

CRS FAQs

Citizen Online Police Reporting Frequently Asked Questions:

Question: What if this happened in another city/town/county can I file a report using this online police citizen reporting system?

Answer: No, if a crime took place outside of Fairfax County please call the police department for that city/town/county.

Question: What is a hate/bias crime?

Answer: Crimes committed due to race, religion, ethnic or national origin, disability and/or sexual orientation.

Question: What is a known suspect?

Answer: A known suspect is when you or someone else knows the person or where to find the person who committed the crime or the license plate number of the vehicle the suspect(s) were in. If there is known suspect information please call the non-emergency number 703-691-2131 so an officer can be dispatched.

Question: Why can't I use on-line reporting for all crimes?

Answer: Some crimes may require evidence collection, photography or other investigative procedures which require an officer to respond to the scene of the crime.

Question: How long will it take to process my report?

Answer: Normally, within 72 hours.

Question: Can I get a copy of the report?

Answer: Actual police reports are not released since they may contain information critical to an investigation or which could be used for identity theft. A verification letter regarding your report may be obtained by calling the Fairfax County Central Records Office at 703-246-2272.

Question: What is the purpose of filing an online report?

Answer:

- Primarily for insurance and police information purposes
- Case will not be investigated
- Assists in preventing future crimes by providing statistics on trends, locations and times of violations.
- May assist in the identification and return of stolen property recovered as the result of other investigations.

