

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 #

20160216M2527

Reference #

513

Criminal Code	Title
	Section
	Sub-Section
	Description

UCR Codes	3620	DISTURBANCES- FIGHTS,DISPUTES,NOISE,ETC

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!



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"