



## ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SHERIFF JAMES STUART

**FRIDAY UPDATE: 10.06.17-10.13.17**

We want to share this "theft by swindle" report with you. We have seen reports involving a fake cashier's check before but I don't remember one being used to purchase a vehicle.

### **ORIGINAL OFFICER NARRATIVE**

I received a phone call from the victim regarding someone purchasing her car with a cashier's check, which she just found out from the bank, was a fake check. She stated that on Saturday, September 30th, a male in his late 20's to early 30's bought her 2013 Kia Sportage. She said that he signed the title as "Joseph D. West" with MN DL #xxx477103865. I checked in records and found that this person did not exist.

The victim provided me the phone number Joseph had used to contact her with, which was 763-307-7xxx. I ran the plate of the Kia, and found it had been recently registered to Serena Rodriguez. I was unable to locate any contact information for Serena.

The victim stated that she had spoken to an employee at Anchor Bank, which is the bank listed on the cashier's check. The employee told her that the check was invalid, and that he had another employee who was working on similar case with the Blaine Police Department.

Deputy J. Nelson #287

If you are ever selling a car, we would recommend that once someone agrees to purchase the vehicle – before handing over the keys - meet the purchaser at either your bank or theirs and do all financial transactions and paper signing there. For more in depth information on how to protect yourself, check out <https://www.thoughtco.com/cash-is-king-when-selling-a-used-car-3308509>.

### **Andover**

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

- 10.12 15200 Hanson Blvd NW – YMCA; unattended phone stolen
- 10.09 29xx 181 Ave NW – vehicle stolen from the property
- 10.08 5xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – unsecure vehicle; purse
- 10.08 32xx Bunker lake Blvd NW – unsecure vehicle; paperwork
- 10.06 15200 Tower Dr NW – vandalism to a trail camera; broken and burned

#### **Arrests**

10.11 Round Lake Blvd NW – 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance; a deputy stopped a driver for not having a license plate light. The deputy could smell a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. During the search of the vehicle narcotics were located. The female was arrested.

10.09 Crosstown Dr NW/Yukon St NW – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for poor having expired tabs. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. .092

10.08 142xx Silverod St NW – 3<sup>rd</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. .221

## **Bethel**

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

## **Columbus**

### **Arrests**

10.12 19200 Block of Larsen Rd NE – 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Drug Possession; a deputy stopped a driver for being in the park after hours. The deputy could smell a strong smell of marijuana. During the search of the vehicle narcotics were located. The male was arrested.

10.12 Coon Lake Park – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree DWI; deputies observed a truck in the ditch at the location. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. .14

## **East Bethel**

### **Arrests**

10.12 20400 Block of Hwy 65 NE – 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree DWI; deputies responded to a single vehicle personal injury crash. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. .22

10.06 Hwy 65 NE/181 Ave NE – DAR, 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Possession of Narcotics, Warrant Arrest, DAR; a deputy stopped a driver for having a cracked windshield. The driver did not have a valid driver's license, the vehicle was uninsured and there was a warrant for his arrest. During the search of the vehicle narcotics were located. The male was arrested.

## **Ham Lake**

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

10.12 153xx Central Ave NE – tires and rims stolen off a vehicle

10.09 142xx Staples St NE – lap top stolen while a hired moving company was at the residence

10.06 169xx Baltimore St NE – vandalism to 14 vehicles; altered engines and transmissions

### **Arrests**

10.07 18xx Deerwood Dr NE – Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a mother/son domestic. The son was arrested.

## **Linwood**

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

## **Nowthen**

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

## **Oak Grove**

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

10.07 189xx Lake George Blvd NW – vandalism to a corn maze; props broken, pumpkins smashed

## **Arrests**

10.08 Lake George Blvd NW/Viking 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. The male was arrested. .12

**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.*