



ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SHERIFF JAMES STUART

FRIDAY UPDATE: 11.25.22

Scams

11.18 The caller stated that her son added an unknown person on Snapchat who he thought was a female. She stated that he realized it was not a female and it is an unknown male. She stated that the male is messaging her son saying that he needs to pay \$150 otherwise the male would post an inappropriate photo of him on Facebook. The mother also stated that because her son's location was on, the male was able to see where they live. She also stated that the male is messaging through an unknown email address. She asked me what they should do and I advised them to block and delete the contact on Snapchat and his phone.

11.19 Facebook Fraud: The victim stated that she saw a job offer on a Facebook swap site and she contacted them through email and the telegram app. She filled out a W2 form, had interviews, and gave other personal information through the contacts. She realized that it was a scam after people started posting on the original Facebook post about their experiences. She wanted to know what she should do due to her giving out so much personal information including her social security number. I advised her to put a credit freeze on her credit score and to change the passwords for all of her sensitive information. I also advised her to monitor her banking information and to notify LE if anything is found missing or changed. She had not given any money to the scam at this time, only personal information.

11.20 The victim advised me that he signed up through a link on Instagram to win \$200,000.00. He stated that he received a phone call from 141-590-0411 and was advised that he won the grand prize. The person told him to send him \$400.00 in Amazon Gift Cards in order to collect his grand prize. He informed me that he purchased the gift cards and sent them the card numbers. He concluded that this was a scam and told the person that he contacted the sheriff's office. The victim informed me that he is now getting threatening messages. I advised him to contact his bank and to block the phone number.

11.21 Instagram Blackmail: The victim started a chat with someone on Instagram. He believed this unknown person to be someone who was sexually interested in him. Their chat became sexual in nature and the other person began a video chat with him and an inappropriate video was captured. A short time later, the victim received an Instagram message from someone with the handle @denise.wood115 and the name of "Denise Wood." "Denise" sent the victim the video she had taken. She said he needed to pay "her" \$2500 or "she" would disseminate the video to his friends and upload it to YouTube to "ruin his life." Denise claimed "her" mother had cancer and "she" needed the money to pay for an operation. "Denise" started a countdown and because he did not pay the money, "she" started a group chat with a number of his Instagram friends. "Denise" sent the video to the group chat. I explained to him that this was a common scam, and he said he did not send any money. I told him to block the account and delete his Instagram account.

11.21 The victim stated that a recruiter for a company called Boll & Branch wanted to hire her. She said that the recruiter, James Lacey, at 508-350-3095, stated that he needed to send her \$1,699.98 to buy computer equipment. She stated James requested that she provide his driver's license information and Wells Fargo bank information. She advised that Wells Fargo has opened a new account for her. I advised her to call the credit bureaus to report the scam and their identity possibly being stolen.

11.23 The victim called to report he was being extorted for money over nude photos he had sent to a Snapchat account. He said he received pictures from a female over Snapchat account "rhode_gahallaga". He sent back a picture. He then received a long paragraph explaining the account holder had his genital picture and was going to disseminate them over social media to all his friends if he did not send him \$300. He spoke over the phone via Snapchat with the account holder, who had a thick Indian accent. The male had him attempt to send \$300 via CashApp, Zelle, gift cards, etc. The victim's bank would not allow the transactions to go through because he had previous strikes on his card that prevent large purchases. The male told the victim to have the payment completed by 0930 or he would disseminate his pictures to all of his Instagram followers. I told the victim not to send any money, as they would just keep asking for more. He said he would post a message to his social media about it being hacked.

Andover

Thefts & Damage to Property

11.22 12xx 143 Lane NW – a garage door/driveway was hit with paintballs

Arrests

11.23 151xx Bluebird St NW – 2nd degree DWI; a business called in a suspicious person in the parking lot. Deputies located a woman in her running vehicle and observed "shooters" in her cup holders; she appeared impaired. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. She was arrested. Charges were elevated due to a prior DWI conviction. .16

11.24 Bunker Lake/Crane St NW – 3rd degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for not having his headlights on and it was after 2 am. When the deputy made contact, he smelled alcohol and the driver stated he had about 8 drinks. Field sobriety tests were conducted and stopped due to safety concerns. He was arrested. .18

Bethel

Thefts & Damage to Property

11.20 235xx University Ave NW – theft of an enclosed trailer from a business parking lot

11.22 240xx Alder St NW – window on a vehicle parked at the location broken

Columbus

Thefts & Damage to Property

11.20 182xx Bender St NE – a home was egged

Arrests

11.20 14000 Block Lake Dr NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a driver for passing on the shoulder. When the deputy made contact, he recognized the man and knew he did not have a license but did have a warrant. He was arrested.

11.21 153xx Zodiac St NE – Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a mother/daughter domestic. The daughter was arrested.

East Bethel

Thefts & Damage to Property

11.18 4xx 196 Ave NE – theft from an unlocked vehicle in the driveway; glasses, phone holder

Arrests

11.18 Hwy 65/Sims Rd NE – Drugs; a deputy stopped a vehicle for having a break light out. When the deputy made contact, the driver appeared nervous. He spoke separately with the passenger and the driver about what was up, and they had different stories. The deputy asked to search the vehicle and the driver said yes. Before placing the driver in back of the squad while the vehicle was searched, the driver was patted down. A large bag of meth was found in his pocket. He was arrested.

11.21 24xx 216 Ave NE – Warrant Arrest; Isanti County called us and asked deputies to go to the location and look for a male that had a “probable cause pick up” for a order for protection violation. The male was located, arrested, and transported to the Isanti deputy.

Ham Lake

Thefts & Damage to Property

11.18 7xx 173 Ave NE – recovered stolen out of Blaine; ignition punched

11.19 149xx Xylite St NE – mailbox damaged by a vehicle; car parts left at the scene

11.21.2022 1620xx Central Ave NE – rock thrown through business windows; thief stole key fob and then stole a car off the sales lot

Arrests

11.19 172xx Eveleth St NE – No Contact Order Violation; deputies were called to the location because a male who had a no contact order against him was there. He was located and arrested.

11.21 1400 Block Crosstown Blvd NE – No Driver’s License; a deputy was at a gas station and observed a male drive up to a pump. He knew the male did not have a driver’s license. The male was arrested. Drugs were also found in the vehicle.

Linwood

Arrests

11.22 20300 Block Viking Blvd NE – DWI, Controlled Substance; a deputy stopped a driver for not wearing a seatbelt. When he made contact, the driver appeared beyond the normal nervousness. The driver admitted to using meth four hours prior. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed; a warrant for blood was obtained. The driver was arrested.

Nowthen

Thefts & Damage to Property

11.21 185 Ave/Nowthen Blvd NW – illegal dumping; furniture, appliances, clothing

11.22 18xx Nowthen Blvd NW – x 2 illegal dumping at the recycling center; suspect identified

Arrests

11.22 Viking/Iguana St NW – No Driver’s License, Drugs; a deputy stopped a driver for speeding 62/55. The driver was identified and he did not have a driver’s license. When asked to step out of the

vehicle, the deputy observed marijuana and paraphernalia in the driver's door. The male was arrested.

Oak Grove

Thefts & Damage to Property

11.18 224xx University Ave NW – a vehicle in the driveway was egged

11.20 33xx 181 Av NW – mailbox ran down by a vehicle

11.20 228xx Grouse St NW – catalytic converter cut of a vehicle parked at the location

**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.