

Borough of River Edge

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MICHAEL J. WALKER
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

February Police Blotter

02/01/2023 – 02/28/2023

The River Edge Police Department responded/initiated 471 calls for service between February 1, 2023 and February 15, 2023.

84 Motor Vehicle Stops

21 Motor Vehicle Crashes

15 Medical Assistance

3 Assisting Fire Department

348 Other Calls for service

Some samples for calls for service we responded to during this time period. All suspects are innocent unless or until proven guilty in a court of law.

- **02/03/2023 4:09pm (Fraud)**

A resident in the 600 block of Millbrook Road reported she was the victim of fraud by someone opening up a line of credit in her name. She was provided an identity theft booklet. The matter was forwarded to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.

- **02/05/2023 1:49pm (Shoplifting)**

A business in the 100 block of Kinderkamack Road reported theft. A male suspect entered the business and took \$1,827.85 worth of merchandise and fled without paying. The male suspect was last seen fleeing onto Main Street in a Mitsubishi with New York registration. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau.

- **02/06/2023 5:10pm (Road Rage)**

A driver/victim reported an aggressive driver on Kinderkamack Road near Grand Avenue. She attempted to confront the driver and reported the accused pulled a box cutter and fled the area. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau.

- **02/07/2023 1:36pm (Community Outreach)**
 Officers were assigned to a Cyber Security Presentation for the Public School System.
- **02/10/2023 12:28pm (Criminal Mischief)**
 Officers took a report of juveniles climbing over a fence and damaging playground equipment in the 300 block of Bogert Road. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Juvenile Bureau.
- **02/11/2023 2:24pm (Vehicle Pursuit)**
 A vehicle was observed passing vehicles on the wrong side of the roadway on Main Street. Officers attempted to stop the vehicle but the vehicle fled at a high rate of speed. Due to the high rate of speed officers terminated the pursuit. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective bureau for a follow up investigation.
- **02/13/2023 9:50am (Fraud)**
 A business in the 100 block of Kinderkamack Road, was the victim of fraud. An unknown person(s) created a fraudulent check in an amount over \$175,000.00. Officers secured a copy of the fraudulent check. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.
- **02/13/2023 10:40am (Harassment)**
 A business in the 100 block of Grand Avenue reported being harassed by a male. Officers attempted to contact the accused with negative results. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.
- **02/14/23 12:50pm (Theft from Vehicle)**
 A resident in the 200 block of Madison Avenue reported his vehicle was entered into overnight. Numerous items were taken from the unlocked vehicle. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.
- **02/14/23 4:24pm (Fraud)**
 A resident on Warwick Court reported she was the victim of fraud. A suspect contacted the victim by telephone stating she needed to wire PSE&G money in order for her services not to be shut off. The victim wired \$300.00 to the suspect. The victim later contacted PSE&G who confirmed she was the victim of a scam. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.
- **02/14/23 4:32pm (Fraud)**
 Officers responded to a business in the 1000 block of Main Street, on a report of a victim of fraud. Officers spoke to the caller who was purchasing gift cards and sending the card numbers to an unknown person he met online. Officers advised the caller to stop purchasing gift cards for unknown individuals you meet online. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation

- **02/14/23 4:46pm (Missing Person)**

An adult male was reported missing from the 300 block of Valley Road. The male was later located in Target in Paramus, New Jersey. The missing adult male was turned back over to staff members.

- **02/14/23 6:34pm (Municipal Ordinance Violation)**

A resident in the 100 block of Kensington Road reported a male was walking up to front doors ringing the bell and leaving. Officers responded to the area and made contact with a male suspect. Investigation revealed he was soliciting without a permit. The male was issued a summons and released from the scene pending his appearance in Municipal Court.

- **02/14/23 7:29pm (Theft from Vehicle)**

A resident in the 100 block of Monroe Avenue reported her vehicle was entered into overnight on 02/13/2023. Numerous items were taken from the unlocked vehicle. The matter was turned over to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.

- **02/15/2023 6:17pm (Fraud)**

A resident in the 500 block of Bogert Road reported she purchased a bag on EBAY that never arrived. She reported an unknown person started to contact her regarding the purchase accusing her of hacking into another EBAY account. The caller was advised not to share any personal information to callers and to contact her credit card company to cancel the transaction. The matter was turned over the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.

River Edge Police Department responded/initiated 342 calls for service between February 16, 2023 and February 28, 2023.

46 Motor Vehicle Stops

18 Motor Vehicle Crashes

22 Medical Assistance

2 Assisting the Fire Department

254 Other Calls for service

Some samples for calls for service we responded to during this time period. All suspects are innocent unless or until proven guilty in a court of law.

- **02/17/2023 8:19am (Theft)**
Officers responded to the 1100 block of Main Street on a report of theft. The victim stated an unknown person took a Ring Door Bell off her door jam and fled the area. The matter was forwarded to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.
- **02/18/2023 4:03am (Noise Violation)**
Officers responded to the 800 block Summit Avenue for a reported noise complaint. Officers advised two males to quiet down and to go inside for the night.
- **02/19/2023 9:28pm (Noise Violation)**
Officers responded to the rear parking lot of 97 Reservoir Avenue on a reported vehicle parked in the fire zone playing loud music. Officers located the vehicle unoccupied with fictitious registration plates attached. The vehicle was impounded for a further investigation by the River Edge Police Departments Traffic Bureau.
- **02/21/2023 7:24am (Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer)**
Officers were dispatched to the 100 block of Oxford Terrace for a disturbance in progress. Officers spoke with the caller who identified the suspect as a male from the Bronx. Officers then attempted to speak with the suspect. The suspect subsequently brandished multiple knives towards the Officers. Officers attempted to deescalate the situation with negative results. The Bergen County Regional SWAT Team responded to the scene to assist in the apprehension of the suspect. Christopher Gomez, from New York, New York was subsequently arrested and charged with multiple crimes/offenses and turned over to the Bergen County Jail.
- **02/21/2023 2:44pm (Burglary to M.V.)**
Officers responded to the 200 block of Kinderkamack Road on a reported burglary to a motor vehicle during the overnight hours. The victim was provided a stolen property form to complete and return to the River Edge Police Department. The matter was

forwarded to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.

- **02/22/2023 12:21am (DWI)**

The River Edge Fire Department and the River Edge Police Officers responded to a serious motor vehicle crash in the 100 block of Kinderkamack Road. Investigation revealed the driver, Evelyn Velecela, from Hackensack, New Jersey, was consuming alcoholic beverages under the legal age. Velecela was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated.

- **02/22/2023 1:51am (Burglary to a Business)**

The River Edge and the Oradell Police Department responded to a burglary in the 400 block of Kinderkamack Road. Investigation revealed the suspect(s) forced entry into the rear doorway of the business and fled with merchandise prior to officers' arrival. The matter was forwarded to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.

- **02/22/2023 9:10am (Fraud)**

A business in the 600 block of Kinderkamack Road, reported to be the victim of check washing. The suspect(s) intercepted and changed the information of the check in the amount of \$7,419.58. The matter was forwarded to the River Edge Police Department Detective Bureau for a follow up investigation.

- **02/22/2023 3:27pm (Disturbance)**

Officers responded to 65 State Highway # 4 east on a reported disturbance. Building management wished to have a customer removed from the private property. Upon arrival of the officers the female customer left the area without incident.