



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

**FRIDAY UPDATE: 11.05.21**

So many scams this week; please share what you learn here with others.

### **Scam**

10.29 I made contact with the victim; he stated his wife received a phone call that stated their daughter was at the Anoka County Jail. The call came from 763-206-7021, and the caller sounded like a younger female. The caller stated they had two minutes to talk, and they needed to call 786-588-0615 to find out more information. The wife called the number, and they stated the daughter's first and last name and that she was involved in an accident and she was being held at the Anoka County Jail. The wife then hung up the phone and called her daughter; she was fine.

10.29 The caller stated he received a phone call from 763-773-5889 from a person pretending to be his daughter. She stated she was in Hennepin County after being in a car accident and he needed to call 786-588-0615. After calling the number, the person who answered told him she was from probation and his daughter needed \$8000 to get out of jail. He stated that both were very convincing, but he did not pay anything. He then called his daughter and confirmed with her that she was fine and not in trouble.

11.01 Scam on Reddit. The victim was communicating with someone on Reddit and agreed to sell him his basketball card collection. They exchanged package tracking numbers – one for the money, one for the cards. The guy that was supposed to send the money was a scammer so he received \$1300 of cards for free.

11.02 The victim stated she received an email from who she thought was her boss. The email instructed her to purchase 5- \$200 USD Apple gift cards. The email then instructed her to send the card codes to an email account, so she did. After she sent the card codes, she realized it was a scam. The victim contacted Apple and discovered 1 of the gift cards had already been used but she was able to cancel the other 4 cards.

11.03 The victim advised she got a phone call from someone claiming to be with Xcel Energy. She said they told her that her power would be shut off if she didn't pay them. They asked for her account number so they could take the payment on the phone. The victim said she hung up the phone and called us to report the call. She knew her account is up to date with Xcel.

11.04 The victim stated that back in September he got a call from what he thought was QuickBooks regarding some software that they would install for his business. He stated that they gave the person access to their computer systems to help find what works best for his company. On 09/20/21 they took \$3,500 dollars out of his account for the new software. At this time, he hasn't gotten any software and is getting the run around from a male named Alex. He found out later that this was most likely a scam. He stated he contacted his bank who advised him to contact the Sheriff's Office

for a report. At this time, he isn't sure if they will reimburse him the money that was missing. He stated he got a phone number of 877-204-4952 and an address of 809 Secaucus Rd in Jersey City, NJ 07307. The phone number came up as a scam number for QuickBooks.

11.04 The victim called to report that she had been scammed into sending gift cards and using Zelle to send money. She said she sent about \$7000. It started when she received a text message from an unknown number (773-832-8823.) The text gave the name of an old friend, who the victim knew but hadn't seen in three years. The scammer, pretending to be the friend and said that she had a new job at Paxful.com and could make money for her. Paxful appears to be an online cryptocurrency exchange. The scammer texted her that if she sent a \$500 gift card, she would be repaid \$7900. The victim said that she thought that sounded "*legit*" so she got a gift card and texted the info. She said that she was then informed that there were some fees that needed to be paid so she continued to get gift cards and send the info. They also said that they needed a copy of her DL so she sent them a picture of it. They said they needed her Facebook password, so she sent it. After sending almost \$7000, she said she was informed that there was a final fee of \$1000 that she needed to use Zelle for. Zelle is the Wells Fargo exchange. She attempted to Zelle \$1000 to "Amida Adewunmi." Wells Fargo stopped the transaction and told her that it was a scam. The scammer told her that they would lower the final fee to \$700 so she used Zelle to send that to "Amida Adewunmi" and it went through. The victim now thinks that the whole thing might be a scam and admits that she hasn't actually talked to her friend Faufaba in three years and still hasn't verified that she was actually being texted by her. She said that they have locked her out of her Facebook account. I told her that she had been scammed and that there was little chance that we would be able to locate any suspects. I advised her to contact Wells Fargo and she said that she already did.

## **Andover**

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

10.29 152xx Hanson Blvd NW – damage to garage doors at business caused by kids on bikes

11.01 135xx Crooked Lake Blvd NW – theft of mail; checks washed and cashed in Blaine

11.03 134xx Marigold Cir NW – recovered stolen vehicle; windows broken, ignition punched

### **Arrests**

10.30 Hanson/154 Ave NW – Warrant Arrest; a deputy observed a male driving and knew he didn't have a driver's license, but he did have a warrant. The driver was stopped and arrested.

10.30 Bunker/Jonquil St NW – Fleeing in a Motor Vehicle; a deputy attempted to stop a vehicle because both the driver and passenger have multiple warrants and no driver's license. The vehicle fled from the deputy. Being the identities of those involved were known, the pursuit was called off. This case will be charged through the court system.

