



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

**FRIDAY UPDATE: 03.10.23**

### **Scams**

03.05 A twist on the naked photo blackmail scam. I spoke with the mother of the victim. She reported that around 10:00 AM on 03/05/23 her son began to receive messages on Instagram from the account TAYLOR\_alice237. The user claimed that the account user had access to her son's banking information from Huntington Bank. The suspect sent additional messages to the son on Instagram stating that they would take money from his bank account unless he provided them with pictures of himself. The suspect demanded that these pictures be of him completely undressed. He provided pictures. The suspect then advised the victim that they would share the images with his friends on Instagram unless he provided them with \$100. I advised them to discontinue any communication with the suspect. At the time of the report the images had not been disseminated by the suspect and no funds had been exchanged.

03.07 I made contact with the victim and she stated that a female named Melissa Sue listed a donkey for sale on Facebook Market Place for \$500. She stated that she responded to the post and was messaging back and forth with Melissa and was told that the donkey was at Birchbury Farms. She stated that she used Venmo to send Melissa a \$200 deposit for the donkey on 02/25/2023. She said that after the money was sent, Melissa never responded back to her messages and deleted the posting and her account on Facebook. The victim googled the farm and called the number and spoke with a female. The victim stated she told her that a Melissa did not live or work at the farm and that the farm didn't have any donkeys.

03.08 The victim reported that his computer was locked up and being controlled by someone. He was communicating with someone via phone and he was instructed he needed to send \$30,000 to an address in Florida. The victim banks at Wells Fargo and went to two different banks to withdraw the \$30,000. He obtained the cash and was instructed to send it to an address in Melbourne Florida. He went to a UPS store and sent the cash to that address on an overnight delivery. After he sent the money he knew he was scammed. He tried calling the local police in Florida however was unable to obtain any help he was looking for. I was able to speak to a Detective from the Broward County Sheriff/Melbourne Police Fraud Task Force about this issue. They were already aware of the address and the type of scam being committed. The detective was able to track the package which was delivered the day prior to this on 3-7-23 at 0930 hours. I gave this detective the victim's information and he will contact him.

### **Andover**

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

03.05 152xx Hanson Blvd NW – two juveniles caught stealing money out of unsecured lockers

## **Arrests**

03.04 13300 Block Round Lake Blvd NW – DWI 4<sup>th</sup> degree; a deputy stopped a driver for speeding 61/45. When he made contact with the driver, he appeared impaired and stated he had a couple of beers. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. .09

03.04 137xx Block Round Lake Blvd NW – Warrant, No Driver's License; a deputy ran a plate and discovered the driver did not have a license, but did have a warrant. He stopped the vehicle and the male was cooperative. He was arrested.

03.05 3200 Block Round Lake Blvd NW – No Driver's License; a deputy ran a plate and the registered owner driver's license was revoked. He stopped the driver, he was formally identified, and arrested.

03.05 Round Lake/140 Lane NW – Controlled Substance; a deputy stopped a vehicle for having expired tabs. When speaking with the occupants one refused to provide his identity. Fortunately the deputy knew him because he had arrested him before. He had a warrant. When the vehicle was searched, Oxy, needles, and other drugs were located. The male with the warrant was arrested.

03.07 Jay St/Hanson Blvd NW – DWI 4<sup>th</sup> degree; a deputy stopped a driver for having a headlight out. When he made contact with the driver, he could smell marijuana coming from the vehicle, which the driver acknowledged. The driver stated he had smoked a couple hours ago. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. Delta products were found in the vehicle as well as paraphernalia. A warrant for blood was obtained.

## **Bethel**

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

## **Columbus**

### **Arrests**

03.03 152xx Zurich St NE – Assault; a business called regarding a female on the property who had been trespassed. When they arrived, the female was offered many options after stating she didn't have any money and she refused them all. She began physically fighting with deputies and was arrested.

03.05 153xx Zodiac St NE – Warrant Arrests x 2; a deputy learned a male and female were both at the location and they had multiple warrants. He went to the location and was let in by the homeowner. Both suspects were located in the back bedroom with drugs and paraphernalia scattered about on the bed. They were arrested.

