



Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

## Chief

Troy Appel

## Captain

Kevin Flynn

## Sergeants

Tim Gaul  
Nathan Grimmus  
Josh McCuen  
Dustin Roemeling  
Brett Wiltrout

## Patrol Officers

Nick Heimer  
Chris Hillesheim  
Kirk Honius  
Randy Liepold  
Micah Mesman  
Tyler Olson  
Jacob Refsland  
Mark Riley  
Lucky Sayveo  
Gabe Vander Veen  
Jake Walker

## Investigators

Shawn Elsing  
Dave Hoffman  
Joe Joswiak  
Brandon Peil

## School Resource

Dan Brouillet

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## Dispatcher Profile: Joe Reith

The newest addition to the Worthington Police Department family is Dispatcher Joe Reith.

Joe grew up in Fulda and graduated from Fulda High School in 1992.

After completing high school, Joe attended Willmar Technical College in Willmar, Minnesota and received an associate degree in Agriculture Business.

Joe joined the law enforcement community in 2008 when he joined the Murray County Sheriff's Department as a dispatcher.

Joe worked in Murray County until June 2017, when he was hired as a police dispatcher for the Worthington Police Department.

Joe's duties with the Worthington Police Department include



dispatching for the Worthington Police Department, Nobles County Sheriff's Office, Adrian Police Department, Worthington and Adrian Ambulance services, all fire departments and all first responder units in Nobles County.

If that alone wasn't enough, Joe also answers all 911 calls and many non-emergency calls to the law enforcement center.

When Joe is not working, he enjoys spending time with his family, which includes his wife Denise, and children Hope (20), Claire (14), and Lincoln (5).

Joe also enjoys spending time outdoors while he is camping.

Please join us in welcoming Joe to the Worthington Police Department!

**Animal Control**  
Virgil Veen

**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  
Hannah Huls  
Jodi Mulder  
Joe Reith

**K-9 Officers**  
Frankee  
Mack  
Winston

## Dispatch Corner: Text-to-911

Starting December 5, 2017, Minnesota joins a growing list of states where you can contact 911 via text message.

While dialing 911 during an emergency is the best option, texting 911 is an excellent option for people with hearing loss, or those who must remain quiet in a dangerous situation.

To use the text-to-911 feature, follow these steps:

1. Enter the number 911 in the "to" field
2. Text your exact .address and type of emergency.
3. Send the message.
4. Use simple words. Avoid the use of abbreviations, emojis, pictures, or slang.
5. Promptly answer questions and follow instructions.

Texting 911 is a simple process, but if there is a delay in answering dispatch's questions or if you fail to tell them where you are, they cannot help.

### Best Practices and Challenges

Dispatch prefer calls, so they can get cues from the background noise and voice inflections.

Location is not as accurate with texting as it is with a call. Be sure to text your exact address.

A text or data plan is required to use Text-to-911.

Text messages have a 160-character limit, can get out of order, or may not be received.



Texts to 911 will get a bounce back message if you are roaming.

There is no language translation services for texts to 911.

Do not text and drive!

For more information, go to [dvs.mn.gov](http://dvs.mn.gov).



**DON'T JUST STAND BY AND WATCH**

Text confidential tips to the

**Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force**

**100% Anonymous**



BRDTF Tips available on Apple and Android devices

## Law Review: Geographic Restrictions

In 2017, the Minnesota legislature gave the Courts the authority to place geographic restrictions on defendants in a criminal proceeding or a juvenile offender in a delinquency proceeding.

This restriction allows the court to prevent the defendant or offender from entering a designated property or geographic area.

The court may issue a geographic restriction upon finding that its issuance will serve the interests of protecting public safety or property.

Violation of this restriction is a misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.

## Scam Alert: Holiday Screen Savers

With the holiday season upon us, who doesn't want a nice holiday themed screen saver for their cell phone.

Before you hit download on your phone, you should be aware that scammers have already found ways to ruin your holiday season.

The scammers have created their own screen savers with viruses hidden in the program.

These viruses can steal

your information and open you up to fraud of all kinds.

If you are an iPhone user, you can rest easy knowing that Apple has a strict review process for all apps before they are allowed in the app store.

Apple will review all applications for security threats or privacy threats, such as hidden viruses.

If you don't have an Apple device, then you

need to be diligent in downloading screen savers.

Before you download a screen saver, make sure you have an antivirus enabled for your phone.

Once that is done, only download a screen saver from a trusted source.

If you are not sure if the source can be trusted, you can always use a favorite holiday photo and make that your screen saver!



Do you have a question about a scam or have been a victim of a scam that you would like warn others about? If so, please email [chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us](mailto:chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us). You may remain anonymous.

## Ask an Officer: Snow Emergencies

What is a snow emergency?

A snow emergency is a declaration made by the Superintendent of Public Works or his or her designee.

The declaration states that a condition created on city streets because of the presence of snow, freezing rain, sleet, ice or snow drifts creates or is likely to create hazardous road conditions or impede or is likely to impede the free movement of fire, health, police, snow removal equipment, or other emergency traffic or citizen travel.

A declaration of a snow emergency is declared in writing and is announced by radio

broadcast as soon as possible on local radio stations. Four hours after the snow emergency is made, it will go into effect and will be valid for 48 hours, unless it is extended or terminated.

What this all means is that vehicles cannot be parked in any public street or alley that interferes with the removal of snow from the street or alley or impedes the free movement of emergency vehicles, snow removal equipment or other vehicular traffic.

Vehicles in violation of this ordinance are subject to being ticketed and immediately towed.

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](mailto:chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us)



## Worthington Police

1530 Airport Road  
Suite 300  
Worthington, MN 56187

PHONE:  
(507) 295-5400

FAX:  
(507) 372-5977

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

Animal Control

(507) 360-7044

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)

## Humor in Law Enforcement

Driving drunk is never a good idea as one man found out in Bath Township, Michigan.

After getting incredibly intoxicated, he was driving home and decided to stop at McDonalds for some McNuggets, a McDouble, and a McFlurry.

Pulling into the drive-thru, our intoxicated driver sat in the lane for 15 minutes while honking the horn. In this intoxicated state, the drunk driver failed to notice the

McDonalds was closed and all of the lights were turned off.

After failing to get his food, the upset drunk driver squealed out of the parking lot and jumped the curb before entering the roadway, right in front of a parked police car just 20 feet away.



This is how you end up in jail and the jail does not have McFlurries!

#McFailed

Credit to the Bath Township Michigan Police Department for this cautionary tale!

## 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**