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Omaha, Lincoln police investigate vandalism at Fischer, Sasse offices

By Jay Withrow / World-Herald staff writer Jul 26, 2017

Authorities on Wednesday were investigating vandalism incidents at Sen. Deb Fischer's Omaha office and Sen. Ben Sasse's Lincoln office.

Police responded Wednesday morning to Fischer's office near 120th Street and Miracle Hills Drive and to Sasse's downtown office.

Someone reportedly tossed a substance appearing to be blood at the door of Fischer's office, Omaha police said.

The incident was reported around 7 a.m., "and we are still attempting to determine what the substance is," officer Michael Pecha said. "We do not know if it is blood at this time."

According to a police report, the substance was tossed at the office's north doors sometime overnight. A reddish-brown liquid substance was "all over" the front doors and entryway, the report said.

The doors are usually locked between 5:30 p.m. and 7 a.m., the report said.

A decal touting Betsy Riot, a protest group, was stuck to the front door and another was left below Fischer's name on the large front-entrance sign to the parking lot, the report said.

The police report said the area was checked for video surveillance but none was found.

The estimated amount of damage caused by the vandalism was listed on the report as less than \$500.

A similar act of vandalism occurred last week at Fischer's Lincoln office at 440 N. Eighth St.

At Sasse's office, 1128 Lincoln Mall, "fake blood syrup" was splattered on doors and windows sometime Tuesday night or Wednesday morning, a police report said.

The police report said a sticker also belonging to the Betsy Riot group was found on a window along with a handwritten sign taped to a window. The estimated damage to Sasse's office was listed at \$100.

No injuries were reported, and no arrests or no citations were issued in the cases, which remain under investigation, authorities said.

Both senators are Republican lawmakers who voted Tuesday in favor of beginning debate on legislation to repeal and potentially replace large sections of the Affordable Care Act.

A statement from Fischer's office in Washington said U.S. Capitol Police were also investigating the vandalism.

A voicemail left at Sasse's office asking for a statement was not returned.