February 2019 Volume 8, Issue 2

# **Worthington Police News**



Chief Troy Appel

<u>Captain</u> Kevin Flynn

#### **Sergeants**

Tim Gaul Nathan Grimmius Josh McCuen Dustin Roemeling Brett Wiltrout

## **Patrol Officers**

Chris Hillesheim
Kirk Honius
Randy Liepold
Colin Meinders
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** 

## Individual Highlights:

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Mission Statement

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

# By the Numbers: 2018 Review

2018 was another busy year for the Worthington Police Department. Listed below are selected statistics showing the different types of cases for the Worthington Police Department.

Total Calls	
CADS 911 Calls 911 Texts	10,485 1,360 4
<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	
Murder Robbery Kidnapping Assault Disorderly Conduct Threats Indecent Exposure	0 2 0 37 113 53
<b>Crimes Against Property</b>	
Burglary Burglary Attempt Theft Shoplifting Motor Vehicle Theft Property Damage Civil Matters	30 9 116 21 17 109 133

Alarm Calls		
Burglar Alarms Fire Alarms Panic Alarms Medical Alarms	184 21 22 20	
Traffic Related Calls		
Traffic Stops Traffic Accident Traffic Accident w/ Injury Traffic Accident w/ Fatality Traffic Accident – Hit and R Traffic Hazards School Bus Stop Arm Violat	58	
Community Service		
Blue in the School Blue in the Community	199 261	

Worthington continues to rank as one of the safer cities throughout Minnesota. Year after year, Worthington tends to have lower crime rates than other cities of our size such as Marshall, New Ulm, and Fairmont. Worthington has higher case clearance rates as well.

(Continued on page two)

# Animal Control Josh Erwin

# 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 Joe Reith

#### K-9 Officers

Frankee Mack Winston

# Text confidential tips to the Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force 100% Anonymous

BRDTF Tips available on Apple and Android devices

# **By the Numbers (Continued)**

According to the website Neighborhoodscout.com, the chance of becoming a victim of a violent crime in Minnesota is 1 in 420. The chance of becoming the victim of a violent crime in Worthington is only 1 in 631, approximately 50% lower.

When it comes to becoming the victim of a property crime, the average Minnesotan has a 1 in 46 chance. In Worthington, that drops to 1 in 64.

These numbers would not be possible without the support of the community we serve!



# **Officer Down: K-9 Officer Haas**

Duluth Police K-9 Haas made the ultimate sacrifice on January 13, 2019 when he was shot and killed in the line of duty.

K-9 Haas was born in the Netherlands three years ago and joined the Duluth Police Department; partnered with Officer Aaron Haller.

On January 13, 2019, K-9 Haas and Officer Haller responded to the scene of a barricaded domestic violence suspect.

After an hour of negotiators speaking

with the suspect, the suspect opened fire on officers and shot K-9 Haas and Officer Haller.

K-9 Haas was transported to an emergency veterinary hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Officer Haller was transported to the hospital with "minor" injuries thanks to his ballistic vest.

K-9 Officer Haas served with the Duluth Police Department for two years and was certified in narcotics detection and patrol.



K-9 Officer Haas was the first K-9 Officer killed in the line of duty in Duluth.

Duluth has had eight prior line of duty deaths.

Credit: Officer Down Memorial Page

Duluth News Tribune

# **Scam Alert: Grant Scammers on Facebook**

The newest scam alert is a new take on an old scam, the grant scam.

This scam usually starts with the scammer calling the potential victim claiming they are eligible for free government money and they just need to provide some personal information about themselves and/or pay a fee for the service.

The scammers were finding out that the

average person was wise to this scam and not falling for it.

The grant scammers have now taken to Facebook to search for new victims and try to give themselves the appearance of legitimacy.

The grant scammers have made fake Facebook pages that identify themselves as belonging to the Federal Grants Department.

The scammers have been contacting people on Facebook or by calling them and referring them to their Facebook page in order to scam them.

If you get called by these scammers, just hang up.

If they contact you on Facebook, report their profile to Facebook and block them.



Do you have a question about a scam or have been a victim of a scam that you would like to warn others about? If so, please email chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.uS

You may remain anonymous.

# **Ask an Officer: Recreational Marijuana**

What do cops think about recreational marijuana?

The vast majority of law enforcement officers believe that legalizing the recreational use of marijuana is a terrible idea.

We've all heard the claims that legalized marijuana use will solve all the evils in the world including; lowering violent crimes, bringing in more tax income, and curing cancer.

With all these claims it can be hard to determine what the truth is.

The Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Strategic Intelligence Unit did a study tracking the impact of marijuana legislation in the State of Colorado.

This study looks at three different time periods in Colorado including:

**2006-2008** – Medical marijuana pre-commercialization and expansion era

**2009-Present** – Medical marijuana commercialization and expansion era

2013-Present - Recreational marijuana era

From this study, we can see the actual effect that the legalization of marijuana has had on the State of Colorado.

The study collected comparative data in a variety of areas including:

- Impaired driving and fatalities
- Youth marijuana use
- Adult marijuana use
- **Emergency Room admissions**
- Marijuana related exposures
- Diversion of Colorado marijuana

Over the next few months, we will look at the actual effects of recreational marijuana and why most law enforcement officers disagree with the idea of recreational marijuana.

Stay tuned!!!



# Worthington Police Department

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Animal Control (507) 360-7044

Community Service Officer (507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

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

## **Humor in Law Enforcement**

A couple of Chicago robbers showed up at a local restaurant with the intent of robbing the store.

One of the robbers told the owner that "I will kill you. I have a gun with me".

In response, the owner told the two robbers that he was too busy right now and that they should come back in an hour.

Realizing the restaurant owner was probably too busy to be robbed, they came

back an hour later.

To show they were serious about robbing the place, the two robbers demanded \$100 in addition to some food.

The owner told the robbers he needed to get his wife's checkbook and had them wait.

While the robbers waited patiently, the owner called the police and the two hapless robbers were arrested.



The two robbers were charged with attempted aggravated robbery and possession of a replica gun.

According to police, the replica used was a squirt gun.

Credit: Huffington Post

## **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