

# **VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS**

November 29, 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 November 22, 2024 to November 27, 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 <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

# **INCIDENTS**

Lost Property 24-012935 500 Block Princeton Terrace, SW Between August 1 12:00 p.m. and August 30 12:00 p.m. A resident wanted to report a lost government-issued identification.

#### Welfare Check 24-012669

#### 500 Block Alma Street, SE

#### Between October 1 10:00 a.m. and November 20 10:00 a.m.

Police received a tip regarding a potential scam involving an elderly town resident. A detective made contact with the resident to assess the situation. The resident clarified that she was fully aware of her actions and confirmed that it was not a scam.

Property Lost 24-012648359 Maple Avenue, EastNovember 19 7:38 p.m.A citizen reported losing his front license plate after striking a deer with his vehicle.

Police Service 24-012705 Patrick Henry Library 101 Maple Avenue, East November 21 10:56 a.m.

An employee requested police assistance regarding an individual who was yelling inside the library. Officers responded to the scene, engaged with the individual, and the person agreed to leave the premises.

Trespassing 24-012717 Salon O Tony 130 Maple Avenue, West November 21 4:19 p.m.

An employee requested police assistance with an upset customer. Upon arrival, officers facilitated the trespass of the individual from the store. The customer complied and left the premises without incident.

Traffic Complaint 24-012724 300 Block Branch Road, SE November 21 4:30 p.m. A citizen reported a traffic complaint involving a school bus. Shoplifting 24-012734 7-Eleven 527 Maple Avenue, West November 22 5:05 a.m.

A suspect stole a 24-pack of water from the store. An employee confronted the individual and recovered the water without incident.

#### Trespassing 24-012756 Louise Archer Elementary School 324 Nutley Street, NW November 22 between 11:30 a.m. and 11:39 a.m.

A citizen requested police assistance regarding a suspicious individual on school grounds. Officers responded to the area and located the subject. The individual was subsequently trespassed from Louise Archer Elementary School, James Madison High School, and the Elks Lodge.

# Petit Larceny 24-012762 Walgreens 225 Maple Avenue, East November 22 between 1:43 p.m. and 1:45 p.m.

An employee reported that two suspects stole two bottles of alcohol from the store. The suspects had already left the store before the police were contacted.

# Arrest - Trespassing 24-012773

Vienna Woods Swim and Tennis Club

## 950 Desale Street, SW

## November 22 10:31 p.m.

While patrolling the property, Officer Rodriguez observed a vehicle in the parking lot. The occupants fled into a nearby wooded area upon seeing the police cruiser. The owner of the vehicle later returned to retrieve it and was identified as one of the fleeing subjects.

Officer Rodriguez charged the 20-year-old male from Meadow Pond Lane in Oakton with trespassing.

## Trespassing 24-012803 Patrick Henry Library 101 Maple Avenue, East November 23 2:34 p.m.

An employee requested police assistance with an individual who had previously been advised not to return to the library and was found sitting at one of the computers. The officer formally trespassed the individual, and he left the premises without incident.

# Shoplifting 24-012831 ABC Store 419 Maple Avenue, East November 24 between 3:30 p.m. and 3:40 p.m.

An employee reported that two suspects entered the store and stole three bottles of high-end alcohol. The suspects had left the area before the police were contacted.

# Stolen Vehicle 24-012837 Royal Nepal Bistro 131-A Maple Avenue, West November 24 8:15 p.m.

A person left his vehicle running while he went into a restaurant to pick up food. While inside, an unknown suspect stole his vehicle. The victim witnessed the vehicle leaving the parking lot and contacted police.

Found Property 24-012859 Park Street SE / Talahi Road, SE November 25 9:14 a.m. A person turned in a found license plate.

Arrest - Domestic Assault 24-012880 Owaissa Road, SE November 25 7:07 p.m.

A resident requested police assistance regarding a recent assault. Officers responded to the scene and conducted an investigation, confirming that an assault had occurred. The aggressor was placed under arrest by Officer Ludwick.

Officer Ludwick transported the 22-year-old male, from Owaissa Road SE in Vienna, Virginia, to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, where he was charged with domestic assault. An emergency protective order was also issued for the victim.

#### Grand Larceny 24-012895 Locust St, SE November 26 10:33 a.m.

A resident reported that an overnight guest, whom he had met through a dating application, stole several high-value items from his home.

