

Man cited after tossing cash from upper floor at Mall of America



BLOOMINGTON MINNESOTA – A 29-year-old man who says he was trying to spread holiday cheer by tossing \$1,000 in bills over an upper floor railing at the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota, has been cited for disorderly conduct.

Serge Vorobyov, of Apple Valley, Minnesota, admitted throwing his “last \$1,000” from the fourth floor on Friday as a choir performed “Let it Snow.” Vorobyov said he also kept tossing cash as he continued down the escalator.

Vorobyov said he’s going through a divorce, lost his car-hauling business and hoped the positivity of throwing the money would come back to him.

“I wanted to do some sort of pay it forward kind of thing,” Vorobyov said Sunday. He invited his estranged wife to try to win her back but she didn’t show up, he said. Instead, Vorobyov was cited by Bloomington police and released at the scene. He also was ordered not to go into the mall for a year.

Vorobyov had stamped the bills with his YouTube address and on his Facebook page he called the event a publicity stunt. When asked why he wanted the publicity, he said he wanted his cat back from his estranged wife.

Mall of America spokeswoman Sarah Schmidt said it’s the first time anyone has ever done something like that in the mall. She said Vorobyov disrupted the performance and could’ve caused a serious situation.

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. (WCCO) – You know the old saying: money doesn’t fall from the sky? Well, it did on Black Friday at Mall of America.

Serge Vorobyov — who goes by the YouTube handle “Serge the Car Hauler” — threw \$1,000 in dollar bills from the fourth floor of the



Mall of America rotunda as a choir performed “Let it Snow” on the ground floor below. Serge said the reason he surprised everyone and tossed out the cascade of cash is because he’s had a rough year and just wanted to help other people on Black Friday. “People think it’s an evil number, I thought it was supposed to be a lucky number,” he said on a [YouTube vlog](#) explaining the event. “I went through a horrible divorce, and she even took the cat and won’t tell me where it is. I thought I would just spread some holiday cheer ... pay it forward.”

Unfortunately, Bloomington police did not share his vision of yuletide cheer. They arrested him and charged him with disorderly conduct.

A Mall of America spokesperson said his antics could have caused a major disturbance and someone could have been hurt.

“I think all the people down there enjoyed it,” Serge said.

'Memories' pass between generations

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-25156510>



Behavior can be affected by events in previous generations which have been passed on through a form of genetic memory, animal studies suggest.

Experiments showed that a traumatic event could affect the DNA in sperm and alter the brains and behavior of subsequent generations.

A Nature Neuroscience study shows mice trained to avoid a smell passed their

aversion on to their "grandchildren".

Experts said the results were important for phobia and anxiety research.

The animals were trained to fear a smell similar to cherry blossom.

The team at the Emory University School of Medicine, in the US, then looked at what was happening inside the sperm.

They showed a section of DNA responsible for sensitivity to the cherry blossom scent was made more active in the mice's sperm.

Both the mice's offspring, and their offspring, were "extremely sensitive" to cherry blossom and would avoid the scent, despite never having experiencing it in their lives.

Changes in brain structure were also found.

"The experiences of a parent, even before conceiving, markedly influence both structure and function in the nervous system of subsequent generations," the report concluded.

Family affair

The findings provide evidence of "trans generational epigenetic inheritance" - that the environment can affect an individual's genetics, which can in turn be passed on.

One of the researchers Dr Brian Dias told the BBC: "This might be one mechanism that descendants show imprints of their ancestor.

"There is absolutely no doubt that what happens to the sperm and egg will affect subsequent generations."

Prof Marcus Pembrey, from University College London, said the findings were "highly relevant to phobias, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorders" and provided "compelling evidence" that a form of memory could be passed between generations.

He commented: "It is high time public health researchers took human trans generational responses seriously.

"I suspect we will not understand the rise in neuropsychiatric disorders or obesity, diabetes and metabolic disruptions generally without taking a multigenerational approach."

In the smell-aversion study, is it thought that either some of the odour ends up in the bloodstream which affected sperm production or that a signal from the brain was sent to the sperm to alter DNA.

More hospital staff being attacked in UK (2nd December, 2013)

The number of physical attacks against hospital staff is rising in the U.K. New figures from Britain's National Health Service (NHS) show a six per cent rise in violent assaults on care workers in the past year. There were 63,199 reported assaults in 2012-13 across England, up from 59,744 from the previous year. That means more than 173 nurses, orderlies or other staff are assaulted every day. Unions say these figures do not tell the whole story. Union spokeswoman Christina McAnea said: "Sadly, this is only the tip of the iceberg as violence on NHS premises remains an under-reported problem. The [government] cuts and resultant pressure on services are causing growing patient frustration."

