

Stafford County Sheriff's Office

WEEKLY CRIME REPORT



MAY 20TH - MAY 26TH, 2024

ALPHA ZONE

STOLEN PROPERTY

Clarion Inn, 564 Warrenton Road, a deputy was in the area when he observed a vehicle that was stolen out of Maryland. After investigating a bit further, the deputy discovered not only was the vehicle stolen, but the license plate currently displayed on it was stolen off a different vehicle. Using business cameras, deputies discovered the driver parked the stolen vehicle in the parking lot before entering a hotel room. The driver was found and detained with the stolen key still in his possession. During their interaction, the suspect inquired if he was going to jail. In case there's any confusion, being in possession of a known stolen vehicle is in fact a crime. The driver was charged with two (2) counts of possession of stolen property and driving without a driver's license. He was held at Rappahannock Regional Jail without bond.

HIT AND RUN

Intersection of Warrenton Road and South Gateway Drive, a deputy responded to an auto accident. Three (3) vehicles were involved in a small fender-bender when the third vehicle took off.

LARCENY

Walmart, 11 Village Parkway, deputy responded for the first Walmart larceny of the day. Staff advised two love birds entered the store, stole items, brought the stolen items to their vehicle, and went back into the store to steal additional items. During their double-dipping attempt, staff confronted them. The suspects would flee in a white Camry. Staff were able to identify the male suspect due to it not being his first theft from Walmart and the deputy was able to identify the female suspect due to prior interactions with her. Warrants for shoplifting were obtained for both.

Walmart, 11 Village Parkway, a deputy responded to the 3rd and final Walmart larceny of the day. Staff advised, for the 3rd time, that the two love birds were observed skip-scanning nearly \$130 worth of items. The pair would flee in a blue Nissan.





BRAVO ZONE

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LARCENY

Walmart, 125 Washington Square Plaza, a deputy responded to the 2nd Walmart larceny of the day. Staff advised, once again, two love birds were observed stealing over \$170 worth of items. They would then flee in a green sedan.

Dollar General, 411 Chatham Heights Road, a deputy responded to a larceny. Staff advised a male wearing all orange stole multiple items before walking to another nearby business. The deputy located the brightly dressed suspect going through his stolen riches and detained him. He was charged with shoplifting and was released by the magistrate.





CHARLIE ZONE

ASSAULT

Brooke Point High School, deputy was conducting his SRO duties when he was informed of a bathroom brawl. Three (3) female students were engaged in a physical altercation and needed to be physically separated. One of the juveniles was also discovered to be in possession of alcohol and three (3) vapes. All three received criminal complaints for assault and battery while the one with the unlawfully obtained items also received criminal complaints for underage possession of alcohol and tobacco.

DUI

Brooke Road, deputies responded to a drunk driver complaint. The caller advised a known male was intoxicated and currently on his way to the ABC store to continue his intoxicated spree. The deputy located the suspect vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. The driver advised he only had "one shot," but based on the noticeable signs of intoxication it appeared he miscounted. Within the vehicle were multiple open and partially consumed bottles of Sailor Jerry rum. The sailor fan boarded the deputy's cruiser and set sail to Rappahannock Regional Jail. He was charged with driving under the influence 2nd offense within five to ten years with a blood alcohol content between .15 and .2, drinking while driving, and driving with a suspended license. He was held on a \$2,500 secured bond.

LARCENY

Weis Market, 282 Deacon Road, deputy responded to a previously occurred larceny. Staff advised they had video of a female suspect stealing earlier this month.

THREATS

Ford T. Humphrey Public Safety Building, 1225 Courthouse Road, deputy responded to a Text-A-Tip. The tip advised in a Discord server, that someone made threats of a mass shooting in both Stafford and Spotsylvania County. With the assistance of the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office, this tip was determined to be yet another swatting incident.

ALCOHOL OFFENSE

Brooke Point High School, deputy was conducting his SRO duties when he was informed of found property. A student located a backpack in the women's bathroom that contained alcohol and vapes. The owner of the backpack was discovered and criminal complaints for underage possession of alcohol on school grounds, and underage possession of tobacco were submitted.

Brooke Point High School, deputy was finishing the last alcohol offense when he was informed of yet another. A student was discovered in the women's bathroom again with alcohol and vapes. She also received criminal complaints for underage possession of alcohol, possession of alcohol on school grounds, and underage possession of tobacco.

DELTA ZONE

ASSAULT

Target, 1090 Stafford Market Place, deputy responded to a fight. Three (3) females were in a vehicle in the parking lot when a known male suspect approached them. He attempted to take one of the females' purses, but didn't count on her fighting back. During the struggle over the bag, the suspect assaulted the victim. He was charged with assault and battery and was released on personal recognizance by the magistrate.

North Stafford High School, deputy was conducting her SRO duties when she observed a large crowd forming around two students. The students were engaged in a fight and were separated by staff. The predominant aggressor was identified and a criminal complaint for assault and battery was submitted.

DUI

At the intersection of Garrisonville Road and Onville Road, deputy was stopped at the intersection when he observed the vehicle in front of him straddling two lanes of traffic. When the light turned green, the suspect vehicle marched straight towards a median, only to avoid it at the last second. The deputy conducted a traffic stop and made contact with the driver. The driver had signs of intoxication, but denied consuming alcohol. Considering it wasn't the deputy's first day on the job, he knew this was a lie and conducted failed sobriety tests. The driver was charged with driving under the influence and held at Rappahannock Regional Jail without bond.

