



VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

March 12, 2021

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department from March 5, 2021 – March 11, 2021. Readers are reminded that an “arrest” is based upon probable cause and does not always mean that someone was physically taken into custody. Furthermore, it does not mean that 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 Ruth Rohr for further information at Ruth.Rohr@viennava.gov)

****In the last few weeks, the Town of Vienna Police Department responded to multiple cases of vehicle tamperings and stolen vehicles. In almost every case, the vehicle was left unlocked and/or keys left inside. The criminals responsible for these thefts target unlocked vehicles to steal valuables, money, electronics, etc., and all it takes is them pulling on the door handle of an unlocked car. They rarely break into a locked vehicle. Vienna police officers proactively patrol all areas of the town to protect its citizens and their property and would like your assistance in curbing this crime of opportunity by removing all valuables from your vehicles, removing all keys (to include valet keys), and report suspicious activity immediately by calling 703-255-6366 or 911.****

The Vienna Police Department would like to warn citizens that mail has been stolen from the US Post Office collection boxes at the corner of Church St NW and Lawyers Rd NW after being broken into several times this year. The most recent incident occurred overnight from November 22nd to November 23rd. If you used these mailboxes during that time, please ensure that any checks, banknotes, or other important mail reached its intended destination. Mail theft or tampering is investigated by the US Postal Inspection Service and may be reported via their website at <https://www.uspis.gov/report/>. The Vienna Police department cooperates fully with their investigations and forwards all mail theft reports to the Postal Inspection Service. If you see suspicious activity at the mail collection boxes, contact the Vienna Police Department for an immediate response.

To avoid theft, citizens are advised to use the collection mailboxes inside the post office.

INCIDENTS

Fraud 21-001246

Northwest Federal Credit Union

231 Maple Avenue, East

January 13 3:33 a.m.

An employee reported that one of their customers wrote a check, and later found the check was stolen, altered, and cashed at the credit union.

Suspicious Event 21-000487

Vienna Baptist Church

541 Marshall Road, SW

January 26 12:12 a.m.

Interpol in the United Kingdom sent a request for our officers to check on the welfare of a man who was armed with a gun and threatening to harm himself at the Church. Officers searched the area but did not find anyone.

Fraud 21-001248

900 Block Country Club Drive, NE

February 24 4:50 p.m.

A resident reported that he received a call from someone fraudulently claiming to be with Dominion Power. The resident paid the caller before realizing it was a scam.

Fraud 21-001223

Vienna Police Station

301 Center Street, South

Between March 1 at 10:00 a.m. and March 4 at 10:00 a.m.

A citizen came to the police station to report that he mailed a check in a mailbox at the Merrifield Post Office. The check was stolen, altered, and cashed. The citizen, who resides in Fairfax County, was referred to the Fairfax County Police and the US Postal Inspection Service to report the incident.

Destruction of Property 21-001182

600 Block Tazewell Road, NW

Between March 1 at 3:00 p.m. and March 6 at 4:34 p.m.

A resident reported that someone damaged his vehicle while it was legally parked on the roadway.

Suspicious Event 21-001105

Wells Fargo Bank

212 Maple Avenue, East

March 2 5:30 p.m.

An employee reported that one of their elderly customers came to the bank attempting to withdraw a large sum of money. The employee determined the customer was being scammed and did not release the money at that time. Adult Protective Services is following up with the customer.

Suspicious Event 21-001168

Wesley Preschool

711 Spring Street, SE

Between March 2 at 6:00 p.m. and March 5 at 12:17 p.m.

An employee reported that someone has entered the preschool rooms after hours. There has been water and debris on the floor and counters, and food has been taken.

Suspicious Event 21-001183

Blair Road, NW

March 6 5:30 p.m.

Officers responded to check on the welfare of a juvenile who texted concerning statements to their friend. Officers spoke to the juvenile and their parent and advised them of the services available to them.

Animal Case 21-001184

1000 Block Pickett Place, SW

March 6 5:57 p.m.

A resident reported a sick raccoon. Officers found the raccoon was in grave condition and euthanized the animal.

Petit Larceny 21-001218

1000 Block Frederick Street, SW

Between March 7 at 6:00 p.m. and March 8 at 11:45 a.m.

