



WINCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

A Virginia Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

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MEDIA RELEASE

February 24, 2010

On February 24, 2010 at approximately 0800 a.m. Winchester Police responded to the 100 Block of North Braddock Street to reports of a suspicious container. An employee of 112 North Braddock Street arrived for work at 0545 a.m. and did not see the container but was informed of it by other employees who were arriving at about 0730 a.m. The container was described as black in color and made of some type of plastic. It was approximately four (4) feet in height and two (2) feet in width and had some type of old shipping label on the side to an unknown address in Alaska. It was left sitting near the middle of the sidewalk.

Officers closed off the surrounding area and streets and a few citizens in the area were asked to stay clear until the contents of the container could be determined. The Virginia State Police bomb technicians were contacted along with the Frederick County Fire Marshall who provided a bomb canine trained in the detection of explosives. The container was examined by the bomb technicians and it was determined to be safe of any explosive devices. The contents were numerous pieces of discarded carpet. No one was injured during this incident and all city streets were reopened at approximately 1130 a.m. The Winchester Police Department would like to thank the Virginia State Police, the Frederick County Fire Marshall, and Winchester Fire and Rescue for their assistance with this incident. This media release was prepared by Sergeant Mark Lahman at 540-545-7548 (office), or 540-974-7415 (cell), or mlahman@ci.winchester.va.us (email).

The Winchester Police Department is committed to improving the quality of life for all people by preventing crime in the city. We will accomplish this by enforcing the law with impartiality, creating partnerships through communication and education, and problem solving using innovative policing strategies.