LARCENY

Target, 1090 Stafford Market Place, deputy responded to a larceny. Staff advised they observed a male suspect attempting to steal multiple items, including a conspicuously big TV. His not-so-subtle attempt was stopped and it was discovered that he was a juvenile. The juvenile received a criminal complaint for shoplifting and even worse, his guardian was very displeased and advised that he was in "deep trouble."

Spring Lake Drive, deputy responded to a larceny. A cab driver advised that he had dropped someone off in the area. The passenger told the cab driver he would run inside, grab some money, and promptly return to pay the fee. The passenger would leave and never return.

Fireberry Boulevard, deputy responded to a larceny. The victim advised that she had an iPhone dropped off at her house. Moments later, an unknown male switched the box with an empty box and took off with the cell phone. The incident was captured on camera.

DISTURBANCE

North Stafford High School, deputy was getting his work day started when he was informed a fight had already occurred. Two (2) female students engaged in a fight in the bathroom and were separated by staff. During the altercations three (3) vapes were located, two (2) of which had THC. Criminal complaints are pending.

THREATS

Colonial Forge High School, deputy was conducting his SRO duties when he was informed of a serious allegation. It was reported that a student had made threats to "shoot up" the school and bomb a graduation ceremony. The deputy investigated the threats and discovered other students had heard the suspect make these threats. A criminal complaint for threats to bomb a school was submitted.

SCAM-AWARE

Victim received phone calls, from two different phone numbers, claiming to be from PayPal stating her account was compromised. An attempt to convince the victim to provide the callers her personal information failed. The victim contacted her financial institutions to freeze accounts and stop all transactions. It was discovered that the callers were attempting to transfer \$50,000 from the victim's account.

Victim advised she was contacted by an individual who introduced himself as Deputy Benjamin Huffman with the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. The victim stated the calls began the previous day and that she had been instructed to withdraw \$20,000 from her bank account. She was told that if she did not comply, she could face arrest or be required to travel to Texas to face charges. The victim mentioned that the suspect had claimed that multiple bank accounts, credit cards, and other financial instruments had been established in her name. During the interaction, the victim received a call from the suspect, which the deputy observed and noted the time of the call. The suspect had spoofed the contact number for the Stafford County Sheriff's Office and the call appeared on the victim's phone as 540-658-4400. The victim had previously been to the bank and was issued a cashier's check for \$20,000, made payable to her name. The bank representative confirmed that the victim's routine behavior was unusual and that the victim had come into the bank the day prior asking for \$20,000 in cash. The bank personnel informed the victim that they could not provide her with that amount of money and began to have suspicions of fraud. The victim returned the following day to the bank and retrieved the requested cashier's check. During the interaction with the bank representative, the victim began receiving multiple calls from the scammer. The bank confirmed that the scammers did not access the victim's account and there had been no monetary loss.

Victim received a notification on her computer that she needed to contact Microsoft Support. A phone number was provided and the victim called. The victim was told that her computer was compromised to include her financial accounts. The same "Microsoft" employee somehow was able to contact Wells Fargo and she was asked to verify multiple alleged transactions. She was told there were charges to Amazon, Ebay, and PLC but only one processed for \$1,500. The fake Microsoft employee told her they could recover her funds by verifying she had enough money in her account by purchasing gift cards. She was instructed to go to Lowe's and buy gift cards totaling \$1,500 and instructed not tell anybody about what was going on to prevent "compromising the investigation." The victim complied with the demands and purchased three (3) \$500 Nordstrom gift cards. The card numbers were provided to the fake Microsoft employee to "Verify" the funds. Shortly after she provided the card numbers, the money was spent. The victim then received a call from the same person who was trying to get more money from her and her husband. This time, the scammer said her husband's account was compromised and this time they tried to get \$15,000. The victim and her husband finally realized they were scammed and ended their contact with the scammer.

This report does not encompass all of the reported crimes that may have occurred in the county, but only those noted for media interest. Anyone with information regarding the incidents listed in this report is asked to contact the Stafford County Sheriff's Office at (540) 658-4450. For ongoing updates, follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

Community + Cops + Conversations + Coffee = Building and Maintaining Relationships



COFFEE WITH A COP

Wednesday May 29 9:00 am - 11:00 am 591 Warrenton Road Fredericksburg, Va 22406

Stafford County Sheriff's Office invites community members, businesses and organizations to join us for coffee and conversations. An informal community conversation to ask questions, share your ideas, discuss concerns or issues, to learn more about each other and share what's on your mind.

Our mission is to build trust, build better relationships and breakdown barriers as we all strive to make our community of Stafford County a community of one. BLACK RIFLE COFFEE COMPANY FREDERICKSBURG



COI

POLICE · COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 2024 STAFFORD MARKET PLACE

REGISTRATION OPENS JUNE 21, 2024



Contact CRIME PREVENTION UNIT with questions 540-658-4030

WANT TO SEE CRIME TRENDS NEAR YOU?

Near a Location

GO

Enter an address, landmark or zip code