



## **ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

### **SHERIFF BRAD WISE**

**FRIDAY UPDATE: 01.19.24**

#### **Scams**

01.13 I spoke to the victim who said he received an odd message this morning on FB from an unknown person that said "How are you?" He responded with who is this? He said the person then texted something similar to "if you don't respond to my demands, I will send your family and friends pictures." He then received what appeared to be screen shots of his FB page as well as his wife's and daughter's. This unknown person also said he would be sending his boys over and for the victim to "rest in peace." The victim said he had no enemies nor made anyone mad recently. He has blocked and deleted some of the messages. Message also came across his wife's phone. They have ignored and not responded to any more messages. I recommended they change passwords on FB and bank accounts to be safe. He said he will call friends and family to tell them to not respond or open any messages from unknown people.

01.16 The victim reported that he sent \$130 via Venmo to an account named: andre-jackson-3108c for four Magic cards. He said the cards were posted for sale on a FB group named: Magic the Gathering-Minnesota using an account name of Aaron Dekmer. It appears both accounts have now been deleted. The account he sent the money to asked him to cancel the transaction using poorly written English. The victim said Venmo told him the money had been removed from the account he sent it to.

01.16 Be aware, never download the Anydesk App; the app allows scammers to remotely access your device. The victim reported that she attempted to call the Amazon fraud department. She had been unable to log into the account for some time and had received two deliveries right before Christmas that she didn't order. The ultimate conclusion of this incident was approximately \$27,000 was swindled by depositing money into a Bitcoin reverse ATM. The short version: The victim called whom she thought was Amazon Customer Service. The person she spoke to said there was two large orders on her Amazon account that were being delivered and in order to stop the alleged fraudulent orders, she needed to pay for them so they could stop delivery. The scammers directed her to go to her bank and kept her on the phone the entire time. They directed her to make withdrawals told her to tell the bank tellers it was for a home remodeling project. Everything needed to be done in a hurry, and she was not allowed to talk with anyone about it. At some point during their conversations, she was transferred to officials with the "US Treasury." She was told to deposit the cash at a Bitcoin ATM inside a gas station in Ham Lake. The money was deposited into a wallet printed on a receipt and she gave the numbers to the wallet to the scammers over the phone.

01.16 The male stated his daughter received a message from liam\_artpage on Instagram in regards to them doing paintings of previously taken pictures on her account. The individuals sent a \$1,000 check from Northstar Food Services Inc to his daughter and requested she deposit it. Then, the individuals requested her to transfer \$380 in several different Zelle transactions. They did lose \$380 during the incident. The daughter was only 14.

01.18 FB Market Place. The victim found a drill for sale and contacted the owner who required a \$30 deposit. The victim sent the money Venmo and arranged to meet the seller at a local gas station to finish the purchase. The seller did not show up and the victim lost the deposit.

01.18 FB Market Place. The victim stated that she was told she won a prize but needed to send Apple gift cards to obtain it. Over the month of December, the victim sent approximately \$2,000 to the person and then the communication stopped. The victim did not give out her personal information but did lose the \$2K. She was advised to change any passwords and monitor her credit.

## **Andover**

### **Burglaries – Robbery**

01.13 18xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – a male selling a phone through FB Marketplace met with the buyer at the location and he was robbed of the cellphone at gunpoint according to the victim.

### **Thefts & Damage to Property**

01.12 134xx County Pkwy C NW – window broke on vehicle parked at the park; wallet stolen

01.13 136xx County Pkwy B NW – window broke on vehicle parked at the park; purse stolen

01.16 12xx 133 Ave NW – theft from unlocked vehicle at the Archery Center; cash, GPS, arrows

01.17 152xx Hanson Blvd NW – jacket stolen out of unsecured locker; keys/cash were in the pockets

01.17 5xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – window broke on vehicle parked at the park; purse – CC used at Target in Coon Rapids

01.18 135xx Thrush St NW – theft of license plate; vehicle parked on the street

### **Arrests**

01.13 14xxx Partridge St NW – Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a physical fight between two females at the location. After investigating, one was arrested and transported to the juvenile detention center.

## **Bethel**

No incidents that would be reflected in this report were reported in Bethel this week.

## **Columbus**

### **Thefts & Damage to Property**

01.18 176xx Lyons St NE – it appears a vehicle purposely hit mailboxes and trash cans in the area

### **Arrests**

01.18 94xx Lake Dr NE – DWI – 10:18 pm – a caller reported a crash. Deputies arrived and located the driver who smelled like alcohol. The driver stated he was drinking gin and tequila. Field sobriety tests were failed. And he was arrested. .15

## **East Bethel**

No incidents that would be reflected in this report were reported in East Bethel this week.

## **Ham Lake**

### **Thefts & Damage to Property**

01.14 149xx E Vermillion Circle NE – male observed tampering with vehicles in the area on a RING

01.15 43xx 137 Lane NE – multiple unsecured vehicles in the area rummaged through

01.15 146xx Bataan St NE – multiple unsecured vehicles in the area rummaged through

01.16 145xx Edison St NE – theft from unsecured vehicle; sunglasses - parked in garage  
01.16 27xx 146 Ave NE – theft from unsecured vehicle; cash, gym bag – parked in garage

### **Arrests**

01.18.2024 14xx Crosstown Blvd NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a driver because he knew he had a warrant. His identity was confirmed and he was arrested.

## **Linwood**

### **Arrests**

01.16 22xxx Elbe St NE – Domestic; deputies responded to a violation of a protection order between an ex-couple. The male was located in Isanti County and arrested.

## **Nowthen**

No incidents that would be reflected in this report were reported in Nowthen this week.

## **Oak Grove**

### **Arrests**

01.13 Sims Rd/Cedar Dr NW – DWI 4<sup>th</sup> degree – 12:18 am – a deputy was writing reports and observed a male blow a 4-way stop sign. He stopped the driver and could smell alcohol; the driver stated he had 5 beers. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. .105

***\*Information shared in this report covers crimes that may affect you - things like burglaries, thefts, damage to property, identity theft, etc. We only include a fraction of the calls that deputies regularly respond to.***

***If you want to see data about what types of calls and how many we respond to log on to [www.anokacounty.us/crimewatch](http://www.anokacounty.us/crimewatch) and click on Crime Statistics on the left side. Stats are updated monthly.***