

August 2022

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# Worthington Police News



## Chief

Troy Appel

## Captain

Nathan Grimmus

## Patrol Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Josh McCuen

Mark Riley

## Detective Sergeant

Brandon Peil

## Patrol Officers

Ryan Golombiecki

Chris Hillesheim

Randy Liepold

Colin Meinders

Tyler Olson

Jacob Refsland

Lucky Sayveo

Bryant Schroeder

Christina Shorter

Logan Waldner

## Investigators

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

Kyle Schreier

Jake Walker

## School Resource

Dan Brouillet

Gabe Vander Veen

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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

## Dispatch Supervisor Promotion

With Dispatch Supervisor Nancy Veen retiring this fall, Dispatcher Stephanie Evers has been selected as the next dispatch supervisor!

Please take the time to congratulate Stephanie on her promotion. Stephanie will spend the upcoming months training with Nancy for her new position.



## City of Worthington Awards

The City of Worthington issued the following awards for 2021 to the members of the Worthington Police Department.

### Years of Service Award

Troy Appel	Chief of Police	25 Years
Nancy Veen	Dispatch Supervisor	25 Years
Joshua McCuen	Sergeant	15 Years
Mark Riley	Sergeant	10 Years
Joe Joswiak	Detective	10 Years

## *Congratulations!*

### Safe Driving Awards

Troy Appel	Chief of Police	25 Years
Randy Liepold	Patrol Officer	10 Years
Josh McCuen	Sergeant	5 Years
Mark Riley	Sergeant	5 Years

**Animal Control**  
Open

**Community Service**  
Kirk Honius

**Reception**  
Barb Hussong

**Records**  
Shari Droll  
Julie Jeppesen

**TAC/IT**  
Gary Gerdes

**Dispatch Supervisor**  
Stephanie Evers  
Nancy Veen

**Dispatch**  
Tonya Aanenson  
Jodi Mulder  
Zach Ramerth

**K-9 Officers**  
Winston

## School Bus Safety

August is here and the start of the new school year is just around the corner.

Now is an excellent time to go over school bus safety so we can help prevent a tragedy from happening this school year.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, school buses are the safest vehicle on the road, with an average of 4-6 school age children dying each year while on school transportation vehicles.

Students who ride the school bus are about 70 times more likely to get to school safely as compared to a car.

Most of the danger around school buses comes from the

students at the bus stop and when they get on and off the bus.

### At the Bus Stop

Students should arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes early. Accidents can happen when a student is rushed and not thinking clearly.

### Getting off the Bus

Students should wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the driver opens the door before approaching the door.

Students should use handrails to prevent falls.

### Around the Bus

Students should never walk behind the bus and only cross in front of the bus where the driver can see them.



Make eye contact with the bus driver before crossing in front of the bus.

If the student drops something, go back and tell the bus driver. If they duck down to pick it up, the bus driver may not see them.

### Motorists

Avoid distractions such as the radio, cell phones, etc. around buses.

Expect the unexpected, children can be unpredictable.



## Years of Service

Christopher Hillesheim	Patrol Officer	18 Years
Brandon Peil	Detective Sergeant	9 Years
Logan Waldner	Patrol Officer	1 Years

## Law Review: School Bus Stop Arm Violations

Minnesota State Statute 169.444 is the state statute that covers school bus safety laws.

When a school bus is stopped with the stop sign extended and the red lights are flashing, a motorist must stop at least 20 feet away and not move until the red lights are off and the stop sign is retracted.

The penalty for this is a misdemeanor with a minimum fine of at least \$500.

If there were children outside of the bus on the adjacent sidewalk or street/highway, or if the driver attempts to pass the bus on the right-hand side, the penalty becomes a gross misdemeanor with a maximum fine of \$3000 and up to a year in jail.



If an officer believes a driver has operated a motor vehicle in violation of this statute within the prior 4 hours, the driver may be arrested.

A driver is not required to stop for a school bus when driving on a separated roadway (parallel road with a safety isle or safety zone).

This statute also allows for the owner of a vehicle or lessee of a vehicle to be charged with a petty misdemeanor for this offense if the vehicle was not stolen at the time of the incident or if no one else was charged.

## Water Safety

July was a tragic month for water safety with a man drowning in Lake Okabena, another man apparently drowning in a pool at a private residence in Nobles County, and a near-drowning at a local pool.

Don't be a statistic!

There are a few things you can do to help prevent tragedy in and around the water.

The first thing you can do is to learn to swim. Having the confidence and skills in the water will make you safer.

In Worthington, the YMCA teaches swimming lessons, and they have financial aid available. The Jami Cummings Learn to Swim Program provides free swimming lessons for every second grader in Nobles County.

Avoid swimming alone! Having a friend around can make it safer and someone can go for help if needed.

When swimming, try to swim in designated area. In Worthington, the beach at Centennial Park is designated for swimming.

When boating or on the water, wear a life jacket.

Keep an eye on the weather. If there are any signs of storms or lightning, get out of the water.

Avoid horseplay such as pushing or dunking your friends.



Consider carrying a rope or life vest that you can toss to someone when it looks like they are struggling in the water.

## Worthington Police

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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)

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*of Minnesota*

**1-800-222-TIPS**

[www.crimestoppersmn.org](http://www.crimestoppersmn.org)

**Crime Doesn't Pay...We Do!**

## Humor in Law Enforcement

Officer Shorter confronting masked bandits along South Shore Drive.



## 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**