Britain's Health Minister Dr Dan Poulter condemned the attacks on hospital staff. He said: "Any physical or verbal abuse against NHS staff is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated." He added: "It is outrageous that there have been so many physical assaults against NHS staff." He said there were measures to keep undesirable people out of hospitals. "Legal powers are available to remove people not requiring treatment from hospital premises in cases of nuisance behaviour, and to prosecute those who refuse to leave." Richard Hampton of the support group NHS Protect said: "NHS staff should expect to be able to provide care in a safe environment, free from violence and physical assault."

1. **TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. There was a reported 6% rise in attacks on U.K. nurses and orderlies. | T / F |
| b. There was a rise of almost 60,000 attacks on Britain's hospital staff. | T / F |
| c. Unions say the figures are an accurate account of violence in hospitals. | T / F |
| d. Unions say government cuts are not responsible for the rise in attacks. | T / F |
| e. Britain's health minister condemned any attacks on hospital staff. | T / F |
| f. The health minister said he would take more measures to protect staff. | T / F |
| g. There is nothing hospitals can do to get violent people to leave. | T / F |
| h. A support group said staff should be able to work in a safe workplace. | T / F |

2. **SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

1. attacks
2. figures
3. previous
4. premises
5. frustration
6. condemned
7. abuse
8. outrageous
9. prosecute
10. free



- a. properties
- b. take to court
- c. denounced
- d. preceding
- e. ill-treatment
- f. assaults
- g. shocking
- h. annoyance
- i. safe from
- j. statistics

3. **DISCUSSION**

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) What should happen to people who attack hospital staff?
- 3) How can hospitals protect their staff against attacks?
- 4) What would you do if you saw someone attacking a nurse?
- 5) Why are more people in the UK attacking hospital staff?
- 6) What needs to be done if this is just the tip of the iceberg?
- 7) What advice would you give to hospital staff who are attacked?
- 8) Should governments cut spending on hospitals?
- 9) What do you think of hospital staff?
- 10) How are hospitals in your country?
- 11) Will a health minister's condemnation be enough to stop the attacks?
- 12) Why do ministers say violence is outrageous and will not be tolerated, then do nothing to stop it?
- 13) Can hospitals refuse to treat people who do not behave?

Moscow removes giant Louis Vuitton suitcase (30th November, 2013)

Russia's government will remove a large building in the centre of Moscow. The building looks exactly like a brown Louis Vuitton suitcase. It is nine metres high and 30 metres long and is covered in Louis Vuitton's famous logo. It also has two giant Russian flags running down one side. The luxury goods maker built it for a 6-week exhibition of Louis Vuitton luggage. The exhibition was going to open on December the 2nd to mark the 150-year anniversary of the company. A spokesperson from Louis Vuitton said everyone at the company was disappointed. The company had planning permission to make the building and Moscow building inspectors visited it many times before the builders finished it.

The giant suitcase became very unpopular with ordinary Muscovites. Many people could not understand why the city agreed to build it in Moscow's famous Red Square. A member of Russia's Communist Party said Red Square was "a sacred place for the Russian state". The suitcase was built next to the tomb of Lenin. A Moscow pensioner said: "This is an embarrassment for our country. All we think about is business, business, business." He said it was shocking because most Russians could never afford to buy a Louis Vuitton product. The building may be moved to another part of Moscow. The money collected from the exhibition will go to a Russian children's charity.

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. The Louis Vuitton building looks like a giant bag. | T / F |
| b. The building is nine metres long. | T / F |
| c. The building was built for Louis Vuitton's 150th anniversary. | T / F |
| d. Louis Vuitton had permission to build the building. | T / F |
| e. Most people in Moscow loved the building. | T / F |
| f. The building was put next to where a famous Russian man was buried. | T / F |
| g. An old Russian man said the building embarrassed Russia. | T / F |
| h. The money from the exhibition will go to help homeless people. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. remove | a. senior citizen |
| 2. exactly | b. upset |
| 3. giant | c. normal |
| 4. disappointed | d. huge |
| 5. inspectors | e. take away |
| 6. ordinary | f. have the money for |
| 7. understand | g. checkers |
| 8. pensioner | h. totally |
| 9. afford | i. raised |
| 10. collected | j. comprehend |



3. DISCUSSION

- 1) Would you like to have some Louis Vuitton products?
- 2) What do you think of an exhibition hall that looks like a giant suitcase?
- 3) Is Moscow right to remove the building?
- 4) Would you like to see a Louis Vuitton exhibition?
- 5) Why are Louis Vuitton products so popular?
- 6) What do you know about Louis Vuitton?
- 7) Why do you think Louis Vuitton built the building in Moscow?
- 8) Why do you think the building was unpopular with people from Moscow?
- 9) Was it wrong of Louis Vuitton to put the building in Red Square?
- 10) Was the building more for publicity than for an exhibition?
- 11) Why would the building be an embarrassment for Moscow?
- 12) Is it wrong to always think about "business, business, business"?
- 13) Is the world becoming overtaken by brands?

