

ELSMERE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Monthly Report
August 2017

Significant Events:

On the following dates/times Elsmere Bureau of Police officers handled the below incidents and seized the following drugs, money and/or weapons.

August 2017:

This month the police department hired three recruits; John Frey, Roman Franzone and Michael McNulty. The recruits will attend the Delaware State Police Academy on September 10th and graduate in February 2018.

August 1, 2017:

MAN AT BUS STOP ARRESTED FOR LEWD ACT

On Tuesday, August 1, 2017, PFC. Giles observed Defendant, William Matthews, from the 200 block of Ohio Avenue, Elsmere, and drinking alcohol at the bus stop on the corner of Kirkwood Highway & DuPont Road. PFC Giles observed Matthews expose his genitals to several passing vehicles and begin to urinate on the public bench. Matthews was immediately taken into custody and arrested for Public Intoxication, Indecent Exposure, Lewdness, and Desecration for urinating/contaminating on a public bench that is used by numerous citizens. Matthews was issued Criminal Summonses and released. The Elsmere Police would like the public to report any disorderly or offensive behavior and/or alcohol consumption they observe at any bus stops and benches along Kirkwood Highway in the Town of Elsmere. The Police Department has experienced an increase in these offenses due to the nice weather. Officers will no longer issue warnings and simply move the persons along.

The benches at New Road & Sanders Road are there for all to enjoy and relax in a safe comfortable environment. Any behavior deemed offensive or making it uncomfortable

for the public to enjoy the area will be handled with zero tolerance. This also applies to the bus stops along Kirkwood Highway, as it does any public area within the Town. We encourage anyone who observes such behavior to call the New Castle County Non-Emergency line at 302-573-2800 to report any suspicious behavior, so that citizens and Officers can work together to ensure these areas remain enjoyable, safe, and clean for all who utilize them.



August 16, 2017:

SUSPICIOUS PERSON APPREHENDED AFTER FOOT CHASE

On Tuesday, August 15, 2017, at approximately 9:30 pm, PFC. Giles was patrolling the area of Vilone Village to address several recent complaints of nighttime vehicle break-ins. While in the area of Casapulla Avenue and Junction Street, the officer observed William Sharp (37-year-old male from the unit block of Vincent Ct. Bear, DE) carrying a book bag and acting suspiciously near a parked vehicle. As the officer approached, he began to walk away from that vehicle and pretend he was talking on the phone. The officer stopped Sharp on Casapulla Avenue and asked what he was doing in the area. When the officer attempted to identify Sharp he immediately fled on foot. PFC Giles chased Sharp through several yards and caught him in the unit block of Vilone Road where he continued to resist arrest. As the officer was able to place Sharp in custody, several officers from the New Castle County Police responded to assist in checking the

development for any apparent vehicle break-ins. The investigation determined Sharp was not in possession of any stolen property, but that he had \$50,000.00 CASH capias issued for failing to appear for a drug and firearm trial. Sharp was additionally charged with Resisting Arrest and committed to Howard Young Correctional Center for failing to post bail.

We would like to remind residents to ensure that your vehicles are locked and that property is not left in areas that are visible through the windows. We have experienced a high volume of thefts from the interior of vehicles and thefts of entire vehicles, as a result of them being left unsecured. If you observe any suspicious activity/persons, specifically in the nighttime hours, please refrain from confronting the suspects and simply call 911 or (302)573-2800 to report the situation. Often times when alert citizens confront or scare off these suspects prior to calling police it gives them the necessary time to successfully flee the area. This makes it extremely hard for us to locate and apprehend these suspects. Only if you can safely do so from your home, residents calling 911 should simply have ready an address/location, a brief description of the suspect (gender, race, shirt color, pant color, etc.), and a direction of travel. Your officers will be much more prepared to combat this ongoing issue when provided these few simple details as opposed to hearing "I saw someone in my neighbor's car so I yelled out that I was calling the police and they ran towards the highway". We want to thank all of you for your continued attentiveness and unparalleled relationship with the police department, which has assisted in several successful investigations helping to keep your community safe and enjoyable.



July 27, 2017:

CONVERSATION DURING TRAFFIC STOP LEADS TO BURGLARY ARREST

On Wednesday, August 16, 2017, Ptlm. Macdowell conducted a traffic stop for a seatbelt violation in the development of Rosemont. While identifying numerous occupants in the vehicle, Ptlm. Macdowell determined that the information he received from one passenger was not adding up. The officer continued to investigate the information and was ultimately able to identify the suspect as Ericka Jenkins of the 100 block of Stamm Blvd., New Castle, DE. Jenkins was wanted on a burglary warrant and was taken into custody and turned over to Wilmington Police Department.

Officers are often asked why they need to identify all occupants during a stop. This is just one example how an alert officer's conversation during a stop was able to apprehend a wanted person. When subjects do not have proper identification, officers may ask several questions to verify the identity of that person.

If you happen to find yourself or a friend stopped by a police officer you may better understand the line of questioning and appreciate the officer's responsibility/obligation in properly identify all subjects stopped.



August 20, 2017:

NOTICE OF SEVERAL MORE VEHICLE BREAK-INS

Does anyone recognize these men? During the overnight hours between 08/19 – 08/20 these three sticky fingered suspects decided they would much rather take your stuff than to go out and work for their own. As seen in the video, while in the unit block of Brier Ave. in Greenbrier Village they decided to break in to a car and remove several items. The suspects also rummaged through several other vehicles in the Greenbrier Village/Manchester Arms Apartments area. In each of the reported cases, the vehicles were unsecured.

Please remember to lock all vehicle doors and not leave any valuables in the vehicle where they are visible. As always, call 911 to report suspicious activity. The Elsmere Police will be increasing patrols to combat this problem. Please be aware that because of this continuing problem and increased patrols you may find yourself being stopped on your late night stroll to WAWA etc. We ask that if you are stopped that you try to remember why an officer may be asking several questions such as where you are traveling to and/or coming from, and if you are carrying any property. Surely, we can all agree that a person walking around at 2 in the morning with things such as a flashlight, screwdriver, gloves, and \$30+ in change is pretty suspicious. Therefore, the officers may inquire if you have any property on you. If anyone recognizes the suspects in the video please contact PFC. Giles at 302-998-1173 where you can be directed to voicemail and leave a tip. You may also remain anonymous if wish. To report a new incident please use the NCC Non-Emergency line at 302-573-2800. Thank you all again for your continued support!

