

# THE PROSECUTOR'S PROGRESS

## AN UPDATE FROM THE VIRGINIA BEACH COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3 SUMMER 2016



### A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY



#### National Night Out

The CWA Office visited Virginia Beach neighborhood events on National Night Out, Aug. 2, 2016. We enjoyed meeting so many dedicated Virginia Beach residents who are working hard to keep our community a safe, family-friendly place. Thank you to our crime-fighting citizens whose partnership with law enforcement is making a huge difference in the community!

Sincerely,  
Colin Stolle

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Message from the Commonwealth's Attorney: National Night Out*
- *New App Alert: Kiwi*
- *CWA Office in Your Community*
- *Featured Cases of the Quarter*
- *Consumer Corner: A Warning about Buy and Sell Apps and Websites*

#### New App Alert: Kiwi



Parents, you might recall in the Spring newsletter I mentioned that my office would continue to update our list of social media apps as new apps are developed. Kiwi is a fast and easy way for users to ask and answer questions. Teens can chat with people they know or with random strangers. You may have received an invitation to download the app through your Facebook account. Users can post photos as well. Parents should consider limiting children and teens' use by filtering sensitive photos and videos and preventing public questions. Because of the ability to be anonymous, this app can lead to cyber-bullying. There's also the potential for profanity, crude humor, references to drugs and alcohol and sexual content. Parents should closely monitor this app and talk to their children about how to use Kiwi appropriately.



## CWA OFFICE IN THE COMMUNITY

### **VB Parks and Rec Summer Movie Night Series**

Friday, August 26th: "Peanuts Movie"

Activities start at 7 p.m., at Mount Trashmore Park

The CWA Office will be passing out Internet Safety monitoring software and talking to parents and children about staying safe online.



### **VB Parks and Rec's Aloha! Back to School Festival**

Friday, August 26th from 1-4 p.m. at Williams Farm Rec Center (5252 Learning Circle, Virginia Beach)

Bring the family out for fun activities, inflatables, refreshments, giveaways & more! Free and open to the public; non-members welcome. Prior to 8/26, please consider bringing a donation to Williams Farm Rec Center for the school supply drive.

### **Western Bayside Community Day**

Saturday, August 27th from 1-5 p.m. at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church (848 Baker Road, Virginia Beach)

Western Bayside community, come meet your neighbors at a day of family fun! The CWA Office 3rd Precinct Prosecution Team will be there to talk to residents about the fight against crime. There will be plenty of food, activities, information, and fun for everyone.

### **Scout Ready (Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts Event)**

Saturday, September 17th from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pembroke Mall

The CWA Office will have lots of info on our new Social Media Safety Campaign and be available to talk to future scouts and parents about safety tips. Families will learn how to be prepared at home, in their neighborhoods and at school. Exhibitors include WAVY-10, American Red Cross, Police Department, Fire Department, and more.



## FEATURED CASES OF THE QUARTER



### **Commonwealth v. Elbert Cox**

**Charges:** Forcible Sodomy (4 counts), two (2) counts each of Rape, Object Sexual Penetration, and Indecent Liberties

**Sentence:** Two Life Terms plus 80 Years

**Facts:** Between the years 2011 and 2015, Cox sexually abused two children known to him on a consistent basis. The children eventually reported the abuse to family members. When confronted by the family members, Cox did not deny the allegations. He said that he needed help and agreed to go see his therapist. He also made the statements, "I did something wrong," and "I'm gonna get me some help."

### **Commonwealth v. Jesse Lugaro**

**Charge:** Attempted Robbery, three (3) counts each of Abduction and Use of Firearm

**Sentence:** 46 Years

**Facts:** Around 9:00 p.m. on May 26, 2003, Jesse Daniel Lugaro forced his way in the back door of the Subway located at 4878 Princess Anne Road in Virginia Beach. Three employees were inside, closing the store for the night. Lugaro wore a mask and latex gloves. He pointed a revolver at the employees and locked two of them in the freezer. He forced the third employee to open the cash register. The register was empty because the employees had already completed the cash drop for the night. As Lugaro lifted the register drawer to look underneath, he accidentally discharged his firearm at the register drawer. He fled Subway empty-handed. During the robbery Lugaro tore his latex gloves, leaving behind a small piece of latex. The latex fragment was collected by the police and maintained in the Property and Evidence division. It was submitted to the Department of Forensic Science to determine whether DNA testing would reveal a suspect. A DNA profile was developed and the case remained open until 2013 when Lugaro's DNA was placed in the DNA database and found to be a match.



### **Commonwealth v. Tamara Olson**

**Charges:** Credit Card Theft, Credit Card Fraud, Obtaining Money by False Pretenses, Forgery, and Uttering

**Sentence:** 10 Years

**Facts:** Between September 2013 and June 2015, Olson was employed at Cozy Home as a health care aide. She became the health care aide for a 91-year-old woman. Olson took the woman's credit card and made charges over \$16,000. Some purchases included over \$2,600 in gas, \$853 in charges to a nail salon, over \$7,533 in groceries, and numerous visits to restaurants and fast food establishments. Olson also took the victim's checks and wrote checks out to herself and to cash, in amounts totaling over \$4,000. Further, she took other checks and wrote them to USAA to pay for the credit card bills on the victim's account for charges the defendant had made. Those checks totaled over \$11,000. Olson ultimately stole a total of over \$30,000 from the victim.



**For more details on these cases and other Commonwealth's Attorney's Office news, visit:**

[www.vbgov.com/oca](http://www.vbgov.com/oca)



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TOGETHER, WE CAN  
KEEP VIRGINIA  
BEACH SAFE!

The Office of the  
Commonwealth's Attorney is  
dedicated to serving our  
community.

To request the Office's  
assistance at your community  
event, please e-mail Public  
Information Officer  
Macie Allen at  
[mpallen@vbgov.com](mailto:mpallen@vbgov.com).

 **craigslist**



## The Consumer Corner

### A Warning about Buy and Sell Apps and Websites

Buy and sell apps and websites such as OfferUp and Craigslist have become a popular way to find great local deals on used items. In a matter of minutes, a seller can post an item for sale and have a potential buyer lined up. While it may seem simple and convenient, thieves and criminals have used OfferUp and Craigslist to prey upon unsuspecting victims. Right here in Virginia Beach, OfferUp and Craigslist have led to robberies and assaults. Here are some simple safety tips to keep in mind the next time you are ready to buy or sell an item:

- Do your homework. Look at the profiles of potential buyers or sellers. Check out their past ratings and photos. It's best to look for users who have a high rating.
- Before making a purchase, review the listing photo and description closely. Check out the condition of the item ahead of time. Don't be afraid to ask the seller questions about the item. Remember: if something looks too good to be true, it probably is.
- Do not share your personal information with others online. Using the communication methods in place on Craigslist and OfferUp should protect you from fraud and other security issues.
- Carefully select a location to meet. All four Virginia Beach police precincts are considered "safe places" for buyers and sellers to meet. There are cameras in those buildings for your safety. If possible, don't go to a transaction alone. Notify your friends and loved ones where you'll be. Do not meet in a parking lot or the home of someone you do not know. If the buyer or seller won't meet you somewhere you feel comfortable, do business with someone else instead.
- Save all documentation, including the URL and screen shots of profiles and photos for people you do business with. In the event of a crime, this will help police investigate.



If your personal safety is ever threatened, **call the police right away**. Don't fall victim to predators who are looking to ruin your shopping experience!