## **East Bethel**

### **Arrests**

03.04 229 Ave/Erskine St NW - Reckless Driving; a deputy clocked a driver going 105 mph in a 55 zone. He was stopped and arrested. When asked why he was going so fast, he stated "he had gotten off of work early."

03.05 11xx 231 Lane NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy learned a male with multiple warrants was at the location. He asked the homeowners if the man was there, they said yes, and called him out of the house. He was arrested.

03.05 University/221 Ave NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a driver for expired tabs. When the driver was identified, he had a warrant. He was arrested.

03.07 11xx 231 Lane NE – Assault; deputies responded to a physical fight between roommates involving an ax handle. When they arrived the situation was sorted out and one male was arrested. When searching him prior to putting him in the squad, meth was found.

## **Ham Lake**

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

03.07 8xx 170 Lane NE – observed a person in a vehicle rummaging through unsecured mailboxes

### **Arrests**

03.03 154xx Hwy 65 NE – Obstructing Legal Process; a caller reported a disorderly male at the location who had used meth and is currently outside destroying property. Deputies arrived and were able to identify the male who had a warrant out of Dakota County as well. They went to his apartment and located him; he was a big guy and refusing to identify himself. Deputies told him he was under arrest and he stated “no” and began to fight. He was eventually taken into custody and arrested.

03.03 3600 Block Crosstown Blvd NE – DWI 4<sup>th</sup> degree; a deputy stopped a driver for poor driving conduct. When she made contact with the driver, she appeared impaired and stated she had three beers. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. She was arrested. .13

03.04 24xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – Warrant Arrest; deputies learned there was a male at the location with two felony warrants. They arrived and were let in by the homeowner. The male was located and arrested.

03.04 Hwy 65/Bunker Lake Blvd NE – Hit & Run, DWI; deputies were responding to a hit and run call where a Lexus had struck a sedan and left. They located the Lexus and stopped it. The driver admitted to having a few beers and smoking marijuana. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. .23

03.05 Bunker/Yancy St NE – DWI 2<sup>nd</sup> degree; a deputy responded to a property damage crash where the driver stated he had to swerve to miss a deer. The driver appeared impaired and he stated he took a “pull” from a bottle of schnapps that was located outside the vehicle. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. .322 Charges were elevated due to the alcohol level and a prior DWI.

03.08 Hwy 65/143 Ave NE – Drugs; a deputy stopped a driver for speeding 92/65. When he made contact, the driver was apologetic for speeding and the deputy smelled weed. Someone in the vehicle blurted out there was a large bag of marijuana in the vehicle. The occupants were removed and the vehicle was searched. The driver was issued a citation for speeding and the male who admitted the marijuana was his will be charged by formal complaint.

## **Linwood**

03.05 Water Rescue; deputies, along with the fire department, assisted a male who went through the ice on Martin Lake with his snowmobile.

## Nowthen

### Arrests

03.05 Viking/Baugh St NW – No Insurance; a deputy stopped a vehicle for multiple equipment violations. The driver told the deputy he did not have a license and couldn't find his insurance information. The deputy called the insurance provider who stated the male was not insured. The male had recently been issued a citation for no insurance, this time he was arrested.

03.09 St Francis/Biking Blvd NW – DWI 4<sup>th</sup> degree; a deputy responded to a vehicle in the ditch. The witness said she was flagging down cars and appeared incoherent. When the deputy arrived the woman stated she was coming home to Coon Rapids from Maple Grove which was odd because she was in Nowthen. Deputies called her daughter to see if there were any medical issues and she stated no. The woman stated she had a two large beers. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. She was arrested. .194

03.09 21xxx St Francis Blvd NW – Warrant Arrest; a deputy went to the location because a woman at the location had a warrant. She answered the door and was arrested.

## Oak Grove

### Arrests

03.05 18300 Block Lake George Blvd NW – DWI 3<sup>rd</sup> degree; a deputy stopped a driver for speeding. When he made contact, the driver smelled of alcohol. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. Charges were elevated due to a prior DWI conviction and not having an ignition interlock system as required. He was arrested. .22

*\*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.*