



HENRICO POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

Eric D. English, Chief of Police



CONTACT

Karina Bolster, Office of Public Affairs

Karina.Bolster@henrico.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2026

[Henrico Police Investigates Incident Involving Dozens of Teens at Mall](#)

Update 1:

(Henrico County, Va.) – Henrico Police continues to investigate the circumstances surrounding a large gathering of teens at Short Pump Town Center Saturday evening.

On Saturday, March 14, 2026, around 7:10 p.m., Henrico Police was notified by mall security at Short Pump Town Center (11800 W. Broad Street) about a large gathering of juveniles in front of one of the stores. Initial reports indicated some of the teens may have been fighting. As mall security and Henrico Police Officers, who were already on property, approached the group, the juveniles took off running throughout the mall.

As additional Henrico Police Officers were arriving on scene, there were reports of possible gunshots heard on the property; this turned out to be false but caused many of the juveniles to continue running throughout the mall and into the roadways surrounding the property, including across all lanes of W. Broad Street. There were no reported injuries involved.

The preliminary investigation indicates there was a social media post for a “takeover event” which drew a large crowd of middle to high school age children to the property in the early evening hours. Several dozen teens were reported gathering in groups throughout the mall and running to different areas on the property. These teens appear to have been dropped off at Short Pump Town Center and left unsupervised. At this time, Henrico Police continues to work with mall security to investigate the situation.

Please note, there were already a handful of Henrico Police Officers on property at the mall, working in a patrol and off-duty capacity from a previous shoplifting incident from Dick’s Sporting Goods that occurred around 5:47 p.m. One juvenile male was arrested and taken into custody. Petitions of shoplifting and obstruction of justice were obtained against him.

Henrico Police encourages parents and guardians to stay informed about where their children are going and what they are doing. Parents and caregivers play a key role in helping youth make responsible choices when they are unsupervised. Large “takeover events” are a

Office of Public Affairs

Henrico County Police Division
P.O. Box 90775 Henrico, VA 23273-0775
Police@henrico.gov | (804) 501-4800

**ONE TEAM. ONE COMMUNITY.
SAFER TOGETHER**



HENRICO POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

Eric D. English, Chief of Police



growing nationwide trend, and community awareness is key to ensuring everyone remains safe.

Anyone with further information about this situation is asked to email police@henrico.gov.

###

Watch Commander Release (03.14.26)

(Henrico County, Va.) – On March 14th, at 7:11pm, Henrico Police responded to reports of a large group of patrons actively fighting at 11800 W. Broad Street. Officer arrived on scene and assisted with regaining order to the mall. There were initial reports of gunshots however it is confirmed that there were no shots fired. At this time, the mall has decided to close early. Henrico Police is assisting with traffic and crowd control. There are no reports of injuries.

Anyone who may have information they think could be helpful are encouraged to contact Henrico County Police at (804) 501-5000, Crime Stoppers at (804) 780-1000, or submit the information through the P3Tips application on their mobile device. Information submitted through Crime Stoppers and the P3Tips application can be completed anonymously.

###

Office of Public Affairs

Henrico County Police Division
P.O. Box 90775 Henrico, VA 23273-0775
Police@henrico.gov | (804) 501-4800

**ONE TEAM. ONE COMMUNITY.
SAFER TOGETHER**