

Worthington Police News

Chief

Michael Cumiskey

Captain

Chris Dybevic

Sergeants

Bill Bolt
Kevin Flynn
Tim Gaul
Brett Wiltrout

Patrol Officers

Erick Baumgart
Ted Buhner
Chris Hillesheim
Kirk Honius
Joe Joswiak
Randy Liepold
Josh McCuen
Colby Palmersheim
Mark Riley
Kirk Schelhaas
Bruce Stugelmeyer
Dan Walton

Investigators

Troy Appel
Shawn Elsing
Nate Grimmus
Dave Hoffman

School Resource

Jacki Dawson

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Officer Profile: Officer Ted Buhner

The Officer of the Month for February is Officer Ted Buhner. Officer Buhner attended the Alexandria Technical College and graduated in 2003 with a degree in law enforcement.

Officer Buhner began his career as a deputy sheriff for the Pipestone County Sheriff's Office from 2003 to 2004.

Officer Buhner was then hired as a police officer for the Worthington Police Department in



February 2004 and is one of two bicycle patrol officers.

Unfortunately, Officer Buhner's last day with the Worthington Police Department was on February 8, 2013. He plans to focus his efforts on his education in PC Maintenance and Repair.



When Officer Buhner is not attending school, he is usually spending time with his children.

The Worthington Police Department would like to wish Officer Buhner good luck in his new endeavor.

Worthington Police Reserves

Have you ever seen someone in a gray police style uniform with Worthington Police Department patches on it? If you have, then you have seen one of our police reserves. The Worthington Police Reserves is a unit of the Worthington Police Department that is made up of volunteers who help out with tasks such as checking vacation homes, providing traffic control, business checks, parade duty and providing security at events such as school events, the Windsurfing Regatta and Turkey Day.

If you would like to learn more about the reserves or to serve as a reserve, please contact Sergeant Brett Wiltrout for more information.

If you would like the police reserves to check your home while you are on vacation, you can stop by the police department and fill out the appropriate paperwork.

Individual Highlights:

Traffic Accidents	2
Ask an Officer	2
Scam Alert	3
Call of Month	3
Criminal of Month	4
Mission Statement	4

Animal Control
Virgil Veen

Community Service
Myra Onnen

Chaplain
Pastor James
Sickmeyer

Reception
Barb Hussong

Records
Shari Droll
Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT
Gary Gerdes

Dispatch
Tonya Aanenson
Stephanie Culham
Candy Malmquist
Larry Rogers
Regan Roloff
Nancy Veen

January Traffic Accidents

With winter comes inclement weather and the inevitable traffic accidents that are soon to follow.

In the first month of 2013, the Worthington Police Department responded to 40 traffic accidents, including 3 injury accidents.

Most traffic accidents can be prevented by simply slowing down and letting the road conditions determine your speed instead of the speed limit signs.

Other helpful tips include:

- Increasing your following distance can give you additional time to slow down and stop.
- Take the time to clear your windows to prevent snow and ice from obstructing your view.
- Finally, drive with your headlights on to help other drivers see your vehicle.



Ask an Officer

Why do police officers leave their cars running? Isn't that just wasting gas?

This is a question that I have been asked several times over the years. For some reason, the topic of leaving a squad car run can bring out a wide range of emotions in people from curiosity to anger.

There are several different reasons we may leave a car running. The first revolves around our K-9 partners. There are many times when we have to leave the dogs in the patrol cars during the course of the day. Having a climate controlled environment is paramount to the dog's health and safety.

Another reason we leave the cars running is due to the large amount of

electronic equipment inside the car that provides a constant drain on the car's battery.

The typical squad car in Worthington has a laptop computer, video camera unit with microphone charging cradle, two radio units, a radar unit, a cellular telephone, and a Bluetooth device. All these devices provide a constant drain on the car's battery.

In addition, we carry equipment in the vehicle that is sensitive to the heat and cold. For example, we carry medical equipment such as AED Defibrillator and oxygen tanks that can fail when they are exposed to temperature extremes.

I would encourage everyone to check out

Edina Police Chief Jeff Long's blog. Chief Long goes into further detail about this topic and provides some wonderful insight.

<http://www.edinamn.gov/worpress/why-we-leave-our-squad-cars-running/>

Thanks to Officer Joswiak for providing this information.

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

Text Anonymous Information

Send confidential tips to the
Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force

Text 372DTF with your tip
Send to 847411 (tip411)

tip 411

100% Anonymous

Scam Alert: FBI Scam

The latest scam to show up in Worthington is the FBI child porn scam.

