



VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

February 26, 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 February 19, 2021 – February 25, 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

Police Service 21-000952

**Vienna Police Station
215 Center Street, South
January 7 9:00 a.m.**

A citizen reported that a check was stolen from her mailbox in Hawaii, was altered, and deposited into a Navy Federal Credit Union account. The citizen was advised to follow up with the US Postal Service and the Honolulu, Hawaii Police Department.

Animal Case – Quarantine 21-000884

**600 Block Yeonas Drive, SW
February 12 12:00 p.m.**

The Health Department reported that a resident was playing with her neighbor's puppy when the dog playfully bit her. The puppy was placed on a 10-day quarantine.

Vandalism 21-000924

**300 Block Church Street, NE
Between February 14 at 10:00 p.m. and February 20 at 1:57 p.m.**

A resident reported damage to his vehicle while it was parked in his driveway. There have been three separate times that he has noticed the damage which includes a broken windshield, a shattered rear window, and various marks that may have been caused by a projectile.

Animal Case – Quarantine 21-000970

**Hope Advanced Veterinary Center
140 Park Street, SE
February 16 12:00 p.m.**

On February 19, the Health Department notified ACO Barker that a technician was bitten by a cat during a procedure. The cat was placed on quarantine at the veterinary center.

Animal Case 21-000911

200 Block West Street, NW

February 19 2:41 p.m.

A resident reported an injured fox in her yard. An officer found the fox was in grave condition and euthanized the animal.

Suspicious Event 21-000917

Mathnasium

328 Maple Avenue, East

February 19 between 3:00 p.m. and 11:40 p.m.

An employee reported that when she got into her vehicle to leave work, she noticed an interior light was on in the car and thought someone had entered her vehicle. Nothing appeared to be missing from the vehicle.

Assault 21-000919

600 Block Frederick Street, SW

February 20 2:51 a.m.

Officers responded to a residence for an on-going dispute between a landlord and tenant. The landlord reported that the tenant pushed him. The landlord then threatened the tenant with pepper spray. Both parties were advised of the warrant process should they wish to pursue charges.

False Report and Missing Person 21-000937, 21-000939, and 21-000941

900 Block Olympian Circle, SW

500 Block Kingsley Road, SW

February 21 between 8:21 p.m. and 9:31 p.m.

At 8:21 p.m., a crisis hotline reported an individual was stating that he shot himself in the area of the 500 block of Kingsley Road, SW. While officers were responding, the hotline received additional information that the individual had moved to an abandoned home in the 900 Block of Olympian Circle, SW. Officers searched both locations and were unable to locate any injured person and found nothing suspicious. It was determined the call was a false report.

At 9:31 p.m., the hotline received additional information from an individual claiming he shot himself in the area of the 500 block of Kingsley Road, SW. As officers searched the area, they observed a juvenile watching them from her home, close to where the calls were initiated. The juvenile's father provided the officers with her phone, which showed that she was the one placing the calls. Officers interviewed the juvenile about the incidents, and upon her return to the residence, she became upset and ran away. After not locating her, she was entered into the state database as a missing juvenile. At approximately 3:13 a.m., the juvenile's father reported that his daughter had safely returned home. This case is being investigated.

Animal Case 21-000943

400 Block Old Courthouse Road, NE

February 22 4:01 a.m.

A resident reported their neighbor's dog had been barking for an extended period and they were concerned for the dog's welfare. An officer responded to the home and observed two small dogs on the deck. Attempts to speak to an owner were unsuccessful. A few hours later, ACO Barker spoke to the owner who advised she was away from the home during the incident for an emergency. ACO Barker also found that the dogs have adequate shelter in the yard.

Suspicious Event 21-000993

200 Block Commons Drive, NW

February 24 1:19 p.m.

A citizen reported that she is receiving calls from an unknown person advising her that they have warrants for her arrest in Texas, and attempting to obtain money from her. The citizen was advised this was a scam.

Telephone Case 21-000995

600 Block Birch Street, SW

February 24 5:31 p.m.

A resident reported a suspicious text message that his juvenile son received on his cell phone.

CRASHES

400 Block Pine Street, SE 21-000905

February 19 1:09 a.m.

A large Town dump truck was being utilized as a snowplow. The driver entered the parking lot of a commercial building, traveling north through the lot when the vehicle encountered black ice and could not stop. The vehicle slid into a small shed in the lot causing damage to the exterior of the shed.

100 Block Park Street, SE 210-000909

February 19 8:30 a.m.

Two vehicles were traveling northbound on Park Street, SE. Vehicle-2 slowed to turn right into a parking lot. Vehicle-1 was behind Vehicle-2. Driver-1 assumed Vehicle-2 was turning left and attempted to pass the vehicle on the right. Vehicle-2 struck Vehicle-1 as they were making the turn.

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

136 Maple Avenue, West 21-000921

February 20 9:15 a.m.

Between February 18 and February 20, Vehicle-2 was legally parked in the parking lot when it was struck by Vehicle-1. Driver-1 left the area without providing their information.

Ayr Hill Avenue and Beulah Road, NE 21-000991

February 24 10:40 a.m.

Vehicle-1 was stopped at the stop sign eastbound on Ayr Hill Avenue at Beulah roadway. Vehicle-1 was traveling northbound on Beulah Road. Vehicle-1 struck Vehicle-2 as it entered the intersection.

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

CASE UPDATES

None

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

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

Town of Vienna Police Department Honors Life Saving Officers



*1st photograph, pictured from left to right: Town Manager Mercury Payton, officer Dale "Chip" McElhattan, and Chief Morris
2nd photograph, pictured from left to right: MPO Kenny Smith, Town Manager Mercury Payton, and Chief Morris*

On Wednesday, February 17, 2021, The Town of Vienna honored MPO Kenny Smith and Officer Dale "Chip" McElhattan for their life-saving effort during their encounter with a driver who had been in an accident. While the officers discussed the accident with him, the male driver collapsed on the pavement, in cardiac arrest, not breathing. MPO Smith and Officer McElhattan immediately jumped into action, rendering CPR and re-establishing a pulse and breathing. Shortly after, the driver stopped breathing again, and officers worked tirelessly administering CPR until EMS arrived on the scene and took over the life-saving care. The driver was transported to an area hospital where he was cared for and stabilized.

Vienna Police Chief James Morris and Town Manager Mercury Payton presented the officers with the life-saving awards. Attending the event were H.R. Director Michelle Crabtree, H.R. Assistant Conor Duffy, Colleagues, friends, and family. MPO Smith and Officer McElhattan have also been nominated for the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce Valor award, which recognizes public safety employees' actions beyond the call of duty.

**For Further Information, please contact MPO Juan Vazquez
Town of Vienna Police Public Information Officer at
juan.vazquez@viennava.gov or 703. 255. 7845**



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.**



CITIZEN NOTES



HARD HAT CORNER

WEEK OF MARCH 1, 2021

- Complete soft demo and designated trees to be removed
- Disconnection of electric and gas utilities
- Utility Contractor Mobilization

WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2021

- Start mobilization for vertical demolition
- Start working on temporary church heating needs

**** 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.**

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.