10.30 16700 Block Hanson Blvd NW – 4<sup>th</sup> degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for crossing the fog line multiple times and speeding. When the deputy was talking to the driver, he appeared impaired. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. .08

11.04 144xx Vale St NW – 3<sup>rd</sup> degree DWI, Fleeing; a deputy was responding to a 911 hang-up call. When he arrived at the address, he observed a vehicle leaving the scene at a high rate of speed and it did not have a license plate. He turned on the vehicle and attempted to stop it. It did not stop. He continued following the vehicle that was now traveling at posted speeds. Eventually the driver pulled over, the deputy got out of his vehicle and the driver fled again. The deputy pitted the vehicle to get

it to stop. The driver appeared impaired and there was an open bottle of alcohol and the vehicle smelled like marijuana. She was arrested. A warrant for a blood draw was obtained.

## **Bethel**

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

## **Columbus**

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

11.02 152xx Zurich St NE – victim left vehicle fob in restroom; vehicle was stolen from parking lot

### **Arrests**

10.30 152xx Zurich St NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy was called to check on a female wandering in the area. When the deputy made contact, she stated she was just going wherever the wind was taking her. The deputy asked her if she had warrants and she said probably. She was identified and had a warrant out of Cook county. She was arrested.

11.03 Broadway/Lyons St NE – Criminal Vehicular Operation; deputies responded to a two-vehicle crash. When they arrived, one vehicle was in the ditch, the other upside down in the middle of the roadway. When evaluating injuries, the driver of one vehicle smelled like alcohol. Field sobriety tests were conducted and she failed. Due to moderate injuries of others involved, a warrant for blood was obtained. The suspect driver was taken to the hospital and then jail. .239

## **East Bethel**

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

11.01 1xx Collen St NE – material dumped in gas tank causing over \$9K in damage

11.01 20xx Deerwood Lane NE – theft of license plate from vehicle, replaced with an old plate

### **Arrests**

10.30 Hwy 65/Sims Rd NE – No Proof of Insurance; a deputy stopped a driver because he knew he did not have a driver's license. The driver was unable to provide a DL or insurance and he was arrested.

11.02 4832 Viking Blvd NE – Domestic Assault; a child called to report her father punched her mother and left her on the side of the road. Deputies went to multiple locations and finally located the mother on the side of the road crying. After investigating, the male was arrested.

## **Ham Lake**

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

10.31 165/Lexington Ave NE – illegal dumping on the corner; tv's, air hockey, headboard

10.31 133xx Radisson Rd NE – theft of motorcycle out of an unlocked shed

11.01 140xx Lincoln St NE – window on a vehicle broken; purse stolen

11.01 19xx 168 Ave NE – theft from unlocked vehicle overnight; PlayStation, jewelry

11.02 134xx Hwy 65 NE - stolen vehicle recovered at the location

11.03 154xx Hwy 65 NE – theft of a motorcycle from driveway; put on a trailer to take

### **Arrests**

10.31 137xx Aberdeen St NE – 4<sup>th</sup> degree DWI; on routine patrol a deputy observed a running vehicle in a lot and it was suspicious. He made contact with a female in the driver's seat of the

running vehicle. When he tried to talk to her, she was just looking at him with a blank stare. A male that was in the passenger seat of the vehicle exited and came after the deputy. The deputy took the male down and ordered the female to stay where she was until other deputies arrived to assist. Once the situation was under control, field sobriety tests were administered to the female. Due to obvious intoxication, she couldn't follow direction and for her safety the testing was stopped. She was arrested. .225 The male passenger was also arrested for obstruction.

10.31 33xx 167 Lane NE – Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a husband/wife domestic. The wife had fled prior to deputies arrived. She was located and arrested.

11.01 70xx Ivy Lane NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy went to the location looking for a female with a warrant. She was located and arrested.

## **Linwood**

### **Arrests**

10.31 Viking/Heidelberg -Criminal Vehicular Operation; deputies responded to a crash where someone hit an occupied parked vehicle. When they arrived, one male was transported to the hospital for injuries and the other appeared uninjured but possibly impaired. Field sobriety tests were started but not finished due to a pain in the suspect's hip. A warrant for blood was obtained and the driver was transported to the hospital for the draw and then to jail.

11.02 66xx 230 Ave NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy observed a male driving and knew he had a warrant. He stopped the vehicle and arrested the male.

## **Nowthen**

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

## **Oak Grove**

### **Arrests**

10.30 225/Rum River Blvd NW – 3<sup>rd</sup> degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for traveling 73 in a 55. When he made contact with he driver, he appeared impaired. He stated he had about four beers in two hours. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. .16

*\*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.*