



CHATHAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

September 1, 2020

Chatham County Police Department Alerts Residents to the Dangers of Careless Sport Shooting After Bullet Goes Through Home

Chatham County, GA (September 1, 2020) – The Chatham County Police Department is alerting residents to the dangers of careless sport shooting after a bullet went through a woman’s home last week.

On August 26, 2020, officers were called to a home in the Forest Cove subdivision. The woman who lives there said she was sitting on her couch just before 11 a.m. when she heard two loud pops. The glass in her backdoor shattered and her television shattered. Officers determined the damage was the result of gunfire and were able to retrieve a bullet (see attached photo) from the woman’s television set. A neighbor walking her dog on a dock at the nearby marsh also heard the gunfire, but did not see anyone in the area.

Based on ballistic testing, detectives were able to determine that the bullet was fired from across the marsh from a distance believed to be up to 1.5 miles away. Because there were no reports of altercations or crimes in the area at the same time, detectives believe the gun was fired for sport.

“This incident proves how dangerous careless sport shooting is and how it has the potential to be deadly,” said Chatham County Police Department Criminal Investigations Division Captain Gene Harley. “When you fire a gun, you are responsible for that bullet and any injury or damage that occurs. When firing a gun for sport, it is imperative to know your backdrop and know the capability of the weapon you are firing and how far the bullet can travel.”

Note to media: Capt. Harley is available for media interviews today. Please call Betsy Nolen to schedule a time that is convenient for you.

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