

**Manassas City Police Department
Crime Report
December 13, 2012**

Residential Burglary

The Manassas City Police Department is investigating the burglary of a residence on the 9000 block of Sandalwood Drive. The resident reported to police that the burglary occurred between 7:00AM and 7:45AM Tuesday, December 4. There were signs of forced entry into the residence through a back door. A safe, containing prescription drugs and cash, was reported missing.

Residential Burglary

The Manassas City Police Department is investigating the burglary of a residence on the 9200 block of Douglas Street. The resident reported to police that the burglary occurred between 3:00PM and 5:00PM Monday, December 10. There were no signs of forced entry into the residence. A lockbox, cash, personal documents, jewelry, a booster seat, a laptop computer and hair clippers were reported missing.

Phone Scam

The Manassas City Police Department is investigating a phone scam and fraud which targeted a senior resident on the 10100 block of South Grant Avenue. The resident reported to police that the fraud took place on Friday, December 7. She received a phone call in which someone reported to be her grandson. The man stated he had been arrested in a South American country while on vacation and needed money to post bail. She also spoke to another man who claimed to be an official with the US Embassy. The victim wired a large amount of money to another person in the country and also told the men her social security number. She later contacted family members who told her the grandson was currently at his college in Virginia.

Attempted Phone Scam

The Manassas City Police Department is investigating an attempted phone scam and fraud which targeted a senior resident on the 9000 block of Centreville Road. The resident reported to police that the incident took place at approximately 6:00PM Tuesday, December 11, when he received a phone call from a person claiming to represent Medicare. The "representative" asked the resident to provide his bank account information so they could send him a new Medicare card. The resident was hesitant and did not want to provide the information. He was transferred to another "representative," who then talked him into giving his account information. The resident stated that the people with whom he spoke sounded as if they had African accents. They called him from a number with a 409 area code. Upon call-back, the number was not in service. After the call, the resident called the police and contacted his bank to freeze his account.

Crime Prevention Tip: The methods and high-pressure tactics used in the telephone scams above are typical of national trends, and anyone can be a target. To avoid becoming a victim, never give out your bank account, credit card, social security number or other personal information on the telephone – no matter how threatened you might feel. Scam artists often claim to be from your bank or credit card company, or even a government agency such as the United States Social Security Administration. If you have concerns or questions about your benefits or account, ask the caller to send you information in the mail or contact your financial institution directly. Above all, if you think a call may be fraudulent, HANG UP and call the Police.

For more information on telephone scams and other crime prevention tips, contact the Manassas City Police Department at (703) 257-8092 or visit www.manassascity.org/police.

Anyone with information about these crimes is encouraged to call the Crime Solvers' anonymous tip line at (703) 330-0330, or to call the Manassas City Police Department Investigative Services Division at (703) 257-8092.

The Manassas City Crime Solvers will pay a cash reward up to \$1000 for information that leads to an arrest in these cases. The confidential 24-hour tip line is [\(703\) 330-0330](tel:7033300330).

Solucionista de Crimen (Crime Solvers) pagara un premio de hasta \$1,000.00 en efectivo por informacion que ayude arrestar los sospechosos en estos casos. Llame las 24 horas al [\(703\) 330-0330](tel:7033300330). Nunca tiene que dar su nombre; solamente la informacion.

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