

Neighborhood Watch Crime Bulletin # 52 To All Our Neighborhood Watch Personnel:



Our Latest and Greatest Crime Bulletin

Information gathered from citizens is a critical component in effective law enforcement. Criminals often like to talk about their activities, and citizens are the eyes and ears of our community. Suspicious activity needs to be reported, and it is often the alert observations of a citizen that provides critical information to the police. With this in mind, I will be highlighting an **unsolved** case in each Crime Bulletin with the hope that one of our citizens may have heard or seen something that was not reported to the police. Information can be passed along **anonymously** to the listed investigator.

- **Robbery Investigation:**

On August 14, police responded to Duck Cove Circle with the report of a robbery. A female victim reported that a white male, wearing a dark colored hooded sweatshirt, with a mask covering half his face, approached her in her driveway and threatened her with a hammer. The suspect then took her wallet and fled on foot. A dark colored vehicle, low to the ground was seen leaving the area immediately afterward. Follow-up investigation listed the suspect as a white male, between 18-25 years of age with light colored bangs sticking out of the hoodie.

Any citizen having information about this case can contact Detective First Class Tish Ottey at 410-641-7747.

- **Bomb Threat:**

With the advent of social media, cyber bullying and threats can be made online. As recent national events have illustrated, police must take these threats seriously. A local juvenile made threats to injure other juveniles with an alleged explosive device. Included with these threats was a picture of the alleged device. Ocean Pines Police obtained search warrant and located a homemade hoax device incapable of detonation.

The juvenile was charged with several related criminal charges and placed in the custody of the Department of Juvenile Services. Assisting in this investigation was the Worcester County Fire Marshall's Office, the Worcester County Sheriff's Department and the Ocean City Bomb Squad. These threats are taken very seriously by all public safety agencies

- **Domestic Violence Arrests:**

Since our last Crime Bulletin, police have made five (5) arrests for domestic assault within our community.

- **Assault on a Police Office:**

In one of these domestic assault cases, the responding police officer was assaulted, and the suspect was charged with Second Degree Assault.

- **Burglary/Theft Arrests:**

Three local juveniles were arrested for 2nd Degree Burglary of the Ocean Pines Tennis Clubhouse. Police regularly do security checks of **all** Ocean Pines facilities, at night.

- **Theft from Vehicles Arrest:**

A 23 year old man was charged with multiple thefts from unlocked vehicles in the Robinhood Trail neighborhood. Luckily, most of the stolen property was recovered **before** the suspect had a chance of disposing of it. This points out, **once again**, the need for our residents to LOCK their vehicles when they are left unattended.

- **Boat Fire/Injuries:**

Ocean Pines Police were the first emergency responders on the scene of a boat explosion and fire in a canal in Ocean Pines. Three individuals were burned and were flown to a regional burn center for treatment. The boat was totally destroyed. The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department, the Worcester County Fire Marshall, and the Maryland Natural Resources Police all responded to the scene. In cases occurring on the water, the Maryland Natural Resources Police are in charge of the investigation. This fire is believed to be accidental in nature.

- **Auto Parade and Show:**

The Police department and Neighborhood Watch assisted in the Ocean Pines Annual Classic Car Show, which was held at the Veteran's Memorial. Many antique and classic cars participated, and a parade was held along Ocean Parkway from White Horse Park to the Veteran's Memorial.

THANK YOU, Neighborhood Watch!

Take a bite out of Crime! Join neighborhood Watch!

Chief David C. Massey, Ed.D.