



## Wyckoff Police Department PRESS RELEASE

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**TO: ALL NEWS MEDIA**  
**FROM: Lt. Joseph Soto**  
**DATE: March 8, 2023**  
**CONTACT: Lt. Joseph Soto**

**(201) 891-2121 DISPATCH**  
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### **For Immediate Release:**

**On March 1, an 82 year old Wyckoff resident reported that she received a call from an unknown number advising her that she won the Publishers Clearing House grand prize of 18 million dollars and a new luxury vehicle. She was advised by the caller that she needed to pay \$10,000 via gift cards in order to collect her prizes. She purchased a \$500.00 gift card and provided the card's information to the caller so he could redeem the money. The caller then advised her that he could lower the \$10,000 fee to \$5,000 and requested the remaining \$4,500.00. The resident became suspicious that she was being scammed and advised the caller that she wanted to consult with her accountant prior to sending any additional monies. The caller continued to call her until she blocked the number. The Wyckoff Police would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that if someone is asking for money or personal identifying information over the phone, it typically is a scammer attempting to defraud you. Simply hang up the phone and let unknown calls go to your voicemail.**

**On March 3, at approximately 8:20 AM, a business owner on West Main Street reported the theft of catalytic converters from 5 company owned trucks. The theft was reported to have occurred during the previous evening. The Wyckoff Detective Bureau is investigating.**

**On March 3, at approximately 5:00 PM, a second business owner on West Main Street reported the theft of two catalytic converters off of company owned trucks and the attempted theft of a third. The Wyckoff Detective Bureau is investigating.**

**On March 4, at approximately 3:35 AM, Wyckoff Police responded to a burglar alarm at Hartger's Jewelers, 699 Wyckoff Avenue. Upon arriving, P.O. Kyle Scherm observed a broken window on the north side of the building with a ladder on the ground underneath it. Responding officers quickly set up a perimeter around the building and entered to search for the suspects. It was discovered that the business had been burglarized and the suspects had left the area prior to police arrival. Surveillance images from the business revealed that two actors were involved, with one making entry into the business and one remaining outside the broken window. The owner reported several items of jewelry and watches were taken and is currently compiling a list of stolen items. The Wyckoff Detective Bureau is investigating.**

**On March 5, at approximately 7:00 AM, a resident of Timberline Drive reported that his 2022 Ford Expedition was stolen from his driveway during the previous evening. The owner advised that the keys for the vehicle were left in a jacket pocket that was hanging in the garage. While investigating, officers determined that the jacket and keys were both missing. No signs of forced entry into the garage were located. A second vehicle in the driveway, a 2021 BMW was also entered and \$50.00 was reported to be missing from the glove compartment. At approximately 8:00 AM, Newark NJ Police reported they located the Expedition in their city. The matter is being investigated by the Wyckoff Detective Bureau.**

**On March 8, at approximately 1:00 AM, a resident of Village Place reported an unknown person was attempting to enter his home. While responding to the area, P.O. Kyle Scherm observed a gray BMW X3 travelling on Sunset Boulevard at a high rate of speed. The homeowner confirmed that this was the same vehicle he saw the suspect flee the scene in. P.O. Scherm attempted to stop the vehicle and it continued onto Route 208 South at a high rate of speed. The brief pursuit was terminated at Goffle Road, and the BMW was later pursued by Paramus Police, who were unable to stop it. Paramus advised that the license plate on the BMW revealed that the vehicle was stolen out of Brick, NJ earlier in the day and was potentially occupied by 4 to 5 individuals. The Wyckoff Detective Bureau is investigating.**

*The Wyckoff Police Department would like to point out that the above individuals have been charged with a crime, offense, and or motor vehicle violations. However, they are presumed innocent unless and until they are found guilty in a court of law.*

*We cannot stress enough the value of our residents remaining alert in their neighborhoods and reporting anything unusual or suspicious to the police, "Hear It! See It!, Report It!"*

*We encourage all residents to report ANY suspicious persons, vehicles, or activity occurring at any time to the Wyckoff Police – County Communications Center at 201-891-2121 or 911 in the event of an emergency.*