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Worthington Police News



Chief

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Captain

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Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Josh McCuen

Brandon Peil

Dustin Roemeling

Patrol Officers

Chris Hillesheim

Kirk Honius

Randy Liepold

Colin Meinders

Tyler Olson

Jacob Refsland

Mark Riley

Lucky Sayveo

Kyle Schreier

Gabe Vander Veen

Jake Walker

Investigators

Shawn Elsing

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

School Resource

Dan Brouillet

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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Minnesota Police Accountability Law

On July 23, 2020, Governor Tim Walz signed a new police accountability bill into law.

The bill which was passed by the Legislature earlier in the week, makes a number of changes to law enforcement including:

- Adds an independent Use of Force Investigations Unit to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA),
- Adds the ability of cities or counties to offer incentives to encourage people hired as peace officers to be a resident of the city or county,
- Makes modifications to the Use of Force Statute 609.066 to refer to the sanctity of life,
- Adds Use of Force reporting to both the Minnesota BCA and FBI,
- Increases the Minnesota Peace Officers Standards and Training Board (POST) from 15 to 17 members with the new members coming from the general public,
- Establishing a Police Excellence and Improving Community Relations Advisory Council under the POST Board.

Anyone wanting more information can go to the website <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2020/2/1/laws.0.10.0#laws.0.10.0> for further details.

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

Julie Jeppesen

Records Clerk

30 Years

Congratulations Julie on 30 years of dedicated service to the City of Worthington and the Worthington Police Department

Animal Control**Community Service**

Myra Onnen

Reception

Barb Hussong

Records

Shari Droll

Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT

Gary Gerdes

Dispatch Supervisor

Nancy Veen

Dispatch

Tonya Aanenson

Stephanie Evers

Jodi Mulder

Zach Ramerth

Joe Reith

K-9 Officers

Frankie

Mack

Winston

Police Training Today

With the passing of the Minnesota Police Accountability law, the topic of police training has come to the forefront of the conversation.

Some groups have made the claim that the police are under trained, while others simply do not know anything about training the police have to attend.

In Minnesota, all peace officers and part-time peace officers must complete 48 hours of law enforcement related continuing education every three-year license period.

If you do not complete the training, you will lose your peace officer license and cannot work as a peace officer.

Every year peace officers must complete Use of Force training, which includes firearms qualification, low light shooting, cold weather shooting, in addition to hands-on Use of Force training.

This training must be based on the department's Use of Force Policy and the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) learning objectives.

Every five years active peace officers must complete an eight-hour course in emergency vehicle operations and in the conduct of police pursuits.

Other mandatory training includes training in crisis intervention and mental illness crisis, conflict management and mediation, and recognizing and valuing community diversity and cultural differences, to include implicit bias.

All police training in Minnesota is approved by the Minnesota Post Board.

While this training is the bare minimum, the Worthington Police Department takes pride in being one of the highest trained departments in the state.



Most of our officers will receive over 50 hours of training each year and some officers will top 100 hours of training.

When it comes to emergency vehicle operations, the Worthington Police Department requires our officers to complete this training every three years instead of every five as required by the Minnesota POST Board.

In addition to all of the mandatory training required every year, all officers are highly encouraged to attend additional training in topics that interest them.

To learn more about police training, you can go to the Minnesota POST Board website.



Scam Alert: Mystery Seeds from China

Across the United States, people have been receiving mysterious packages of seeds from China.

What makes these seeds mysterious is that the recipient never ordered them and they do not know what the seeds are.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) believes this may be a scam where people receive unsolicited items from a seller, who then posts fake customer reviews online to boost sales.

The USDA also said that any foreign seeds can have

a negative impact on the environment as a threat to plant and animal health and to agriculture in general. The seeds could carry fungi or invasive pests, which could cause great destruction to the native ecosystem.

If you receive an unsolicited package of seeds in the mail, please contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture by telephone at 888-545-6684 or by email at arrest.the.pest@state.mn.us

To date over 700 Minnesotans have received these packages of seeds.

If you have received these seeds, do the following:

- Save the seeds and the packaging they came in.
- Do not open the packets.
- Do not plant any of the seeds.
- If the packets are already opened, place all materials into a tightly sealed plastic bag.
- Contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.



- If you have already planted the seeds, please destroy any plants that have germinated and dispose of them and the surrounding soil by double bagging them and dispose of them in the trash.

Ask an Officer: How to Transport Alcohol

Recently I received a couple questions about how to transport alcohol in vehicles.

I am going on vacation and I have an opened bottle of hard liquor I would like to bring with. I have a Chevrolet Equinox which does not have a trunk, so how can I transport the bottle without getting in trouble?

For the answer to this question, we will look to Minnesota State Statute 169A.35 Open Bottle Law.

Subdivision 3 states “It is a crime for a person to have in possession, while in a private motor vehicle upon a street or highway, any bottle or receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage, distilled spirit, or 3.2 percent malt liquor that has

been opened, or the seal broken, or the contents of which have been partially removed.”

Under subdivision 6, there are several exceptions to the law. If your vehicle does not have a trunk, then you are required to store the bottle in another area of the vehicle that is not normally occupied by the driver and passenger.

Utility compartments, such as the center console, and glove boxes are deemed to be within the area occupied by the driver and passenger and is not allowed.

For vehicles such as the Chevrolet Equinox, the bottle should be placed behind the last row of passenger seats in the storage area.

I am going on vacation with my motorcycle and I was wondering how can I transport alcohol?

For motorcycles, the safest route to transport alcohol would be in the trailer if you have one or in a locked saddle bag on the rear of the motorcycle.

Do you have a question for a police officer, but never had the chance to ask?

Here is your chance! Each month, one question will be selected and answered in this newsletter
Send your comments and questions to:

chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us

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Animal Control

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Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.ci.worthington.mn.us

**CRIME
STOPPERS**
of Minnesota

1-800-222-TIPS
www.crimestoppersmn.org
Crime Doesn't Pay... We Do!

Humor in Law Enforcement

Sometimes the criminals featured here are just plain dumb, while others suffer from dumb luck.

For James Washington of Nashville, he suffered from the worst luck.

James was in prison serving a 15-year sentence for a 2006 attempted murder conviction when he started suffering from seizures.

While in the hospital, James believed he was going to die, and he wanted to die with a clear conscious.

James confessed to the correctional officer guarding him that he murdered a woman 17-years earlier.

Fortunately for James, he was not dying.

Unfortunately for James, he gave law enforcement officers the evidence they needed to secure a murder conviction against him.

James was long suspected of committing the murder and his confession was the last piece that was needed to secure a murder conviction.



For James, the sentence carries a mandatory life sentence in prison of at least 51 years and it is likely he will die in prison for the murder of Joyce Goodener.

Credit: abcnews.com

Mission Statement

**Serving Worthington with honor and integrity
by working WITH the community
to provide exceptional public safety.**

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