

Valley Falls Police Department

Marcus F. Koch – Chief of Police

City Council Meeting – 05.06.2020

Investigation continues on the two vehicle theft cases from Monday, April 20th. Both vehicles were recovered in Topeka. We believe that we have established the identities of a couple of suspects and I was able to acquire some good physical evidence from one of the vehicles.

I hope that everyone has an opportunity to view the public service announcement that I posted on Facebook regarding these recent cases and reinforcing the need for people to lock up their vehicles, homes and property. I cannot stress this enough - DO NOT leave vehicles unlocked and DO NOT leave keys in vehicles! DO NOT leave valuables in vehicles or in yards! And please, report ANYTHING that is suspicious or criminal AT THE TIME you see it! As the economy tanks, people are going to become more desperate and more intent on stealing. (I want to thank Officer Juedes for his great work in producing the video for me.)

The department has successfully completed six drug enforcement cases, involving a number of arrests, in the last two months. This includes a significant search warrant service the morning of Tuesday, April 21st when two houses in the 200-block of Walnut Street were raided. Specifically, I want to commend Officer Courter for his efforts in developing that particular case that led to involving a United States Drug Enforcement Administration task force. I want to thank the D.E.A. and the Kansas Highway Patrol for providing S.W.A.T. teams that morning to safely execute the warrants. And also thank you to our local E.M.S. for being staged in the event of a medical necessity.

I want the community to know that we continue to make it a priority to employ every effort to eradicate illegal drug use from this community or as I like to say, "weed the garden". Next week, I plan to produce another Facebook P.S.A. regarding our drug enforcement efforts and explicitly state that we are coming after the users and dealers and we're not backing down.

Another announcement is that we are going to again participate in the Click It or Ticket traffic enforcement program beginning on Wednesday, May 18th and continuing through Tuesday, May 31st. So, please help us by reminding our families and friends to use their safety belts ALL THE TIME, including around town and on short jaunts to the stores, etc.

April Activity Reports