The scam starts out with the unsuspecting user receiving a pop up message on their computer. The message states the FBI is investigating them for either a violation of the copyright laws or the child pornography laws.

The message goes on to state the only way the person could use the computer was to get a Greendot MoneyPak order and wire money to the people claiming to be the FBI.

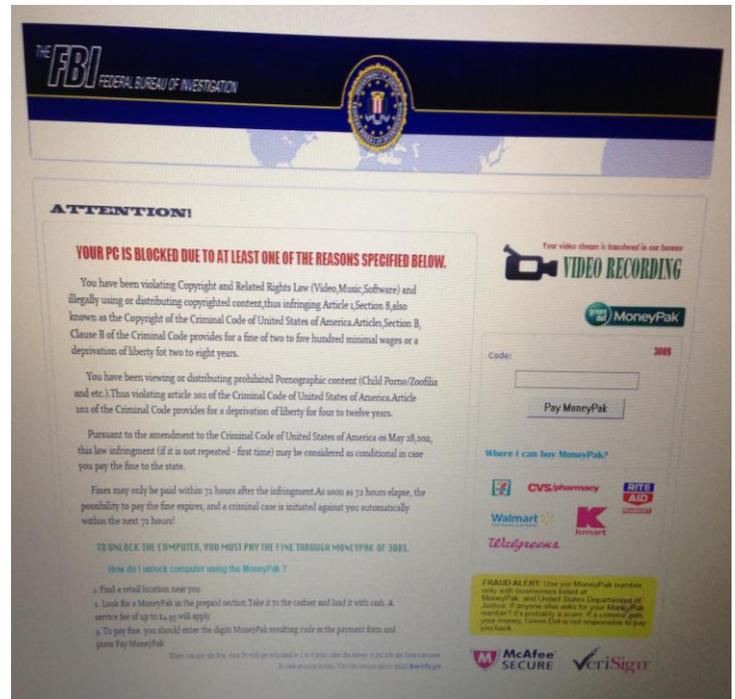
Of course, the people you

wire the money to are not from the FBI and the message you received on your computer is nothing more than a computer virus.

This scam, like many others, works by causing fear. If the FBI actually suspected someone of copyright infringement or possession of child pornography, this matter would not simply go away by paying a fine.

The FBI is aware of this scam going around and is encouraging anyone receiving this computer message to report it to the website

<http://www.ic3.gov>



Photograph of Scam Pop Up

Call of the Month

The call of the month started out innocently enough with a call of a traffic accident at 12th Street and 1st Avenue.

As officers arrived on scene and started talking to the people involved, they soon learned that one of the drivers involved in the accident had been drinking heavily.

An officer had the driver who had been drinking perform a series of field sobriety tests, which our suspect failed. The suspect was then asked to take a preliminary breath test.

The suspect immediately became upset by this request and told the officer he was going to assault him.

The suspect then attempted to punch the officer, but the officer was able to dodge the strike.

The officer immediately took control of the suspect and restrained him against the squad car, while another officer gained control of the suspect's arms so they could handcuff him.

When the suspect was placed in the rear of the patrol car, he immediately started kicking at the windows and door. When that did not work, he started to slam his head into the partition of the squad car.

The suspect was transported to the Nobles County Jail, where he started to threaten to kill the officers on scene.

For his troubles, the suspect was charged with terroristic threats along with First Degree DWI.

This case shows there is no such thing as a routine call in the police world.

One minute officers may be responding to a simple traffic accident and the next minute they are dodging, punching, and restraining someone bent on hurting them.

Worthington Police

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PHONE:
(507) 295-5400

FAX:
(507) 372-5977

E-MAIL:
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

Dumb Criminal of the Month

The Dumb Criminal of the Month starts out late one evening with a man just trying to get home after a night of drinking.

Failing to plan ahead, our dumb criminal was calling around at 1:00 a.m. in order to find a designated driver.

The dumb criminal was in luck...or so he thought! He was able to get a friend to take him and his truck home.

However, our dumb criminal made one big mistake. He failed to make sure his designated driver was sober. Not only was the designated driver not sober, he was over twice the legal limit to drive.

If that was not enough, the designated driver's license was already revoked from prior DWI arrests.

Needless to say, our dumb criminal and his friend proceeded to drive through town until they caught the attention of a police officer who noticed they forgot to turn on their headlights.

Not only did our dumb criminal's friend get arrested for DWI, his truck was subject to vehicle forfeiture and was seized due to the offense being a second degree DWI.

The moral of the story is to plan ahead and make sure your designated driver is actually sober.



Mission Statement

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

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