

ELSMERE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Monthly Report
February 2018

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.

January 10, 2018:

**Leaving Your Car Unattended While Running Is Illegal &
Just Not A Good Idea!**

We would like to inform/remind everyone that it is in fact illegal to leave your car unsecured and running while you are not inside of it. *THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO REMOTE STARTERS ARE THE EXCEPTION TO THIS LAW*. We have seen an increase in stolen motor vehicles during the extreme cold temperatures we have been experiencing. The majority of these cases are when victims had started their vehicle at their residence to warm it up and returned inside, or had left the vehicle running and unlocked while going in to a store. Regardless of how quick you think you may be, it only takes a few seconds to open a car door and steal your vehicle.

Often times our investigations revealed that a suspect is simply walking down a street (probably with no intention of stealing a car) or at a store and notices the unsecured vehicle before quickly taking it. This is often a crime of opportunity; however, there are suspects out there that specifically target areas knowing that people are likely to be warming up their cars. To think of it differently, you would not leave \$25,000.00 in cash sitting on the curb in front of your house and expect it to stay there, so why would you leave your keys in the ignition and doors unlocked. Furthermore, it is a violation of Delaware Code Title 21/4182, which can have a penalty of up to \$75 for the first offense and up to \$95 for the second offense. *REMOTE STARTS ARE THE EXCEPTION TO THIS SECTION*

Officers have noticed a significant number of vehicles left running and unsecured while in the parking lots of WAWA and Dunkin' Donuts (go ahead, make all the Cop and doughnut jokes you want, we enjoy the delicious pastries!).

The first step to avoiding this starts with you ensuring that your vehicle are secured. We would be remiss not to add that **leaving a car unsecured with children inside of it is an even bigger “No-No” and just not good parenting!**

Spread the word!



January 15, 2018:

New Employee

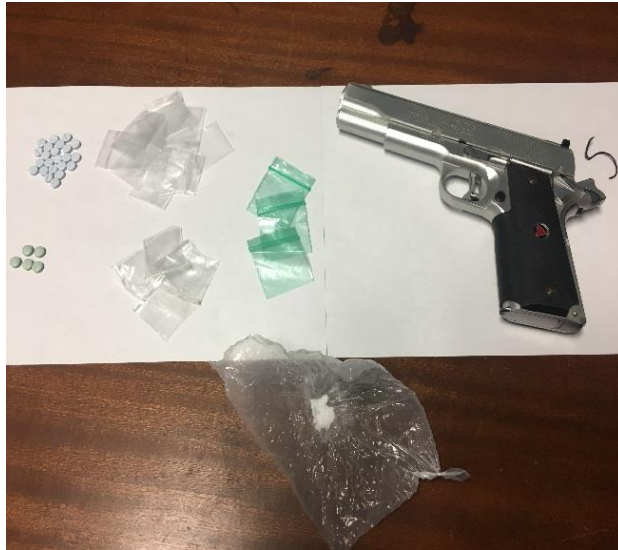
On January 15, 2018, Ptlm. R. Elliott Singleton was hired full-time with our department. Ptlm. Singleton used to work for New Castle City PD for seven years and with Marcus Hook PD for the past two years. Ptlm. Singleton work for our department on a part-time basis as of August 2017.

January 18, 2018:

Pedestrian stop leads to drug arrests

On January 18, 2018, Officers MacDowell and Singleton conducted a stop of 3 males who were displaying suspicious behavior in the area of the Bark Park. During the investigation, one of the juvenile males was found to be concealing a BB gun in his waistband and 0.7 grams of methamphetamine in his sock. A second juvenile male was in possession of 23 Alprazolam pills and 5 Oxycodone pills. The juveniles were charged

with pedestrian, weapon, and drug violations and were subsequently released to their parents.



January 20, 2018:

Special Olympics

On Saturday, January 30, 2018, S/Cpl. Sowden participated in the Special Olympics Delaware, Bowling Competition. The event took place at Bowlerama where S/Cpl. Sowden carried the Flame of Hope during the Opening Ceremony and assisted with the medal presentations.



January 20, 2018:

Robbery Investigation

On January 20, 2018, S/Cpl. Kerrigan and PFC Giles responded to the area of the 1400 block of Cypress Avenue for a report of a robbery with weapons. The victim was unloading groceries when an armed black male suspect demanded money approached from behind. The suspect is described as a black male, 5'10", 175-200 lbs, in his 20's, shoulder length braids.

At this time, S/Cpl. Kerrigan is following up all leads and the investigation is still active.

January 22, 2018:

Sexual Assault

On January 22, 2018, Sgt. Young and Ptlm. MacDowell handled a late reported sexual assault case. During the investigation, Ptlm. MacDowell was able to gather probable cause to arrest the 34 year-old defendant on 21 charges of sexual abuse and 2 child abuse charges. The suspect was committed on \$716,000 Cash Bail.

January 27, 2018:

Armed Robbery

On Saturday, January 27, 2018, at approximate 1920 hours Sgt. Young and S/Cpl. Sowden were dispatched to 615 Kirkwood Highway for the report of a robbery with weapons. Two black male subjects in their late teens/early 20's had entered the store and began collecting items. They then got in to an argument with the clerk over some items one subject pulled out a handgun. The clerk attempted to push the subjects out the door and lock it, but they pushed back and pointed handguns at the clerks head.

Delaware State Police responded to the scene to assist and located the subjects in the area of Mill Creek Village apartments where a foot pursuit took place. The subjects were last observed by a witness in the area of Race Street heading towards Canby Park.

New Castle County Police Department Evidence Detection Unit responded, process the scene, and was able to lift several prints. S/Cpl. Sowden is awaiting the results.