

Town of Old Orchard Beach, Maine



Police Department

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Press Release June 4th, 2024

Old Orchard Beach Police Department

On June 1st, 2024 the Old Orchard Beach Police Department along with several other police departments throughout Maine participated in the Gun Give Back Day event. The event was co- sponsored by the Maine Gun Safety Coalition. The event was an opportunity for residents across the state to turn in guns and ammunition for various reasons.

On June 3rd, 2024 the Old Orchard Beach Police Department was designated as one of several gun destruction sites for several Southern Maine Police Departments who dropped off guns collected during the event. Representatives of Humanium Metal who break down guns and convert them into sellable products were on site for destruction of the firearms. The weapons were checked on site by police dropping weapons off and police representatives from other departments who organized the event.

As one of the firearms was being cut the weapon discharged expelling a round through the barrel. The round was found to have struck two unoccupied vehicles within the parking lot. Through initial investigation the involved weapon was identified as a muzzle loader style rifle. It was determined that the heat from the cutting tool ignited gun powder still left within the barrel which discharged the round.

The firearm destruction was immediately shut down by Old Orchard Beach Police Department. Further investigation of the incident is ongoing and there were no injuries reported.