



Des Plaines Police Department

1420 E Miner St

Des Plaines, IL 60016

[www.desplaines.org](http://www.desplaines.org)

# CRIME REPORT

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20 – 22, 2023

### Contact:

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Support Services/Training Division  
mbowler@desplaines.org  
847-391-6129

### NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS:

**OFFENSE:** Theft from Motor Vehicle  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/19/2023 – 03/20/2023 6:30 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 2300 Block of S. Mannheim Road  
**REPORT #:** 23-06794

The victim's rented Mitsubishi Outlander was parked in the hotel parking lot in the 2300 Block of S. Mannheim Road during the above time frame when the Unknown Offender(s) stole the catalytic converter. The vehicle was parked on the east side of the lot when the incident occurred.

**OFFENSE:** Online Theft by Deception  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/19/2023 2:29 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** 700 Block of Pearson Street  
**REPORT #:** 23-06799

The Unknown Offender(s) contacted the victim via e-mail identifying themselves as a representative from "Coinbase", where the victim holds his crypto currency. The victim advised his contact information changed and provided the victim with an additional link to confirm. Once the victim was on the link provided, the offender(s) obtained his log in information and proceeded to make multiple transfers totaling approximately \$1900 from the victim's account.

**OFFENSE:** Burglary to Motor Vehicle  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/20/2023 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** 1000 Block of E. Touhy Avenue  
**REPORT #:** 23-06807

The victim's Nissan Sentra was parked in the 1000 Block of E. Touhy Avenue during the above time frame when the Unknown Offender(s) entered her vehicle and stole her wallet from the glovebox. At the time of the incident it is believed that the victim's vehicle was left unlocked.

**OFFENSE:** Burglary to Motor Vehicle  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/20/2023 10:00 p.m. – 03/21/2023 6:30 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 1400 Block of Oakwood Avenue  
**REPORT #:** 23-06867



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The victim's Hyundai Accent was parked on the roadway in the 1400 Block of Oakwood Avenue when the Unknown Offender(s) entered the vehicle and stole the victim's wallet. The victim was notified via her banking institution of possible fraudulent charges on her accounts. It appears that the vehicle was left unlocked during the time of the incident.

**OFFENSE:** Theft from Motor Vehicle  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/15/2023 3:00 p.m. – 03/20/2023 8:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 700 Block of Dulles Road  
**REPORT #:** 23-06896

The victim's Honda CR-V was parked on the roadway in the 700 Block of Dulles Road during the above time frame when the Unknown Offender(s) stole the catalytic converter from its undercarriage. The victim advised that while starting the vehicle it made a very loud noise indicating the converter had been removed.

**OFFENSE:** Theft from Motor Vehicle  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/22/2023 3:09 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 2100 Block of Rand Road  
**REPORT #:** 23-06945

The victim's Chevrolet box truck was parked in the 2100 Block of Rand Road when the Unknown Offender(s), wearing dark clothing, stole the catalytic converter. The offender(s) then fled in a light-colored vehicle northwest onto Rand Road.

**Due to the recent increase in crime happening at the YMCA building located at 300 E. Northwest Highway, the following are reported incidents at that location:**

*There were no incidents at this location during this time.*

## **ARRESTS:**

**OFFENSE:** Criminal Trespass to Real Property  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/16/2023 7:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 1100 Block of S. Wolf Road  
**REPORT#:** 23-06428  
**SUBJECT NAME:** Hersh, Jeffrey  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 07/16/1971  
**ADDRESS:** 2290 Scott St. Des Plaines, IL 60018

Des Plaines Police responded to the 1100 Block of S. Wolf Road for the report of a subject, later identified as Jeffrey Hersh, on the victim's property. Upon arrival and speaking with the victim, the officer learned that via security cameras from the morning of March 16, 2023, Hersh was seen on the property and has been previously warned from both the resident and the police to stay away. The footage shows Hersh peeking around the corner of the vinyl fence on the east side of the house before then walking onto the property in a white hooded jacket and light colored pants. The victim identified a facial image of the subject as Hersh. At that time, Hersh was unable to be located. At approximately 7:20 p.m., Des Plaines officers following up on the investigation located Hersh at his home. Hersh was advised of



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the reason the police were there, taken into custody, and transported to the Des Plaines Police station. Once at the station, Hersh was subsequently arrested for Criminal Trespass to Property. Hersh posted the required bond for the incident and was released after being provided his court information.

