:18 a.m.

Officers responded to the store for a report of an individual who had been acting belligerent and had stolen numerous items. The subject was no longer on scene, but officers were given a description of him and searched the area. Later that afternoon officers observed the individual in the area and made contact with him.

PFC Mayar arrested the 30 year-old from Portsmouth, VA and transported him to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Petit Larceny.

Fraud 24-11247 Chick-fil-a 538 Maple Ave, W October 10, 9:12 p.m.

While at the restaurant, officers were approached by an employee who advised someone had just paid for their meal with counterfeit currency. Officers made contact with the juvenile who advised he had received the currency from his friend who had just left the restaurant. His friend responded back to the scene, and both were questioned about the currency. Officers then had both juvenile's parents respond to the restaurant and once on scene the juveniles were counseled on the seriousness of their actions.

# **CASE UPDATES**

None.

# **CRASHES**

300 Block Maple Ave, E 24-11104 October 6, 1:48

Vehicle #1 was unoccupied and parked in a parking lot in the 300 Block of Maple Ave E. Vehicle #2 backed up and struck vehicle #1. Vehicle #2 fled the scene.

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

# **300 Block Maple Ave, E 24-11203**

## October 9, 12:12 p.m.

Vehicle #2 was traveling Westbound in the left lane of Maple Ave East. Vehicle #1 exited the parking lot of 386 of Maple Ave East onto Maple Ave East.

Vehicle #1 failed to pay full time and attention and struck Vehicle #2.

# Maple Ave E/Follin Ln SE 24-11208

## October 9, 1:37 p.m.

Vehicle #2 was traveling Eastbound on Maple Ave East in front of Vehicle #1. Vehicle #2 stopped at the traffic light at Maple Ave East/Follin Ln SE.

Vehicle #1 followed too close and rear-ended Vehicle #2

## Church St NE/WOD Trail 24-11209

## October 9, 3:37 p.m.

Vehicle#1 was traveling Northbound on W&OD trail crossing Church St NE. Vehicle #2 was traveling Westbound on Church St NE and backed up, striking Driver #1. Driver #1 suffered injuries, and EMS transported her to Fairfax Inova Hospital.

## Park St SE/Locust St SE 24-11218

## October 9, 10:53 p.m.

Vehicle #1 was traveling southbound on Park St SE when it ran off the road at 201 Park St SE, and struck a pedestrian crossing sign, before crossing the double yellow line and striking the northbound yield sign on the opposite sidewalk.

# Maple Ave W/Courthouse Rd SW 24-11235

## October 10, 1:19

Vehicle #2 was stopped in the eastbound left lane for the red light on Maple Ave W at the intersection with Courthouse Rd SW. Vehicle #1 was traveling eastbound in the left lane on Maple Ave W behind Vehicle #2. Driver #1 attempted to stop behind Vehicle #2 but approached too closely. The front of Vehicle #1 stuck the rear of Vehicle #2.

#### 100 Block Park St, NE 24-11236

## October 10, 2:16 p.m.

Vehicle #2 was traveling Northbound on Park St NE. Vehicle # exited the westside of Wells Fargo Bank facing Park St NE.

Vehicle #1 failed to pay full time and attention and struck Vehicle #2

Please contact Ruth Rohr for further information on any of these cases at Ruth.Rohr@viennava.gov 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 26, 2024, 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 26, 2024, 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 in front of the Vienna Police Department 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

#### **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 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>.

