

August 2021

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# Worthington Police News



## Chief

Troy Appel

## Captain

Nathan Grimmus

## Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Josh McCuen

Brandon Peil

Dustin Roemeling

## Patrol Officers

Chris Hillesheim

Randy Liepold

Colin Meinders

Tyler Olson

Jacob Refsland

Mark Riley

Lucky Sayveo

Kyle Schreier

Bryant Schroeder

Christina Shorter

Alex VanSomeren

Gabe Vander Veen

## Investigators

Shawn Elsing

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

Jake Walker

## School Resource

Dan Brouillet

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

## In Memory of K-9 Mack

It is with sadness that the Worthington Police Department is announcing that K-9 Officer Mack lost his battle with cancer and has died.

Chief Appel stated that K-9 Officer Mack was an important team member and aided our officers in so many ways. His unrelenting desire to do his job, to please us, and to get that toy will be greatly missed.

K-9 officer Mack was not only a member of the Worthington Police



Department, but was also a member of Officer Riley's family as well.

Please join us in offering Officer Riley our condolences for the loss of K-9 Officer Mack and please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

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## Years of Service



### July

Julie Jeppesen

Records Clerk

31 Years

### August

Christopher Hillesheim

Police Officer

17 Years

Brandon Peil

Detective Sergeant

8 Years

Alex VanSomeren

Police Officer

1 Year

**Animal Control**  
Laura Garcia

**Community Service**

**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

## Notable Calls

Back in the March newsletter, we talked about how the Worthington Police Department was going to adopt a new less lethal tool for the patrol officers to use, the 40 mm launcher.

In July, our patrol officers had a chance to use this tool to potentially save a life.

Early one morning in July, officers received a call of a suspect breaking windows at a local residence.

Prior to arrival, the suspect went to a neighboring residence where he broke into the residence.

The suspect then went to a third residence where he entered a shed.

The first officer arrived on scene and staged near the shed where the suspect entered.

While waiting for backup to arrive, the officer heard a motor start up followed by a large bang.

The officer observed the overhead door of the shed bow out where a vehicle was rammed into the door.

The backup officer arrived and retrieved the 40mm launcher from his squad car.

The officers then opened the door to the shed, only to observe the suspect holding a gas can over his head, pouring gas on himself screaming he wanted to die.

The backup officer used the 40mm launcher and struck the suspect with the foam round, causing him to drop the gas can.

The suspect was quickly taken into custody, where he received medical treatment at the hospital before being transported to the Nobles County Jail.

The 40mm launcher allowed officers to quickly stop the suspect and take him into custody before he had a chance to harm himself.



While no suspect names are mentioned in this article, all suspects referenced here are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



# School Bus Safety

It's hard to believe that another year has passed, and school is about to start again.

School busses are extremely safe modes of transportation. In fact, the school bus is the safest vehicle on the road according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Students are 70 times more likely to get to school safely when taking a school bus instead of a car.

The greatest risk to students is not from riding the bus, but from approaching or leaving the bus.

## Parents

Safety starts at the bus stop.

Children should arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. Remind your child the bus stop is not a place to run or play.

When the school bus arrives, your child should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, the door opens, and the driver motions that it is safe to approach the bus.

Remind your child to never walk behind a school bus and only cross the street in front of the bus. The child should make eye contact with the bus driver before crossing the street.

If your child drops something, they should leave it there and tell the bus driver about it.



## BUS SAFETY



## Drivers

Learn and obey the school bus laws.

- ◇ Yellow Flashing Lights – indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicle.
- ◇ Red Flashing Lights and Extended Stop Arms – indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off the bus. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing and the stop arm is withdrawn before they start moving again.

Be alert for children playing and congregating near the bus stop. Remember that children can be unpredictable.

Slow down and watch for children walking in the street, especially before and after school hours.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

## **Worthington Police Department**

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Worthington, MN 56187

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FAX:  
(507) 372-5977

E-MAIL:  
[bhussong@co.nobles.mn.us](mailto:bhussong@co.nobles.mn.us)

Animal Control  
(507) 329-0070

Community Service Officer  
(507) 372-8189

**We're on the Web!**

See us at:  
[www.ci.worthington.mn.us](http://www.ci.worthington.mn.us)

**CRIME  
STOPPERS**  
*of Minnesota*

**1-800-222-TIPS**  
[www.crimestoppersmn.org](http://www.crimestoppersmn.org)  
**Crime Doesn't Pay...We Do!**

## **Humor in Law Enforcement**

This story is told by an Ohio Police Officer.

One Sunday afternoon, I was dispatched to a residential area for a report of a disturbance.

As I arrived at the call, I saw what looked like Ronald McDonald slinging a baseball bat on a vehicle parked in the driveway.

I got out of my patrol car and started looking around to see if this was a joke, but the looks of the neighbors quickly told me this was not a joke.

I advised dispatch that I was running after the suspect. I ignored the dispatcher who wanted a description of the suspect.

As I rounded the corner, I saw a pair of yellow and red size 42 shoes hanging out of the side of a Ford Fiesta parked in a driveway.

After several requests for the suspect to get out of the vehicle, I eventually pulled the suspect out of the car.



As I walked back to my car with "Ronald" in cuffs, several children on bikes started giving me a thumbs down and were "Booing" me.

Credit: theclever.com

## **Mission Statement**

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

**WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
1530 AIRPORT ROAD  
SUITE 300  
WORTHINGTON, MN 56187**