



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

**FRIDAY UPDATE: 10.18.19**

Our insight this week comes from a scam we have seen before, but the difference is the scammers kept the victim on the phone for 6 hours, she talked to multiple people, they were possibly sending "fake" texts from her phone to her husband, and had this woman convinced she was going to jail. We are still actively investigating the situation, and we wanted to share with you what we can.

The call started with a husband reporting his wife should have been home, she was not, and he could not get ahold of her. This was out of character. The wife was responding to some text messages, but not in a timely manner and the context of her texts were suspicious. She was talking about the FBI arresting her and saying that they needed to transfer all their money into Walmart gift cards. The husband kept texting saying this was a scam and asking her to return home.

The deputy was able to reach the woman via phone while she was on the phone with the scammer. The deputy made sure she was alone and safe and then advised her to hang up the phone. The scammer told her that if she hung up, she would seem uncooperative in their investigation and would be immediately arrested.

Apparently, the scammers told the woman that she had a warrant for her arrest because someone used her Social Security Number and name to rent a vehicle in Virginia. The vehicle was then found to have 7 lbs. of cocaine in it, along with information that lead them to find an apartment. The apartment was searched, and evidence was found that she was involved in laundering money from drug sales. She was told if she did not cooperate and comply, her funds were going to be frozen and seized.

During this conversation, she spoke with multiple agents – two of which were: Robin Williams, badge number 173559 at 804.318.4970 and Kevin Brown at 804.317.4970. Kevin was the one who advised her on how to transfer the money into cards and send him the numbers on the cards. He also stated that they were on a federally monitored line and if she broke the connection for any reason, she would be found uncooperative.

Over the next few hours, the wife purchased over \$9500 in cards. Once our deputy finally got ahold of her and advised her it was a scam, she hung up and returned home. I know many would question how this story could be believed, and I am here to tell you, these scam artists are very convincing – heck, some could win an Academy Award. We are just happy we could make contact and convince her that this was really a scam and she was not in trouble.

### **Andover**

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

- 10.11 9xx 139 Ave NW – attempted IRS scam; no loss
- 10.12 156xx Dakota St NW – attempted Publishers Clearing House scam; no loss
- 10.12 160xx Yellow Pine St NW – mail stolen from the location; check cashed fraudulently
- 10.13 32xx 176 Ln NW – unsecure vehicle; work boots, tools
- 10.15 35xx 141 Ln NW - attempted Publishers Clearing House scam; no money lost
- 10.15 140xx Alder St NW – male reporting fraudulent charges made in California to his CC
- 10.15 16xx Crosstown Blvd NW – business - vandalism to the building; lockbox, water spout
- 10.15 24xx 177 Ln NW – vandalism to a mailbox
- 10.16 22xx 151 Ave NW – vandalism; items thrown at house, ding-dong ditch – suspects identified

## **Arrests**

10.11 Palm St NW/181 Ave NW – DWI; deputies responded to a two vehicle property damage crash at the location. One of the driver's appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested.

10.12 18xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – No Contact Order Violation; deputies responded to the location about a shoplifting call. The deputies learned that the female has a no contact order on the male she was with. The male was arrested for violating the no contact order and the female was arrested for shoplifting.

10.14 32xx 157 Ave NW – Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a driver for dragging a mattress behind a vehicle. The driver had an active warrant. The male was arrested.

10.14 14800 Block of Round Lake Blvd NW – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for speeding. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. During the search of the male and the vehicle, narcotics were located. The male was arrested.

10.15 136xx Partridge Cir NW – Warrant Arrest; deputies responded to the location in an attempt to locate a male with an active warrant. The male was located and arrested.

10.17 18xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – Theft; a deputy responded to a shoplifter who had already stolen once from the store earlier that day. He arrived, located the woman and she was arrested.

## **Bethel**

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

## **Columbus**

### **Arrests**

10.13 147xx Lake Dr NE – DWI; deputies responded to a property damage crash at the location. One of the drivers appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. .289

## **East Bethel**

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

10.11 204xx Hwy 65 NE – catalytic converters stolen off seven vehicles

10.11 185xx Lakeview Point Dr NE – Excel Energy scam; \$489.32 loss

10.14 204xx Hwy 65 NE – catalytic converter stolen off a vehicle

10.15 12xx 185 Ave NE – tools stolen from a construction site

### **Arrests**

10.12 181xx Hwy 65 NE – Domestic Assault; deputies responded to an assault between two females. One of the females was arrested.

10.14 Hwy 65 NE/233 Ave NE – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for poor driving conduct. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. .07

10.15 196xx Taylor St NW – Warrant Arrest; deputies responded to the location in an attempt to locate a male with an active warrant. The male was located and arrested.

10.17 181xx Hwy 65 NE – Trespassing; a male was arrested because he went to a location he had been previously trespassed from.

## **Ham Lake**

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

- 10.11 174xx Polk St NE – attempted SS# scam; no loss
- 10.13 139xx Lexington Ave NE – license plate stolen off a vehicle
- 10.14 149xx Quamba St NE – license plates stolen off a vehicle
- 10.15 1xxxx Dunkirk St NE – FBI scam; \$9,500 loss
- 10.17 37xx Constance Blvd NE – hemp plants cut from field
- 10.17 12xx 153 Lane NE – IRS scam; said victim had warrants and they needed money
- 10.17 50xx Ivy Lane NE – vandalism; juveniles throwing rocks at a building
- 10.17 13xx 1667 Ave E – Social Security Scam; no financial loss

### **Arrests**

10.16 154xx Hwy 65 NE – Disorderly Conduct; deputies responded to a domestic between a brother and sister. The brother could not control his anger towards deputies and he was arrested for disorderly.

## **Linwood**

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

- 10.12 213xx Viking Blvd NE – attempted Microsoft scam; no loss

## **Nowthen**

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

- 10.13 190xx St Francis Blvd NW – unsecure vehicles; sunglasses, hat
- 10.13 199xx Cleary Rd NW – vehicle window smashed; electronics
- 10.17 214xx Dolomite St NW – theft from an RV parked on the property; battery
- 10.17 214xx Dolomite St NW – theft form an RV parked in the driveway; battery

## **Oak Grove**

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

- 10.15 211xx Old Lake George Blvd NW – canoe stolen from the property

### **Arrests**

10.15 38xx 218 Ave NW – Warrant Arrest; deputies responded to the location in an attempt to locate a make with an active warrant. The male was located and arrested.

## **Laura Landes & Missi Reeder**

### **Crime Prevention**

### **Anoka County Sheriff's Office**

*\*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.*