

Manassas City Police Department

Crime Report

Oct. 4, 2016

Special Attention:

Fraud & Scams with Crime Prevention Tips

Fraud

On Sept. 30, 2016, Manassas City Police responded to Sonia Beauty Salon, located at 9922 Cockrell Rd, for a report of a fraud. The reporting party told officers that at approximately 10:45 a.m., a female customer attempted to pay for salon services with a bank card which was declined. When the customer offered to retrieve money from her vehicle, she left the business and did not return.

Utility Phone Scam

On Sept. 30, 2016, Manassas City Police responded to a business located at 9413 Main St for a report of a fraud. The reporting party told officers that a female subject called claiming to work for a local utility company. The caller told the citizen that unless he settled his unpaid electric bill immediately, the electricity at his business would be cut off. At the request of the suspect, the victim purchased prepaid money cards and provided the card numbers to the suspect over the phone. The victim then recognized the call as a scam and notified Police.



***Crime Prevention Tip:**

*Don't believe callers, emails or texts that say they are from a utility company and that your account is past due. The City of Manassas is the **sole provider** of utilities in the City of Manassas (20110), and will not call customers demanding money. When in doubt about the status of your account, please call Public Works Customer Service line directly at (703)257-8219. Payments to the Public Works Department are never accepted in the form of pre-paid cards, but may be made in person at 8500 Public Works Dr, by phone, and online. Click [here](#) to view all payment options available.*

Online Rental Scam

On Sept. 29, 2016, Manassas City Police met with a citizen for a report of a fraud. The reporting party told officers that on Sept. 28, she entered an agreement with a prospective landlord to rent a property in the Falls Church area. The victim reported that the suspect requested payment by wire transfer to an address in Nigeria, where the suspect's alleged attorney was located. Upon receipt of the initial payment and victim's personal information, the suspect claimed he would mail the victim a key to the property. The key never arrived when the victim learned it was a fraud she called Police.



***Crime Prevention Tip:**

If a deal seems too good to be true, it probably is. Visit Craigslist's "[Avoid Scams & Fraud](#)" and "[Personal Safety Tips](#)" for suggestions on how to protect yourself from fraudulent sales online, and to maintain your personal safety when buying or selling in person.

more

Attempted Phone Scam

On Sept. 29, 2016, Manassas City Police met with a citizen for a report of an attempted fraud. The reporting party told officers that on multiple occasions, he had received phone calls from a male subject claiming to be a representative of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The caller claimed that the citizen was owed money from past tax returns that he had yet to collect. In order to proceed claiming his refunds, the citizen was asked to provide his Social Security Number and driver's license number. The citizen recognized the call as a scam, did not provide any personal or financial information, and notified Police.



***Crime Prevention Tip from the [Federal Trade Commission \(FTC\)](#):**

*Despite public perception, scam artists don't discriminate based on age. Children, adolescents, adults, and seniors are ALL at risk for becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft. October is STILL tax season, which is the perfect time for scam artists to target residents. Don't believe callers, emails or texts that say they are from the [Internal Revenue Service \(IRS\)](#), even if they offer you're a refund or threaten to have you arrested for tax evasion. Tax identity thieves may send phony "phishing" emails that appear to be from the IRS and ask you to click on a link. They may also directly ask you to provide or confirm your personal information online or over the phone. **Don't do it! The IRS does not email, call, or text people to get personal information.** If the IRS needs to contact you, they will do so by mail. If you have any doubt whether a message is legitimate, call the IRS directly or consult Police or a trusted family member. For more information on IRS scams, click [here](#).*

Attempted Fraud

On Sept. 29, 2016, Manassas City Police met with a citizen for a report of an attempted fraud. The reporting party told officers that on Sept. 24, he received an email from a business claiming to offer him employment. After the citizen replied expressing interest, the a suspect mailed him a check and instructions to cash the check, deduct a portion for commission, and return the remainder to the sender by wire transfer. The citizen recognized the offer as a scam and called Police.



***Crime Prevention Tip:**

*It can be tempting to respond to offer of home employment, easy income, or no-risk investments but remember: **If a deal seems too good to be true, it probably is.** Avoid becoming a victim of fraud by consulting a trusted friend, family member, or Police when someone offers you a deal that requires any payment or fund transfers from you up front.*

continued

Hit & Run – Vehicle

At approximately 6:45 p.m. on Sept. 30, 2016, Manassas City Police responded to the 8700 block of Mathis Ave for a report of a hit and run. The reporting party told officers that she was attempting to exit a bank parking lot and turn left onto Mathis Ave when another vehicle traveling northbound on Mathis Ave struck hers on the driver's side, causing \$9,000 in damage. While the victim was checking on a juvenile passenger in the back seat, the suspect vehicle fled northbound towards Manassas Park. No injuries were reported as a result of the incident.

