



ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SHERIFF JAMES STUART

FRIDAY UPDATE: 03.12.21

This wasn't a scam, but it is going to be a headache to fix. It appears someone is putting fake MN license plates on vehicles in California.

On 03-05-21 at 0829 hours, I was dispatched to the Sheriff's Office regarding a possible fraud report. The victim reported receiving a letter from the San Diego Police Departments a few days ago. The letter indicated his vehicle was involved in a hit and run property damage accident and requested insurance information. The letter listed his correct license plate but gave the vehicle description as a Hyundai; the victim's vehicle is a 2018 Dodge Charger. The victim stated he has never been to California and I confirmed he is not missing either plate on his vehicle. His concern is the letter may be fraudulent.

I made contact with the Records Division of the San Diego Police and confirmed the letter was legitimate. I also obtained the email address for the Detective assigned to the accident and advised the victim to contact him.

Here is a new one. An alarm was going off on a computer with a request to call Microsoft.

The victim stated she had a loud alarm go off on her computer yesterday around 8 am. She stated she looked at the computer and it showed a message from Microsoft to call 1-844-328-1515. The victim stated she could not navigate out of the message and called the number. She said she made contact with someone and allowed them to remotely access her computer through Zoho Assist. She said the person looked through her computer for about 45 minutes going through her browsing history. She stated the person wanted her to open her bank accounts and that is when she turned off her computer and told the person she was done.

Andover

Thefts & Damage to Property

- 03.08 2xx 157 Ave NW – illegal dumping at the location
- 03.08 Bunker Park – a vehicle window was broken out while parked at the location; nothing taken
- 03.09 34xx 153 Ave NW – theft of mail; CC stolen and being used in Coon Rapids
- 03.09 Yellow Pine St NW – Craigslist scam; sent check for over asking price
- 03.10 142 Lane NW – scam call from "IRS" stating victims SS card found a vehicle in TX with cocaine
- 03.10 140 Lane NW – scam alarm on computer going off telling victim to call Microsoft
- 03.11 Vale St NW – scam call from "DEA" stating SS# involved in money laundering, narcotics

Arrests

03.05 Northwoods/139 Lane NW – 4th degree DWI; a deputy was called to a male slumped over in his vehicle. When he arrived, he located the male passed out with a needle in his arm. Once the male was woken up, field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. A warrant for blood was obtained and he was taken to the hospital. He will be charged by formal complaint.

03.08 13600 Block Round Lake Blvd NW – Drugs; a deputy stopped a driver for speeding. When the deputy turned on his lights, a call came out about a male with a gun inside a vehicle near-by. The deputy diverted to that call, went to the location where the male was supposed to be, but no one was there. The deputy turned around and located the original vehicle he had attempted to stop. He

located it and stopped it. The driver appeared under the influence of drugs. While speaking with the female, a male showed up near the scene screaming at deputies that he was recording the interaction and that "she" did nothing wrong and they were arresting the female illegally. Through investigation, meth, needles, and a brown liquid was found in the vehicle and the female was arrested. Another deputy went to make contact with the male screaming at them. It turned out he was the suspect's boyfriend and he had placed the fake 911 call to divert deputies. He was arrested too.

03.08 162xx Tulip St NE – Attempt to Locate Request; Cambridge PD requested a deputy to check the location for a male that had a probable cause pick up for a felony. The deputy went to the location and located the male. He was arrested.

03.10 20xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – Shoplifting; deputies responded to a call of a shoplifter leaving the store with over \$1500 worth of merchandise. The suspect had stolen from the store before and the store identified him. When he stepped outside, he was given a trespass notice and arrested.

Bethel

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

Columbus

Arrests

03.08 86xx 181 Ave NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy went to the location to locate a female with a felony warrant out of Washington County. When the deputy arrived, the female he was looking for saw him and went into the house. The owner of the house told the deputy the female wasn't there. He explained that he saw her and requested permission to go in the home and get her. The female was located hiding in the closet. She was arrested.

