

VALLEY CITY

POLICE

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Press Release: Valley City Police Department response to Family Dollar on 6-25-17

On 6-25-17 the Valley City Police Department was dispatched to the Family Dollar Store in Valley City reference to a man with a gun in the parking lot. The male had reportedly called the store reporting that he was in the parking lot, holding a female hostage, and wanted pre-paid credit card numbers given to him or he would harm the hostage.

Officers from VCPD and the Barnes County Sheriff's Office arrived on scene and began to investigate the call finding nobody in any cars outside the business which matched the description of what was reported. Officers made contact with the store and determined they were still talking with the suspect on the phone. Officers took over that call as part of the investigation while other officers worked with a cell phone provider to determine the location of the caller. No threat of imminent harm, a suspect, or a hostage was ever located at the Valley City store.

The cell phone the male suspect was using was "pinged" by the cell phone provider and determined to be in Alabama. Contact was made with the local law enforcement jurisdiction of the ping and further investigation is being done to determine who made the call and to the extent of other calls being made to other Family Dollar establishments.

Charges of Terrorizing are pending at this time.

The Valley City Police Department would like to extend a huge thank you to the Barnes County Sheriff's Office and Barnes County Dispatch for their assistance in this matter.

Phil Hatcher
Chief of Police
Valley City PD