## Suspicious Event 24-012896 1000 Block Hillcrest Drive, SW November 26 10:35 a.m.

A resident requested police assistance in locating her missing daughter. While at the residence, the mother received information about her daughter's whereabouts and subsequently decided to rescind her request to file a missing person report.

#### Emotionally Disturbed Person 24-012942 Maple Avenue, East / Berry Street, SE November 27 3:11 p.m.

While operating stationary radar, two officers were alerted by a 7-Eleven employee about an altercation that had just occurred inside the store. The officers located the individual involved in the altercation. After conducting an investigation, it was determined that no crime had occurred, and the individual left the scene without incident.

# Assault 24-012927 ABC Store 419 Maple Avenue, East November 26 3:17 p.m.

A person reported being involved in a verbal and physical altercation. After speaking with both parties, officers found conflicting accounts and no visible injuries. Both individuals were uncooperative with the officers. The reporting party was advised on the process of obtaining a warrant.

# CASE UPDATES

None.

# **CRASHES**

## Church Street and Mill Street, NE 24-012383 November 11 12:34 p.m.

A bicycle was left in the roadway on Mill St. NE while the operator was lending aid to his son who had been injured on his bicycle on Church St NE. While the operator of the bicycle was assisting his son, a vehicle drove over the middle of the bicycle causing damage to the pedals and front sprocket.

## 431 Maple Avenue, East 24-012670 November 20 1:32 p.m.

Vehicle 2 was traveling Eastbound on Maple Ave East. Vehicle 1 was exiting the parking lot of 431 Maple Ave East. Vehicle 1 failed to Yield right-of- way and struck vehicle 2.

Driver 1 was issued a citation for failing to pay full time and attention.

#### Hit and Run - 301 Maple Avenue, West 24-012715 November 19 1:30 p.m.

An unoccupied, parked vehicle was struck by another vehicle, which then left the scene without providing insurance information.

# Maple Avenue, East and Center Street, South 24-012796 November 23 12:45 p.m.

Vehicle 1 and Vehicle 2 were in separate lanes traveling westbound on Maple Ave E when Vehicle 1's right-side mirror hit Vehicle 2's left-side mirror. Vehicle 1 had no damage but Vehicle 2's left side mirror was damaged.

# 210 Maple Avenue, West 24-012805 November 23 5:03 p.m.

Vehicle 2 exited the parking lot at 210 Maple Avenue West and stopped in the right travel lane of Maple Avenue West, waiting for the red light at the intersection of Maple Avenue West and Courthouse Road SW. The driver of Vehicle 1 stated that she was unaware of how close she was to Vehicle 2 and was unable to stop on time, resulting in minor damage to both vehicles.

# 359 Maple Avenue, East 24-012822 November 24 11:00 a.m.

Vehicle 1 (V1) turned left onto southbound Maple Avenue East and struck Vehicle 2 (V2), which was northbound, due to obstructed visibility from stopped traffic. V1 lost its front license plate and had minor bumper damage, while V2 sustained scrapes to the rear right chassis and rim. No injuries occurred, and V1 did not have the right of way.

## Maple Avenue, East / Niblick Drive, SE 24-012830 November 24 4:09 p.m.

Vehicle 1 and Vehicle 2 were traveling northbound on Maple Avenue East in the rightmost lane. Vehicle 2 slowed due to traffic and Vehicle 1 rear ended Vehicle 2. There were no injuries. Driver of Vehicle 1 was issued a citation for failure to pay full time and attention.

Please contact Juan Vazquez for further information on any of these cases at <u>Juan.Vazquez@viennava.gov</u> or 703-255-7845.

# **CITIZEN NOTES**

The Vienna Police Department is proud to once again participate with the Fairfax County Police and other local police agencies in the Santa's Ride, bringing gifts to children in local hospitals this holiday season. Please contact Ruth Rohr if you have any questions at 703-255-6324.

Please drop off your <u>new unwrapped toys and books</u> at the Vienna Police Station – 215 Center St., S, the Vienna Town Hall – 127 Center St., S (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.), or the Vienna Community Center – 120 Cherry St., SE. <u>Please make your donation before 3:00 p.m.</u> on Sunday, December 8.

**\*\***If you would prefer not to drop your donations off in person, you can do your online shopping and have your donation shipped directly to the Vienna Police Station.**\***\*







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 <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 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 <u>https://www.emergencyprofile.org/</u>.

