



BIRCHWOOD

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 2024



WAITING FOR WINTER

So far, our winter season has been relatively mild and with very little snow. While it's very unlikely that such luck will last much longer, winter parking restrictions are currently in effect in many of our Washington County communities. Each community is different in its approach, but generally under winter rules, parking is prohibited on designated streets during a certain period, such as from October through May, or during certain times of day or on one side of a roadway.

Washington County deputies are ready to help cities enforce their rules and have already issued citations this season. Last year, from the season that ran November 1, 2021, through May 1, 2022, deputies issued nearly 100 parking citations related to winter parking restrictions.

We encourage each community's leaders to continue to communicate guidelines and restrictions to their citizens so they're prepared and informed this winter!

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

8

TRAFFIC STOPS

2

WC23062358 FRAUD

XX OAKHILL COURT

At 7:09pm on Dec. 12, a deputy spoke with a caller who reported being scammed over a dating website. The caller had met someone on the site and exchanged phone numbers for texting. After an exchange of several normal texts, the other person sent an unsolicited nude photo, after which the conversation ended. Soon after, the caller was contacted by an "officer" regarding possession of child pornography and was instructed to send \$2,200 to handle the situation out of court. The caller sent \$700 via Venmo and attempted to send \$1,500 but the transactions failed. The caller's father got involved and advised it was likely a scam. The caller provided text screenshots and phone numbers in North and South Carolina from those requesting money; the deputy attempted to reach them but calls either went unanswered or were disconnected. The deputy advised contacting Venmo to attempt to retrieve the \$700. The caller expressed desire to press charges if a suspect is identified.



MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF



We ended our year on a high note at the Sheriff's Office, welcoming four new Community Service Officers in November and six new deputies, who were sworn in at a ceremony in late December. Thanks to our partnership with the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Network, we had 38 Secret Santa volunteers who shopped and wrapped gifts for military families. And at one of our favorite events, we took more than 20 children shopping for the holidays at our annual "Shop with a Cop." As our Washington County Sheriff's Office family grows, we look forward to the New Year and investing in the meaningful connections we have with all of our communities.

In service,

Sheriff Dan Starry