February 2015 Volume 4, Issue 2

### **Worthington Police News**

<u>Chief</u> Troy Appel

<u>Captain</u> Kevin Flynn

Sergeants Tim Gaul Nathan Grimmius Josh McCuen Brett Wiltrout

### Patrol Officers

Dan Brouillet Chris Hillesheim Kirk Honius Randy Liepold Colby Palmersheim Brandon Peil Mark Riley Alex Tokar Jake Walker

Investigators Shawn Elsing Dave Hoffman Joe Joswiak Tyler Olson

<u>School Resource</u> Jacki Bomgaars

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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

## **Officer Profile: Sergeant Josh McCuen**

The Officer Profile for February is Sergeant Josh McCuen.

Sergeant McCuen started his law enforcement career as a Deputy Sheriff with the Murray County Sheriff's Office before being hired by the Worthington Police Department nine years ago.

Sergeant McCuen has been active with the police department as a field training officer, emergency response member, and an emergency vehicle operation course instructor.

Sergeant McCuen has worked tirelessly over the years to reduce traffic deaths caused by DWIs.

Through strict enforcement of the DWI laws, Sergeant McCuen has earned the Minnesota Department of Public



Safety Office of Traffic Safety DWI All-Star Award.

Sergeant McCuen is also the "Toward Zero Deaths" Coordinator for Southwest Minnesota and has previously served as the MADD Impact Panel Coordinator.

If that was not enough, Sergeant McCuen helps other officers recognize impaired drivers with his (continued on next page)

#### Animal Control Virgil Veen

Community Service Myra Onnen

Reception Barb Hussong

<u>Records</u> Shari Droll Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT Gary Gerdes

#### **Dispatch**

Tonya Aanenson Stephanie Culham Hannah Huls Jodi Mulder Larry Rogers Nancy Veen

<u>K-9 Officers</u> Mack Thor



BRDTF Tips available on Apple and Android devices

## **Officer Profile: Sergeant Josh McCuen Continued:**

Training as a Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor and as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Instructor.

When Sergeant McCuen is not working, he enjoys spending time with his children, golfing, and being outdoors. Sergeant McCuen is also a Twins fan and a Vikings fan and enjoys going to the games.



## Law Review: Opening and Closing Vehicle Door

We have all seen movies where someone opens their car door into the lane of traffic and a passing vehicle comes by and rips it off. Rest assured that Minnesota has a law designed to prevent that!

Minnesota State Statute 169.315 covers the opening and closing of vehicle doors.

This statute states that no person can open any door on a motor vehicle unless it is safe to do so and that it can be done without interfering with the movement of traffic.

This statute also states that a vehicle door adjacent to traffic shall only remain open for a period of time no longer than necessary to load or unload passengers.

While this statute is not well known by many people, it is easy to obey if you just take a little time to make sure it is safe to open your door and close it as soon as possible.



# Scam Alert: Gift Card Scam

Recently a Worthington resident received a postcard claiming that they had won a \$100.00 gift card and all they had to do was call a 1-800 number to claim it.

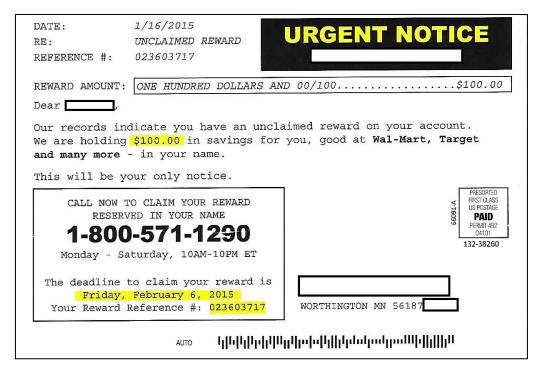
However, when they called the number, they were asked to provide their credit card number to pay for a small fee shipping. This is a scam.

The scammers will begin making charges on the credit card account and leave the account holder stuck with trying to get the charges reversed.

If you receive one of these postcards, such as the one shown, just throw it away. This is a scanned copy of the actual post card received by the Worthington resident. The name and identifying information have been redacted.

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. You may remain anonymous.



## Ask an Officer: Televisions in Cars

What are the laws about using TVs in cars?

Minnesota State Statute 169.471 covers the use of televisions in cars.

The law simply states that "No television screen shall be installed or used in any motor vehicle where images from the screen are visible to the driver while operating the motor vehicle.

The exceptions to this law

#### include:

(1) Video screens installed in law enforcement vehicles;

(2) Closed-circuit video systems used exclusively to aid the driver's visibility to the front, rear, or sides of the vehicle; and

(3) Video screens installed as part of a vehicle control system or used in intelligent vehicle highway applications. 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

### Worthington Police

1530 Airport Road Suite 300 Worthington, MN 56187

> PHONE: (507) 295-5400

FAX: (507) 372-5977

E-MAIL: <u>bhussong@co.nobles.mn.us</u>

Animal Control

(507) 360-7044

**Community Service Officer** 

(507) 372-8189

#### We're on the Web!

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

# **Criminal of the Month**

There is an old saying that "the criminal always returns to the scene of the crime".

While this is not always the case, it held true for this Criminal of the Month.

Our story started out one evening when officers from the Worthington Police Department received a call to the downtown area for a report of a stolen vehicle.

A couple of officers arrived on scene and had been speaking with the owner of the stolen vehicle for about a minute, when she yelled out and started pointing toward a vehicle driving by. Sure enough, the stolen vehicle was slowly being driven past the location where it was stolen.

Officers ran to their squad cars and initiated a felony stop about one block from the scene of the crime. The car thief was taken into custody without incident.

The vehicle's owner went to claim her vehicle and verified that she did not know the person who had stolen her car.

To nobody's surprise, the car thief was intoxicated, so he was booked into the Nobles County Jail for motor vehicle theft and for driving while impaired.

### **Mission Statement**

Serving Worthington with honor and integrity by providing community oriented law enforcement and emergency services to all people.

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