Description of Suspect Vehicle: Light green minivan (possibly a mid 2000s Honda)

Hit & Run – Vehicle

At approximately 7:15 a.m. on Sept. 29, 2016, Manassas City Police responded to the area of Dorsey Cir and Sudley Rd for a report of a hit and run. The victim, an adult female of Woodbridge, told officers that she was stopped waiting to turn left onto Dorsey Cir when she was struck from behind by a vehicle traveling in the direction of Digges Rd from Rolling Rd. The suspect vehicle immediately fled the scene. The victim was transported to an area hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

Hit & Run – Vehicle

On Sept. 21, 2016, Manassas City Police met with two residents on the 8800 block of Portner Ave for separate hit and run reports. The reporting parties told officers that sometime between 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 20 and the morning of Sept. 21, someone struck their vehicles while they were parked adjacent to one another's along Portner Ave., causing \$50 in damage to the front end of each vehicle.

Motor Vehicle Theft

On Sept. 25, 2016, Manassas City Police met with a resident in the area of Wellington Rd and Clover Hill Rd for a report of a stolen auto. The reporting party told officers that sometime between 2 a.m. and 7:40 a.m., someone stole his vehicle from where it was parked on Clover Hill Rd. The stolen vehicle was valued at approximately \$19,000.

Description of Stolen Vehicle: 2013 Toyota Camry, black, four-door, with black tint and silver stock rims



****Crime Prevention Tip:***

The H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) program from Virginia State Police provides an online tip submission form for citizens to report information concerning the theft of vehicles, vehicle parts or chop shop operations. Information remains confidential throughout the process, and tips leading to arrests are eligible for rewards of up to \$25,000. Submit an anonymous tip or call 800-947-HEAT (800-947-4328). www.heatreward.com

HEAT also offers free VIN etching services for motorists. Manassas City Police will host its next free VIN etching event with Prince William County Police on Saturday, October 15, 2016 at The Home Depot (8805 Liberia Ave). [more info](#)

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Larcenies from Auto

Between Sept. 23 and 27, 2016, Manassas City Police met with three residents for separate reports of larcenies from vehicle:

Location	Date/Time of Larceny	Stolen Items	Value of Stolen Items	Locked/Unlocked?
9500 block of Nittany Dr	Overnight hours of Sept. 26	Cash	Undisclosed	Unlocked
8400 block of Stonewall Rd	Overnight hours of Sept. 26	Miscellaneous tools to include a framing gun and hammer drill	\$2,325	Locked
Stonewall Rd near Woodline Ct	Evening of Sept. 23	Jeep floor mats	\$200	Locked, soft top unzipped

Vandalism to Auto

On Sept. 21, 2016, Manassas City Police met with a resident on the 10200 block of Cleary St for a report of a vandalism to auto. The reporting party told officers that sometime between 10 p.m. on Sept. 20 and 7 a.m. on Sept. 21, someone slashed two tires on his vehicle, causing \$275 in damage.

Vandalism

On Sept. 30, 2016, Manassas City Police responded to a business located at 8430 Quarry Rd for a report of a vandalism. The reporting party told officers that sometime between 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 26 and 2:30 p.m. on Sept. 30, someone caused damage to a garage door window. No items were reported missing from the business.

Breaking & Entering

On Sept. 26, 2016, Manassas City Police met with a resident on the 8800 block of Sudley Rd for a report of a breaking and entering. The reporting party told officers that sometime between Aug. 4 and Aug. 11, someone entered his residence and caused damage to the drop ceiling panels. The victim also reported that on Sept. 26, he received several unknown charges from his service provider, and that the tablet to which the account was connected was missing from his office. The tablet was valued at \$300.

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****Arrests****

Destruction of Property – Arrest

At approximately 6:50 p.m. on Sept. 23, 2016, Manassas City Police responded to Metro PCS, located at 9015 Centreville Rd, for a report of a vandalism. The reporting party told officers that just prior to their arrival, a male subject struck the front plate glass door and broke it, causing it \$600 in damage. Through further investigation, officers identified the suspect as Robert E. ROBINSON and charged him with Destruction of Property. ROBINSON has a pending court date of Oct. 26, 2016.

****END****



Anyone with information about these events is encouraged to call the Manassas City Police Department Investigative Services Division at [\(703\) 257-8092](tel:703-257-8092) or Crime Solvers. The [Manassas City/Manassas Park Crime Solvers](#) will pay a cash reward up to \$1000.00 for information that leads to an arrest in these cases. The confidential 24-hour tip line is [\(703\) 330-0330](tel:703-330-0330).

Si usted tiene información sobre estos eventos, favor de llamar al departamento de policía de la ciudad de Manassas a [\(703\) 257-8092](tel:703-257-8092), o a la solucionista de crimen ([Crime Solvers](#)). Crime Solvers pagará un premio de hasta \$1,000.00 en efectivo por información que ayude en arrestar los sospechosos en estos casos. Llame las 24 horas al [\(703\) 330-0330](tel:703-330-0330). Nunca tiene que dar su nombre; solamente la información.

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