A resident reported that someone stole one of the hubcaps from his vehicle and replaced it with a different hubcap.

Welfare Check 21-1199

200 Block Locust Street, SE

March 7 8:39 p.m.

Mobile Crisis requested that officers check on the welfare of a resident who was making concerning statements. After speaking to officers, the resident agreed to go to a facility for additional assistance but later changed his mind. Mobile Crisis agreed to come to the home to speak to the resident.

Extortion 21-001207

100 Block Patrick Street, SE

March 8 7:00 a.m.

A resident reported that he is being extorted by someone he met online.

Found Property 21-001217

Creek Crossing Road and Fairway Drive, NE

March 8 1:02 p.m.

A citizen turned in a set of keys they found in the area.

Civil Matter 21-001240

200 Block Old Courthouse Road, NE

March 9 12:04 p.m.

A resident reported ongoing issues she is having with her landlord.

Arrest – Assault 21-001252

400 Block Nutley Street, NW

March 9 9:57 p.m.

Officers responded to the report of an assault with a knife in progress. After speaking with the two men involved, it was determined that one of the men became agitated with his cousin, grabbed a knife, and chased him upstairs to his bedroom. During the incident, the cousin was cut by the knife. Rescue treated the cousin at the scene.

MPO McElhattan arrested the 42-year-old man from Larne Lane in Lorton, Virginia. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, charged with assault, and released on an unsecured bond.

Arrest - Grand Larceny 21-001268

Vienna Arsenal

386 Maple Avenue, East

March 10 4:08 p.m.

Officers responded to the report of a robbery in progress. A citizen listed a gun for sale on a website and agreed to meet with the buyer at the Vienna Arsenal to complete the transaction. The citizen stated that the suspect picked up the gun, said he needed to get the money from his car and began to run away with the weapon. The citizen chased the man into the bank's parking lot next door, drew his firearm, ordering the man to stop, and walked him back to where the incident occurred. The citizen held him until police arrived.

The suspect provided the officers with false identifying information, but officers were later able to identify the suspect as a 16-year-old juvenile from Maryland. PFC Williams transported him to the Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center, where a petition was issued charging Grand Larceny and false identification. He was remanded to the custody of the staff, and the juvenile's parents were notified.

Civil Matter 21-001291

200 Block Old Courthouse Road, NE

March 11 5:50 p.m.

Due to an ongoing landlord and tenant dispute, a landlord requested an officer's presence while he removed a storm door from his rental property.

CRASHES

Beulah Road near Edwin Lane, NE 21-001219

March 8 1:29 p.m.

Vehicle-2 (a USPS mail truck) was traveling northbound on Beulah Road, approaching Edwin Lane. Vehicle-1 ran into the rear of Vehicle-2. Driver-2 was transported to an area hospital by rescue personnel with non-life-threatening injuries.

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

Tapawingo Road and Cottage Street, SW 21-001250

March 9 6:54 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was stopped in the westbound lane of Tapawingo Road at Cottage Street. As Vehicle-2 entered the intersection they were struck by Vehicle-1, who was traveling in the southbound lane of Cottage Street and entered the intersection without stopping for the stop sign. After Vehicle-2 was struck it proceeded across the intersection and struck a street sign.

Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Obey a Stop Sign.

CASE UPDATES

None

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

CITIZEN NOTES



HARD HAT CORNER

WEEK OF MARCH 15, 2021

- Continue with vertical demolition
- Start hauling off recycle demolition material
- Start receiving delivery of storm structures and store material at school parking lot
- Install exterior gas line at church

WEEK OF MARCH 22, 2021

- Start storm sewer installation in school parking lot
- Continue with vertical demolition.
- Start site clearing, earthwork, and grading

LIVE VIEW OF NEW POLICE STATION CONSTRUCTION

As we move forward with the new facility's construction, Chief Morris is committed to keeping the Vienna community informed and involved in the process. A link has also been established on the Town of Vienna website (<https://www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?NID=1225>) for your information. A public link of a live view of the construction is now available to access through the hyperlink below or QR code for smartphones.