**OFFENSE:** Domestic Battery  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/20/2023 11:44 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** 1700 Block of Lunt Avenue  
**REPORT#:** 23-06828  
**SUBJECT NAME:** Poplawski, Marek  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 05/29/1951  
**ADDRESS:** 700 French Way Mount Prospect, IL 60056

Des Plaines Police responded to the 1700 Block of Lunt Avenue for the report of a domestic dispute. Des Plaines officers spoke with the victim who stated that the subject, Marek Poplawski, whom she shares a relationship with struck and pushed her at this location following an argument. At the time of the dispatch, the victim had been transported to a separate location and was not at the address of occurrence. The officers met with the victim and observed minor injuries consistent with her account of the incident. DPPD then went to the 1700 Block of Lunt Avenue to speak with Poplawski. Once there, Poplawski admitted to being in an argument but does not know how the victim obtained any injuries. Poplawski was taken into custody and transported to the Des Plaines Police station where he was subsequently arrested for Domestic Battery. Poplawski was brought to the Cook County Courthouse in Skokie, IL for a bond hearing the following day.

**OFFENSE:** Possession of a Controlled Substance / Possession of Drug Paraphernalia  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/21/2023 9:22 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** 7000 Block of Mannheim Road, Rosemont, IL 60018  
**REPORT#:** 23-06923  
**SUBJECT NAME:** Straley, Melissa  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 05/30/1992  
**ADDRESS:** 308 Healy Ave. Romeoville, IL 60446

Des Plaines Police were traveling north on Mannheim Road near Touhy Avenue when a vehicle was seen with only one headlight illuminated traveling south. The officer conducted a legal U-turn and pulled behind the vehicle to run the license plate registration. The result of said inquiry was that the registration was expired with the Illinois Secretary of State. At that time, the officer activated his overhead emergency lights and noticed that while the vehicle was slowing to stop, there were multiple occupants making sudden movements. The officer noted that it appeared as if the subject were reaching downward and also towards the center of the vehicle. After the vehicle stopped in the 7000 Block of Mannheim Road the officer approached the vehicle and noticed the rear passenger had a white powdery substance on his sweatshirt and the other occupants, including the subject Melissa Straley, appeared nervous and focused on the center console. The officer informed the driver the reason for the traffic stop and asked why they were in the area. All three occupants fumbled their answers and finally agreeing on the story that they were searching for the rear passengers car. The occupants gave vague answers to any follow up questions and still appeared nervous to the officer. The officer then pointed out that their answers did not make sense and that due to the

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rear passengers sweatshirt, the officer suspected their were potentially illegal narcotics in the vehicle. Additional officers arrived on scene to assist with all three subjects being asked to step out of the vehicle and a search of their person conducted. While searched Straley, who had been seated in the front passenger seat, she admitted to having empty “baggies of cocaine” in her purse. A further check of Straley’s pruse resulted in finding several used glass pipes with parts of Brillo pads stuffed into them. Straley confiemd that the pipes were used to smoke “cocaine”. A search of the vehicle resulted in finding another glass pipe under Straley’s seat and a small ball of aluminum foil near the same seat tucked by the center console. A white powdery substance, suspected to be cocaine, was seen falling from the foil as the officer retrieved it. Straley admitted that the foil was hers and that the substance was in fact cocaine when she was then taken into custody and transported to the Des Plaines Police station along with the substance and the glass pipes. The substance was tested using a Narcotics Identification Kit and was positive for the probable presence of cocaine. Straley was subsequently arrested for the Possession of a Controlled Substance and the Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Straley was brought to the Cook County Courthouse in Skokie, IL for a bond hearing the following day.