East Bethel

Thefts & Damage to Property

03.10 Austin St NE – email scam, MacAfee software overcharge and wanted certified check back

03.10 214xx Ulysses St NE – window broken on vehicle in parking lot; change stolen

03.11 16xx Viking Blvd NE – mailbox run over by a vehicle

Arrests

03.05 23300 Block Hwy 65 NE – 3rd degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for poor driving conduct. When the deputy made contact with the driver, he observed an cup of beer in the cup holder. The driver appeared impaired. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. She was arrested. .25

03.05 181xx Hwy 65 NE – Warrant Arrest; WI Department of Corrections called an asked us to check the location for a male that had jumped bail. Deputies went to the location, located the male and arrested him without incident.

03.06 19500 block Leyte St NE – Controlled Substance Possession; a deputy ran a license plate and the registered owner came back revoked. He stopped the vehicle. When he approached the vehicle, a strong odor of unsmoked marijuana was present. The vehicle was searched, and TCH cartridges, syrup, marijuana, cash, and distribution materials were found. The male was arrested.

03.07 39xx 191 Ave NE – Warrant Arrest; deputies went to the location because a male that was there had a warrant. He was located and arrested.

03.08 237xx Hwy 65 NE – Warrant Arrest; while getting gas, the deputy recognized a female with a warrant at the location. He confirmed her identity and she was arrested. While being put in the squad, she was trying to conceal drugs in her bra; meth was found.

03.08 Hwy 65/237 Ave NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a vehicle for having inoperable brake lights. When the driver was identified, it was discovered she had a warrant. She was arrested. When asking the passenger about driving the vehicle home from the scene, it was discovered there was not insurance on it and he did not have a driver's license. The deputies then ordered a tow. While searching the vehicle prior to towing it, drugs were found - and they belonged to the passenger, so he was arrested too.

03.10 204xx Hwy 65 NE – Drugs; a deputy responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle. She located the vehicle and made contact with the two occupants. While speaking with them, drugs were located. The driver was arrested, and the vehicle was towed.

Ham Lake

Thefts & Damage to Property

03.05 13xx 153 Lane NE – catalytic converter cut off a vehicle in business parking lot

03.09 159xx Lincoln St NE – forklift stolen from a business; driven off property

03.09 148xx Aberdeen St NE – work vehicle stolen from parking lot; keys in it

03.09 144 Ave NE – Amazon scam; email verifying a \$6000 purchase which was fake

03.09 175xx Hwy 65 NE – bag stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked in lot

03.11 12xx 153 Lane NE – Amazon scam; verifying a \$529 purchase which was fake

Arrests

03.06 149/Xylite St NE – Controlled Substance Possession; a deputy stopped a vehicle for having an obstructed view. When he made contact with the driver, a meth pipe was seen. The three people inside the vehicle were asked to step out and the vehicle was searched; additional meth was found. The driver was arrested.

03.07 146xx Hwy 65 NE – 3rd degree DWI; a deputy was dispatched to the area for an open 911 line. He located a vehicle in the parking lot of a business that was closed. When he made contact with the driver, she appeared impaired. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. She was arrested. .25

03.08 177xx Central Ave NE – 3rd degree DWI; on routine patrol a deputy observed a vehicle parked in front of a closed business with its headlights on. He made contact with the driver who was sleeping behind the wheel. The driver appeared impaired. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. .168 Charges were elevated due to a prior DWI conviction.

03.10 19xx Mankato Cir NE – Warrant Arrest; a probation officer requested deputies go to the location and arrest a male who had a Department of Corrections warrant. The male was located and arrested.

Linwood

Thefts & Damage to Property

03.10 Viking Blvd NE – phone scam said victim had a warrant for drug trafficking

Arrests

03.08 20700 Block Viking Blvd NE – Controlled Substance Possession; a deputy stopped a driver because he knew she had a warrant. When searching the vehicle, drugs and a gun were found. She was arrested.

Nowthen

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

Oak Grove

Thefts & Damage to Property

03.05 199xx Grouse St NW – wiring cut from a new home under construction, \$5K loss

03.05 212xx Old Lake George Blvd NW – trailer stolen overnight

**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 and click on Crime Statistics on the left side. Stats are updated monthly.