[LIVE VIEW OF NEW POLICE STATION CONSTRUCTION](#)



QR Code

On December 10, 2020, Governor Northam issued Executive Order #72, which incorporates earlier Executive Orders Sixty-Three Sixty-Seven that will take effect on Monday, December 14, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. This amended order remains in effect until rescinded or amended by further executive order. Questions, concerns, and complaints of this order's violations should be directed to the VA Department of Health at 1-877-275-8343.

For more information about COVID-19, navigate to <https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus-updates/>
The full text of Executive Order Seventy-Two is available [here](#)



Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release Operations Modifications in

March 18, 2020

In the interest of public safety for our residents, businesses, and visitors, the Vienna Police Department has modified its operations to increase social distancing and reduce the chance of spreading the COVID-19 virus.

This modified operation entails taking certain police reports for relatively minor and non-violent crimes by telephone. There will be cases where there is no need for evidence collection, not a crime in progress, but the incident still needs to be documented.

If you are calling to file a police report, Communications personnel will ask you questions to help determine if your call meets the criteria for a telephone follow-up and if so, you may be advised that an officer will call you back to assess the need to respond in person or complete the report via telephone. If you feel that an officer is required, you may make that request, and an officer will respond. The incident report over the telephone will go into the same records management system and will be tracked the same as if an officer responded.

If a police officer responds to your location, please be prepared to step outside to meet the officer to encourage social distancing and avoid the spread of the virus.

By using telephone reporting, you will help us limit exposure. We thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to maintain our mission of providing a safe community for all of our citizens, businesses, and visitors.

Out of an abundance of caution, we have also suspended some low-priority services, which include: Ride-Along, PIO public engagements, VIN verifications, and child safety seats installations. Access to our police lobby will be restricted to immediate police assistance only. We do encourage our citizens to call the police department with questions at 703-255-6366 instead of visiting our lobby.

The Vienna Police Department continues to remain staffed, operational, and ready to respond to all emergencies, in-progress incidents, and priority calls. Day and night patrols remain at full strength, so you should not hesitate to call for assistance.

The process of handling some calls for service over the phone and limiting other services is temporary and will be continually reevaluated in the coming weeks.

Thank You,
Chief Jim Morris



Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

Reminder

Prevention of Stolen Vehicles/Vehicle Tamperings

With the advent of warmer weather, the Town of Vienna Police Department would like to remind all Town of Vienna residents to secure their vehicles and personal belongings. Recently there have been several vehicle tamperings to include stolen vehicles from Vienna and the neighboring jurisdictions.

The Vienna Police Department would like to remind citizens of the following steps to assist in the prevention of your vehicle being tampered with or stolen:

Lock your Car Doors.

The majority of the vehicles being entered and/or stolen have been unlocked.

Remove all Valuables.

In most cases, the subjects responsible for these acts have been targeting vehicles that contain valuables such as, but not limited to, laptop computers, GPS's, pocketbooks/purses, loose change, cameras, etc. If you must leave valuables in your vehicle, please be sure to conceal the items, in the trunk, under the seats or use any other means to make them undetectable. Also, make sure to record all serial numbers, and if possible, engrave them or permanently mark the items with easily identifiable markings, in the event the items are recovered.

Remove all Keys.

The subjects who commit these crimes are aware that most new vehicles come with valet keys. Most of these keys are kept inside the vehicles, either in the center consoles, or the glove compartments, or other areas easily accessible. In some instances, the owners have left their keys rings containing their house keys, providing access to their homes.

Report Suspicious Activity

In some cases, the subjects have been observed wearing several layers of clothing, not consistent with the weather conditions. This is used to conceal stolen items and also to make identification difficult as they will shed layers of clothing as they flee the area when they suspect they have been observed committing a crime.

The Town of Vienna Police Department is dedicated to the safety and protection of all persons and property in the Town of Vienna. However, much of our success comes from the assistance of its concerned and observant residents.

****A reminder to secure your vehicles and remove all valuables! **
Even if your vehicle is parked in your driveway, please secure all windows and doors and remove all valuables.**



Citizens are reminded to PLEASE call and report suspicious activity. Even if you choose not to provide your name or other personal information, we still need your help as extra eyes and ears in the community.

**See or Hear Something? Say Something!
We *WANT* to be Bothered! Call 9-1-1.**