

Neighborhood Watch Crime Bulletin #64 To All Our Neighborhood Watch Personnel:



Our Latest and Greatest Crime Bulletin

The Summer Season is upon us. Knowing that to be the case, we can expect a much greater presence of vehicles, joggers and bicyclists on our roadways. Juveniles under 16 are required to wear bike helmets, when biking, but there is no fine for this under Maryland law. The Ocean Pines Police are providing bike helmets to families **in need**, without cost.

- **Barricade Incident:**

As the result of a domestic incident, a man threatened his relatives with a knife, then fled the police and barricaded himself in his residence. Police were able to make a stealthy entry into his residence and wrestle the knife away, taking him into custody, without injury.

- **Prostitution Arrest:**

A suspected heroin addict was advertising sexual services over the internet. An undercover police officer arrested her when she tried to solicit him for prostitution. Unfortunately, the curse of addiction often drives its victims to unlawful conduct.

- **Burglary Arrest and Assault on Police Officers:**

Responding to a complaint of burglary, police located the suspect inside the residence. When police tried to arrest him, he assaulted three officers. He was taken into custody, without injury, after a short struggle.

- **Drug Arrest:**

As the result of a security check of a local park, in the early morning hours, a 38 year old Ocean Pines man was charged with possession of suspected marijuana with intent to distribute. Police located approximately 117 grams of suspected marijuana in two containers in a vehicle.

- **Possession of Heroin Arrest:**

A 21 year old mother was arrested for possession of heroin after a traffic stop. She had a five year old child with her at the time of arrest. Police notified Social Services, who turned the child over to the custody of the grandmother of the child.

- **False Identity Charge:**

While investigating a criminal complaint, police came into contact with a 54 year old suspect, who provided a complete false identity. After some investigation, police were able to determine his actual identity. He was charged with falsely assuming the identity of another to avoid identification.

- **Domestic Violence Arrests:**

Since our last Bulletin, police made six (6) domestic violence arrests for assault.

- **Drunk Driving Arrests:**

With the increase in beach traffic, police have seen an increase in drunk driving. Since our last report, police have made six (6) drunken driving arrests.

- **Food Delivery Scam:**

A local delivery man was inflating credit card receipts and under-reporting tips. After an initial complaint, police located 11 victims and charged the suspect with theft scheme and multiple counts of theft.

- **Drug/Heroin Overdoses:**

Drug overdoses, specifically from heroin, have increased dramatically in the last couple of years. Heroin is relatively cheap and available in all jurisdictions. Although not an everyday occurrence, recently police responded to four (4) heroin related overdoses in the same day. Unfortunately, one of the victims, a 20 year old male, died from the overdose. We are working very closely in a regional and State effort to address this problem.

- **Underage Drinking:**

Late May through early June is a graduation time for both college and high school graduates. With these events, we see a rise in underage drinking and parties within our community. While to some, this seems rather innocent, one of the byproducts could be sexual assault and drunk driving. Parents who turn a blind eye, and facilitate this, can and will be criminally charged, if we discover it. If you suspect this, please report it to police, before someone becomes a victim of alcohol-related crime.

- **Traffic Control:**

Police are charged with traffic control at our larger community events, such as holiday celebrations at our Veteran's Memorial, 4th of July Fireworks, triathlons, craft shows, and other community activities. Our **Neighborhood Watch** is an invaluable resource to supplement uniformed police officers. They direct traffic, park vehicles and volunteer hundreds of hours to our community without compensation!

- **Mental Health/Attempted Suicide Complaints:**

As the largest residential community in Worcester County, police are often called upon to assist families with mental health issues. Some mental health issues are magnified by addictions. Police handled four (4) emergency mental health evaluations, including an attempted suicide since our last Crime Bulletin.

Take a bite out of crime. Join Neighborhood Watch

Chief David C. Massey, Ed.D.

Ocean Pines Police Department