

# Incident Report



LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT  
3700 OLD PHILADELPHIA PIKE  
BETHLEHEM, PA 18015

Phone: (610)317-6110 Fax: (610)694-9609

Municipality **LOWER SAUCON TWP (210)**  
Report Type **INCIDENT**  
Location **2565 RINGHOFFER RD - BETHLEHEM  
18015**  
Landmark  
Premise **HOME OF COMPLAINANT**  
Point of Entry  
Meth. of Entry  
Patrol Zone Grid  
Reported **02/16/2016 @ 10:10 (Tues)**  
Discovered @  
Last Secure @  
Received **10:10** Dispatched **10:10**  
Arrived **10:17** Cleared **13:30**  
Status **CLOSED/CLEARED**  
Disposition **CLOSED - NO FURTHER ACTION**  
Clear Date **02/16/2016**  
Badge **105 - PTL THOMAS LOUDER**

Incident #		Reference #	
<b>20160216M2527</b>		<b>513</b>	
Criminal Code	Title		
	Section		
	Sub-Section		
	Description		
UCR Codes	<b>3620</b>	<b>DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC</b>	

Investigating Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Approving Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Persons Involved

**HORVATH, DAVID** Arrest Date : Disposition Date :

Role	Incident Classification	How Charged	Disposition
WITNESS	3620 DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC		

Alias  
 Age-DOB 52 - Height  
 Race WHITE Weight 0 Home Addr 2549 RINGHOFFER RD  
 Sex MALE Hair BETHLEHEM, PA 18015  
 Ethnicity NON-HISPANIC Eyes  
 Marital Stat UNKNOWN Build Home Ph #  
 Residency Unknown Complex. Work Ph #  
 SSN Cell Ph #  
 Gang Other Ph # No Photo  
 Tattoo E-Mail  
 Clothing Employer  
 GBM Id  
 -Entered // Occupation  
 -Released // Addl Addr None  
 OLN/State /  
 Injury

**IESI BETHLEHEM LANDFILL (1640)** Arrest Date : Disposition Date :

Role	Incident Classification	How Charged	Disposition
OWNER (ANY PROPER)	3620 DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC		

Juvenile Disp.: //

Alias  
 Age-DOB 00 - // Height  
 Race UNKNOWN Weight 0 Home Addr 2335 APPLEBUTTER RD  
 Sex UNKNOWN Hair BETHLEHEM, PA 18015  
 Ethnicity UNKNOWN Eyes  
 Marital Stat UNKNOWN Build Home Ph # (610)317-3200  
 Residency Unknown Complex. Work Ph #  
 SSN Cell Ph #  
 Gang Other Ph # No Photo  
 Tattoo E-Mail  
 Clothing School  
 GBM Id  
 -Entered // Occupation  
 -Released // Addl Addr None  
 OLN/State /  
 Injury

**Juvenile!**



20160216M2527

513

3620 - DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC

**MEYERS, RICK**

Arrest Date :

Disposition Date :

Role	Incident Classification	How Charged	Disposition
COMPLAINANT	3620 DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC		

Alias  
 Age-DOB 63 -                      Height  
 Race WHITE                      Weight 0                      Home Addr 2565 RINGHOFFER RD  
 Sex MALE                      Hair                      HELLERTOWN, PA 18055  
 Ethnicity NON-HISPANIC                      Eyes  
 Marital Stat UNKNOWN                      Build  
 Residency Unknown                      Complex.  
 SSN                      Home Ph #  
 Gang                      Work Ph #  
 Tattoo                      Cell Ph #  
 Clothing                      Other Ph #                      No Photo  
 GBM Id                      E-Mail  
 -Entered //                      Employer  
 -Released //                      Occupation  
 OLN/State                      Addl Addr None  
 Injury

**SHELLY, TRICIA**

Arrest Date :

Disposition Date :

Role	Incident Classification	How Charged	Disposition
WITNESS	3620 DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC		

Alias  
 Age-DOB 41 -                      Height  
 Race WHITE                      Weight 0                      Home Addr 3981 SHERRY HILL RD  
 Sex FEMALE                      Hair                      HELLERTOWN, PA 18055  
 Ethnicity NON-HISPANIC                      Eyes  
 Marital Stat                      Build  
 Residency Resident                      Complex.  
 SSN                      Home Ph #  
 Gang                      Work Ph #  
 Tattoo                      Cell Ph #  
 Clothing                      Other Ph #                      No Photo  
 GBM Id                      E-Mail  
 -Entered //                      Employer  
 -Released //                      Occupation  
 OLN/State /                      Addl Addr None  
 Injury

20160216M2527

513

3620 - DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC

**WAGNER, PATTI**

Arrest Date :

Disposition Date :

Role	Incident Classification	How Charged	Disposition
WITNESS	3620 DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC		

Alias		Height		Home Addr	2529 RINGHOFFER RD HELLERTOWN, PA 18055	
Age-DOB	56 -	Weight	0	Home Ph #		
Race	WHITE	Hair		Work Ph #		
Sex	FEMALE	Eyes		Cell Ph #		
Ethnicity	NON-HISPANIC	Build		Other Ph #		No Photo
Marital Stat	UNKNOWN	Complex		E-Mail		
Residency	Unknown			Employer		
SSN				Occupation		
Gang				Addl Addr	None	
Tattoo						
Clothing						
GBM Id						
-Entered	//					
-Released	//					
OLN/State	/					
Injury						



**Main Narrative**  
PTL THOMAS LOUDER (105)

02/16/2016 14:02 - 105 PTL THOMAS LOUDER - C3

On said date and time, I responded to 2565 Ringhoffer Road for a disturbance complaint. Caller reported his home and his property was shaking.

