

VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

November 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 October 25, 2024 to October 31, 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 https://data.virginia.gov/stories/s/rden-cz3h. 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

INCIDENTS

Fraud 24-011978

Auto Body of Vienna

330 Dominion Road, NE

Between October 17 at 9:00 a.m. and October 29 at 2:00 p.m.

An employee reported that a check they had written to another company was stolen from the U.S. mail, altered, and someone unsuccessfully attempted to cash it.

Found Property 24-11916

700 Block Center Street, South

October 24 7:00 a.m.

On October 29th, a resident reported that a child's scooter had been left in her front yard several days earlier and never reclaimed.

Animal Case 24-011769

Church of the Holy Comforter

543 Beulah Road, NE

October 25 10:06 a.m.

A deer became entangled in an electric fence. An officer responded with ACO Barker and euthanized the deer.

Vehicle Tampering 24-011777

300 Block Maple Avenue, West

October 25 between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

A citizen reported she left her vehicle legally parked in the parking garage. When she returned, she found the right rear window was broken. A paving company was working in the garage and may have accidentally caused the damage.

Robbery 24-011780

200 Block Cedar Lane, SE

October 25 between 5:50 p.m. and 6:10 p.m.

Three individuals obtained money from another individual through a gambling scheme. This is being investigated as a possible robbery.

Hope Advanced Veterinary Center 24-11784

140 Park Street, SE

October 25 10:11 p.m.

An employee reported that two juveniles were observed on security cameras entering the building and taking the elevator to the third floor where they unsuccessfully tried to open office doors. The juveniles then entered the employee's office and began asking questions about their pets before leaving the building.

Arrest – Eluding Police 24-011799 Church Street and Center Street, NE October 26 1:44 a.m.

An officer observed a driver commit a traffic offense and initiated a traffic stop. The driver turned off his headlights and fled eastbound on Church Street at an excessive rate of speed. The officer immediately terminated his attempt to stop the vehicle. A short time later, Fairfax County Police responded to a single-vehicle accident off Beulah Road in their jurisdiction. It was determined to be the same vehicle as the one from this incident.

Ofc. Temple obtained warrants for the driver, a 20-year-old man from Meadowmere Drive in Vienna. The warrants, a felony charging Eluding Police, a misdemeanor charging Reckless Driving, and two traffic summonses were served by the Fairfax County Police Department.

Vandalism 24-11804 815 Tapawingo Road, SW October 26 8:23 a.m.

Someone used black paint to write and draw obscenities on the asphalt.

Found Property 24-011816 Sushi Oishii 234 Maple Avenue, East October 26 4:23 p.m.

A citizen found a wallet at the restaurant.

Natural Death 24-011817 1000 Block Echols Street, SE October 26 7:30 p.m.

Officers responded with rescue personnel for the report of CPR being performed on an unresponsive resident. Rescue personnel determined that the man, who suffered from medical issues, was deceased.

Petit Larceny 24-011914 VA ABC Store 419 Maple Avenue, East October 26 8:53 p.m.

On October 29th, an employee reported that while reviewing their security video he observed a man conceal alcohol on October 26th and leave the store without paying for it.

Arrest – Drunk In Public 24-11824 700 Block Marshall Road, SW October 26 10:49 p.m.

A citizen reported that he was driving his friend home from a night out when the friend became disorderly in the vehicle, began pulling on the steering wheel, and caused the driver to lose control of the vehicle before coming to a stop. Upon the officer's interaction with the passenger, they detected signs of intoxication.

Ofc. Vance arrested the 31-year-old man from Premont Street in Springfield, Virginia. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Drunk in Public.

Animal Case – Quarantine 24-011901 Flagship Carwash 540 Maple Avenue, West October 27 3:00 p.m.

A citizen reported she was at the car wash with her juvenile son when her son fell and may have been scratched by a dog that was on a leash. ACO Barker spoke to the dog's owner who resides in Fairfax County. She observed the incident when the boy approached her dog, but stated the dog did not scratch or bite the child. The dog is current on its vaccinations. The case was forwarded to the Fairfax County Health Department for follow-up.

Fraud 24-011878 1400 Block DeSale Street, SW October 27 9:30 p.m.

A Lyft driver reported that someone fraudulently accessed his Lyft application and took money from his account.

Natural Death 24-011902 1400 Block Ross Drive, SW October 28 7:30 a.m.

A woman found her elderly father deceased in the residence.

Found Property 24-011910 VA ABC Store 419 Maple Avenue, East October 29 2:05 p.m.

