



VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

September 6, 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 August 30, 2024 to September 5, 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 call 911.

INCIDENTS

Vehicle Tampering 24-009958

100 Block Patrick Street, SE

Between August 25 at 2:00 a.m. and September 2 at 12:00 p.m.

A resident reported someone rummaged through his locked vehicle and stole some personal documents.

Petit Larceny 24-009671

427 Maple Avenue, East

August 26 9:30 p.m.

An employee reported a man left the store without paying for his beverage. The employee did not wish to pursue charges but wanted the man trespassed from the premises. Officers searched the area but were unable to locate the man.

Found property 24-009831

100 Block Maple Avenue, West

August 30 1:00 p.m.

A citizen turned in a found wallet.

Missing Juvenile 24-009863

Ninovan Road, SE

August 31 11:47 a.m.

A resident reported he had an argument with his teenage daughter and she left the house without permission. The resident was concerned for his daughter's welfare. The juvenile returned home a short time later.

Alcohol Violation 24-009893

Marshall Road Elementary School

730 Marshall Road, SW

September 1 2:37 a.m.

An officer observed two vehicles and a group of individuals in the parking lot. Upon her interaction with the group, the officer found four of the individuals were teenagers who had been drinking out of town. One of the teens had contacted their mother to pick them up. While driving the group home her vehicle broke down and she pulled into the parking lot. The second vehicle was an additional driver the mother called to assist in getting the teens home safely. The teens were all released to their parents or guardians with a warning about underage drinking and being drunk in public.

Arrest – Driving While Intoxicated 24-009927

400 Block Maple Avenue, West

September 2 1:47 a.m.

An officer observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed and initiated a traffic stop as the vehicle pulled into the Wawa parking lot. Upon the officer's interaction with the man, she detected signs of impairment. The man failed to complete a series of field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest.

Sergeant Ruddy transported the 25-year-old man from Courthouse Drive in Fairfax, Virginia to the Vienna Police Station where he provided a sample of his breath for analysis. He was then transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Driving While Intoxicated and Reckless Driving by Speed.

Police Service 24-010029

Panera

136 Maple Avenue, West

September 4 7:21 p.m.

A manager reported a man who had previously acted aggressively toward customers and staff was in the restaurant and they wanted to trespass him. The officer notified the man that he was trespassed from the premises and may be arrested if he returned.

CASE UPDATES

None

CRASHES

Park Street and Locust Street, SE 24-009595

August 25 1:14 a.m.

Vehicle-1 struck a yield sign in the roundabout and fled the scene before officers arrived.

Maple Avenue and Nutley Street, NW 24-009612

August 25 4:41 p.m.

Vehicle-2 was traveling eastbound on Maple Avenue. Vehicle-1 was turning right from Nutley Street onto eastbound Maple Avenue and collided with Vehicle-2.

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

Maple Avenue and Niblick Drive, SE 24-009613

August 25 9:17 p.m.

Vehicle-1 was turning left from Niblick Drive onto westbound Maple Avenue. Vehicle-1 pulled into the median, partially blocking eastbound traffic. Vehicle-2 was eastbound on Maple Avenue and struck Vehicle-1. Driver-2 failed to place her vehicle in park, causing her vehicle to drift onto the sidewalk and into a bus stop sign.

Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Yield Right of Way.

Nutley Street and Courthouse Road, SW 24-009707

August 27 5:00 p.m.

Two vehicles were on Nutley Street in the left turn lane for Courthouse Road. Vehicle-1 ran into the rear of Vehicle-2 causing minor damage. The two drivers agreed to pull off the roadway to exchange information, however, Vehicle-1 left the scene without providing their information.

311 Maple Avenue, East 24-009822

August 30 11:29 a.m.

Vehicle-2 was legally parked in the parking lot. Vehicle-1 struck Vehicle-2 and left the scene without providing their information.

200 Block Lawyers Road, NW 24-009876

August 31 8:43 p.m.

Vehicle-1 was traveling northbound on Lawyers Road when the driver accidentally went off the roadway and struck a pole causing the vehicle to flip.

Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Reckless Driving.

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

CITIZEN NOTES



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 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.

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/>.