Upon arrival, I spoke with Mr. Meyers, who relayed to me that his home was vibrating and shaking. His doors, windows, cupboard doors, etc were all "banging" around the home. He described it as steady tremors as if from an earthquake in the area. It has ceased just prior to my arrival.

Mr. Meyers added that his neighbors at 2549 Ringhoffer Road (Mr. Horvath) and 2529 Ringhoffer Road (Patti Wagner) also called him and asked if he had felt the ground shaking. Mrs. Wagner added that her front door was shaking so badly that she was very fearful that the house was going to collapse. Meyers then called over to the the IESI landfill and was told the situation was under control.

I then stopped at the IESI landfill and spoke with the scale operator, Dee. She stated there was an issue but it was taken care of. I requested more specific information but she was unable to provide any. I then requested to speak with the manager of the facility.

In the mean time, I spoke with Mary Beth from the DEP and advised her of the situation. In an attempt to determine how far the shock waves traveled, I also spoke with Officer Shelly who relayed to me that his wife also felt their home shaking around the specified time.

I remained in the area to observe the activity at the landfill and eventually was able to speak with the IESI manager, Al Schlyer. He stated that there was an issue with the flare which burns off the excess gases. The unit was taking in too much air to mix with the gas which in turn caused the pressure to rise and the unit began to shake the ground. When a complaint was made, he realized what the issue was and a pressure valve was released which corrected the issue.

I then spoke with the residents and explained what caused the problem they experienced. Residents were also advised to call me back if they find any property damage as a result of the shock waves.

I also contacted the DEP to update them on the situation. News release also completed. Nothing further.

Note - information was also forwarded to the Township Manager, Zoning, and Hanover Engineering.

**Supplemental Narrative**  
POLICE CLERK - JULIE (CLRK)

SUPPLEMENTAL 02/17/2016 09:42:09 - CLRK POLICE CLERK - JULIE

NR sent - see multimedia [filed].

**Supplemental Narrative**  
POLICE CLERK - JULIE (CLRK)

SUPPLEMENTAL 02/17/2016 10:50:18 - CLRK POLICE CLERK - JULIE

Report given to Leslie Huhn [she stated that she will get to Hanover Engineering] and Chris Garges this date.

**Supplemental Narrative**  
**CHIEF GUY LESSER (100)**

SUPPLEMENTAL 02/17/2016 11:29:49 - 100 CHIEF GUY LESSER I was contacted by Officer Louder & advised of the complaint from Ringhoffer Road residents & his contact with IESI; he was on scene & reported not seeing or hearing anything unusual, other than heavy rain.

I forwarded email info to Acting Manager Huhn (on PTO) & Admin Assist Palik, Zoning Garges, PWD Rasich, & Det/Cpl Leidy.

Officer Louder advised that he was observing the Landfill from Ringhoffer Rd & could see personnel & equipment near the top working.

I then met briefly with Leidy & Palik; & met with Garges who we agreed, would contact the Host Municipal Inspector Chris Taylor of Hanover Engineering.

I contacted IESI & spoke with District Manager Al Schleyer who advised that a high cross wind had lifted/popped some temporary well caps which caused the flare to suck more air in creating a loud whoosh, it was purely air intake; they were placing more sand bags on the liner & replacing well heads.

Also see emails in Multimedia.

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**LOWER SAUCON TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Nature of Offense	Date	Time	Incident #
Disturbance/Citizen Assist	2/16/16	1010 hrs	20160216M2527

Location: 2500 block of Ringhoffer Road

Persons Involved: IESI Landfill – 2335 Applebutter Road, Bethlehem, PA 18015

*(Do not release until initialed by Supervisor)*

Approved by Supervisor

*TL [Signature] (#1695)*

**Incident Information (Give brief summary of what transpired)**

On said date and time, police responded to a disturbance call in the 2500 block of Ringhoffer Road. Residents reported their homes were shaking for several minutes causing their windows, doors, etc to rattle. Upon further investigation, it was determined that there was an issue with the flare which is a primary gas destruction system at the IESI landfill. Apparently, an air intake which mixes with the gases to burn it off was taking in too much air. The result was a steep rise in pressure which caused the flare itself to emit a pulse which was transmitted through the ground. Residents stated they felt the tremors as far away as Sherry Hill Road. A pressure valve was released by personnel on site and caused the shock waves to stop. If any residents feel that any property damage was done due to this incident please contact the LSTPD at (610) 317-3110. Nothing further at this time.

Released To: Newspaper

TV/Radio

By: (initials of person forwarding)

*"Was Faxed"*