



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

**FRIDAY UPDATE: 05.27.22**

### **Scams**

05.20 Deputies were asked to check the welfare of a female who just withdrew \$13,000 from her bank account for an unknown reason and mailed it in the form of a cashier's check to a male in Alaska who claimed to be with Publisher's Clearing House. Upon arrival, I met with the victim. She confirmed that she withdrew \$13,000 from her Wells Fargo account and that she wasn't sending the money by way of gift cards to a scammer. She assured me she was aware of all the scams out there and that she could do with her money what she wanted. She stated that she withdrew and sent the money on 05/18/2022, paying for overnight shipping through FedEx at the Andover Walmart. I then started naming off some of the scams that normally target the elderly community. When I brought up Publisher's Clearing House, she presented me a folder with papers inside that had the Publisher's Clearing House logo on it. She advised that she printed the literature off of a link that was given to her by a male named Arthur Farmer who claimed to be with Publisher's Clearing House and advised she had won the main prize of \$18 million. I read through the literature and in it there was language stating the winner must purchase an insurance policy for \$35k to insure the transaction. The victim stated that she was one of three people to win, and she was contributing \$13k to the insurance. As I was speaking with her, her landline rang, and on the phone was Arthur Farmer. When I identified myself as Deputy Shipman with the Anoka County Sheriff's Office, the line disconnected. A few minutes later the phone rang again, and it was Arthur Farmer. I again identified myself and he hung up on me again. Next, I escorted the victim to Wells Fargo to see if she could cancel the check. The check had been cashed.

05.20 A female reported she was a victim of a scam. She was contacted by an unknown person claiming to be with Amazon. She was told there was an issue with her account and was told to go on her computer and click on certain web links. Once she clicked on the link, she advised the unknown person had access to her computer and obtained her personal information and passwords. The victim said the person told her if she was able to send \$4000 in gift cards the issue would be fixed, and she would receive her \$4000 back. She went to Target and CVS and obtained \$4000 worth of gift cards. The victim then gave the unknown person the gift card numbers. She said the person originally requested a credit card number however she was not comfortable with that, so she went to the bank, withdrew \$4000 and purchased the gift cards.

05.24 I made phone contact with the victim who stated back on April 25 a man who called himself Son advised her that she had won a brand new car, but would need to send her \$500 dollars in a visa vanilla gift card for tax purposes to get the vehicle. She stated since April 25 she has been told by this male to keep sending gift cards for other reasons and she sent him 6 Visa cards all worth \$500 dollars for a total of \$3,000 dollars in loss. She stated she would get the cards from Kwik trip, Dollar General and Cub Foods and give the male the card numbers over the phone. She went to her bank today and they advised her that this was a scam. She contacted the number on the gift cards and all the money has been used. She is going to email me the phone number used and the card numbers she got.

### **Andover**

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

05.22 35xx 161 St NW – vandalism; a soccer field at the park was torn up by a vehicle

05.23 142xx Vale St NW – vandalism; a home was egged two nights in a row

05.24 13xx 146 Lane NW – gutters that had been removed from home and in the yard were stolen

#### **Arrests**

05.21 24xx 135 Ave NW – Domestic Assault; deputies were called to a physical fight between an ex-boyfriend/girlfriend. The BF had fled. After investigating, deputies found the BF hiding in the neighborhood and he was arrested.

05.23 25xx 138 Ave NW – Warrant Arrest; deputies went to the location to look for a male with a warrant. He was located and arrested.

05.25 136xx Crosstown Blvd NW – Domestic Assault; a female reported a male who she has a restraining order against was currently chasing her in a vehicle and trying to hit her. The deputies located the female and eventually the male. He was arrested.

## **Bethel**

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

## **Columbus**

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

05.20 155xx Hornsby St NE – theft of items from an excavator at a construction site

05.26 140xx Lake Dr NE – lock cut off of multiple storage units; tools, figurines, misc.

### **Arrests**

05.24 75xx 152 Lane NE – Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a call of a husband/wife domestic, and the husband had left the location. After investigating it was determined the husband would be arrested. He was located in a vehicle, stopped, and arrested.

## **East Bethel**

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

05.23 24xx 228 Ave NE – catalytic converter cut off RV parked at the location

### **Arrest**

05.24 206xx Jewell St NE – Reckless Discharge of a Firearm; a caller reported a male at the location shooting a gun into the air. Deputies arrived and established a perimeter and launched a drone; while setting up, deputies observed the male discharge the gun 40 times. A negotiator got on the PA and advised the male to walk down the driveway with his hands up. He listened and did as he was told. He was arrested. He appeared impaired and PBT'd .298.

## **Ham Lake**

### **Arrests**

05.24 16600 Block Hwy 65 NE – DWI; a deputy observed poor driving conduct and pulled over a driver. The driver appeared impaired and had a suspended license. She stated he had a couple Long Island Teas. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. She was arrested. .17

## **Linwood**

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

05.23 228xx Typo Creek Dr NE – vandalism on the top of the recycling center

## **Nowthen**

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

## **Oak Grove**

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

*\*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.*