A citizen left their wallet on the counter of the store.

Police Service 24-011918 Vienna Police Station 215 Center Street, South October 29 4:46 p.m.

A citizen turned in ammunition for destruction.

Domestic Assault 24-011924 Lincoln Street, NW October 29 10:20 p.m.

Officers responded to assist a juvenile who reported that an argument she had with her mother escalated when her mother assaulted her. The officers found no visible signs of an assault and saw the incident was more of a disciplinary issue between the two. Both parties were advised of the services available to them.

Animal Case 24-011926 300 Block Park Street, NE October 29 10:44 p.m.

A resident found a dog in his yard. After attempts to locate an owner were unsuccessful, an officer transported the dog to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter.

Suspicious Event 24-011976 United Bank 374 Maple Avenue, East October 30 between 4:35 p.m. and 4:43 p.m.

On October 31st, an employee reported an incident from the previous day where a woman was photographing license plates of vehicles parked in the bank parking lot.

Grand Larceny 24-011980 Beekman Place Antiques 126 Maple Avenue, East October 31 between 1:05 p.m. and 1:20 p.m.

An employee reported a man and woman entered the store. While the woman spoke to him, the man stole a display case containing a large amount of jewelry, left through the rear door, and fled the parking lot in a vehicle.

CASE UPDATES

None.

CRASHES

Park Street and Church Street, NE 24-011751

October 24 4:55 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was westbound on Church Street, turning left onto southbound Park Street. Vehicle-1 was eastbound on Church, turning right onto Park Street when the two vehicles collided.

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

400 Block Maple Avenue, West 24-011778

October 25 2:50 p.m.

Vehicle-1 was turning right from the parking lot of 431 Maple Avenue, West. Vehicle-2 was westbound on Maple Avenue when the two vehicles collided.

501 Maple Avenue, West 24-011882

October 28 3:27 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was traveling southbound on Nutley Street, SW. Vehicle-1 was exiting the parking lot of 501 Maple Avenue onto Nutley Street when the two vehicles collided.

300 Block Maple Avenue, West 24-011883

October 28 4:32 p.m.

Two vehicles were traveling eastbound in the left lane of Maple Avenue. Vehicle-2 stopped for a pedestrian. Vehicle-1 ran into the rear of Vehicle-2.

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

500 Block Maple Avenue, West 24-011932

October 30 10:11 a.m.

Three vehicles were traveling in the right eastbound lane of Maple Avenue. Vehicle-3 and Vehicle-2 stopped for a red traffic signal at Nutley Street. Vehicle-1 ran into the rear of Vehicle-2 and pushed it into the rear of Vehicle-3.

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

CITIZEN NOTES



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contacts

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Oct. 31, 2024

"Mayor and Chief at Your Service" Addresses Online Safety Concerns

Online safety will be at the top of the agenda in the next "Mayor and Chief at Your Service" forum on Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. at the Vienna Police Department Community Room. This session will be the fourth and final quarterly event of its kind this year.

At the public forum on Tuesday, Mayor Linda Colbert and Police Chief Jim Morris will lead a discussion on a growing threat across the Internet: the targeting of young people by online predators and scams.

The Vienna Police Department's Public Information Officer, Juan Vazquez, will be on hand to share the dangers of certain social media apps and how predators use them to target and scam children and teenagers. He'll also discuss ways that parents can get involved in protecting their children. After the presentation, Mayor Colbert and Chief Morris will be available to discuss other topics and take questions from the community.

The Vienna Police Department is located at 215 Center St. S., Vienna. Limited parking is available at the police department. Attendees may also park across the street in the Vienna Community Center or at Vienna Elementary School.



Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

Results of the 27th National Drug Take Back Initiative

On October 26, 2024, the Town of Vienna Police Department partnered with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for the 27th National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative. This event successfully resulted in the collection and proper disposal of 170 pounds of expired or unnecessary medications from residents.

In October, the statewide initiative gathered approximately 15,610 pounds of medication, highlighting the community's commitment to responsible medication disposal.

The Vienna Police Department remains dedicated to collaborating with the DEA in future Drug Take Back events, reinforcing its efforts to promote safe and effective medication disposal practices.



Sqt. Andrew Slebonick with 170 pounds of unused or expired medications

For further information please contact:

M.P.O. Juan Vazquez - Town of Vienna Police Department
<u>juan.vazquez@viennava.gov</u> 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 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 https://takeitdown.ncmec.org.

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 www.cybertipline.org)

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

¹SWAT 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.

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

³Fansigning 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 https://www.emergencyprofile.org/.