*(Photo in reference to above subject, Melissa Straley)*

<b>OFFENSE:</b>	Warrant x2
<b>DATE/TIME:</b>	03/21/2023 7:30 p.m.
<b>LOCATION:</b>	600 Block of Colonial Lane
<b>REPORT#:</b>	23-06928
<b>SUBJECT NAME:</b>	Griffin, Jaylen
<b>DATE OF BIRTH:</b>	12/09/2002
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	648 Colonial Ln. Des Plaines, IL 60016

Des Plaines Police received an inter-department notification from the Mount Prospect Police Department regarding a resident of Des Plaines, subject Jaylen Griffin, with a current warrant through their jurisdiction. A potential address for Griffin was noted as being in the 600 Block of Colonial Lane. With that information, the officer’s ran Griffin’s information through the database to confirm the MPPD warrant which came back valid and extraditable. A second notification was received for an active and valid warrant through the Cook County Sheriff’s Police Department. Officers traveled to the 600 Block of Colonial Lane and after knocking on the door, met with Griffin. Griffin was advised for the reason they were there and asked to



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step out of the residence, to which he complied. After being taken into custody, Griffin was initially transported to the Des Plaines Police station before being extradited by the MPPD and subsequently arrested for said Warrants.

**OFFENSE:** Speeding 40 MPH Over the Posted Limit / Traffic  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/22/2023 2:05 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 3000 Block of S. Des Plaines River Road  
**REPORT#:** 23-06936  
**SUBJECT NAME:** Somo, Somo  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 11/22/1967  
**ADDRESS:** 7502 Palma Ln. Morton Grove, IL 60053

Des Plaines Police were on patrol when a gray Audi IRSS was seen traveling on Des Plaines River Road at a high rate of speed. The officer had his front mounted radar unit activated and locked the vehicle's speed at 40 MPH over the posted limit for that area. After activating his overhead emergency lights, the officer curbed the vehicle in the 3000 Block of S. Des Plaines River Road and approached the driver's side of the Audi. The officer requested the driver/subject's, Somo Somo, driver's license and proof of insurance while advising him the reason for the traffic stop. Somo was unable to provide the officer with proof of insurance and was notified that the speed to which he was observed traveling was a violation of the Illinois Vehicle Code. Somo was asked, and proceeded to comply, with exiting the vehicle where he was taken into custody and transported to the Des Plaines Police station. Once there, Somo was subsequently arrested for Speeding 40 MPH Over the Posted Limit and issued a citation for Operation of an Uninsured Motor Vehicle. After posting the required bond, Somo was released from the station and provided his court information.

**OFFENSE:** Obstructing Identification / Warrant x2  
**DATE/TIME:** 03/22/2023 3:56 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 3000 Block of S. Des Plaines River Road  
**REPORT#:** 23-06947 / 23-06948  
**SUBJECT NAME:** Woods, Darryl  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 11/08/1968  
**ADDRESS:** 3104 Erika Ln. Carpentersville, IL 60110

Des Plaines Police were dispatched to the Rivers Casino located in the 3000 Block of S. Des Plaines River Road for the report of an intoxicated subject on the property. When the officers arrived, they met with Casino security who advised that there was a subject who was attempting to drive away in a black Range Rover. Security escorted the officers to the location of the vehicle and spoke with the subject, Darryl Woods, who at the time, was refusing to provide all of his information. A license plate was given to the officers and after running it through the database noticed the registered owner, Darryl Woods, had two warrants in his name. The Kane County and DuPage County Sheriff's Police Departments were both contacted and confirmed the warrants were valid and extraditable when Woods was advised of the situation. Woods was then taken into custody and transported to the Des Plaines Police station where he was subsequently arrested for said Obstructing Identification and said Warrants. After posting the required bond, Woods was released from the station and provided his court information.

*Please remember that although a person may be charged with a crime, a charge is merely an Accusation, and the person is innocent until proven guilty.*