



Chief
Troy Appel

Captain
Kevin Flynn

Sergeants
Tim Gaul
Nathan Grimmus
Josh McCuen
Dustin Roemeling
Brett Wiltrout

Patrol Officers
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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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Department Changes

Over the last week, there have been a couple of changes to the staff of the Worthington Police Department.

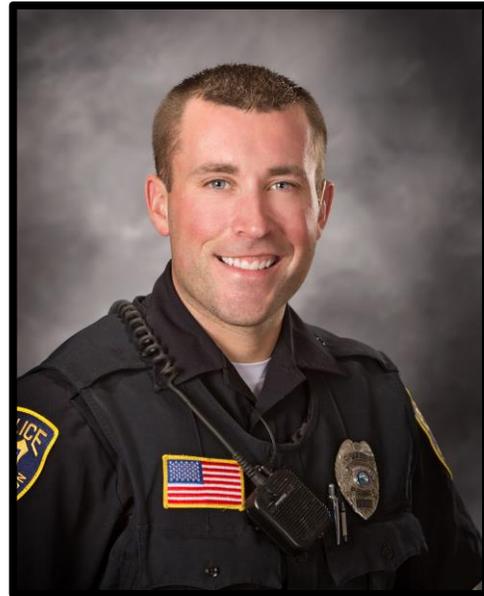
First off, we would like to congratulate Officer Dustin Roemeling on his promotion to Sergeant.

Officer Roemeling was appointed to serve as interim sergeant for the night shift. His six-month appointment has been completed.

Officer Roemeling applied for the sergeant position, along with a field of three other highly qualified officers.

Congratulations to Sergeant Roemeling on your promotion!

In other department news, Officer Nick Heimer has resigned to take a position with the Olmstead County Sheriff's Department.



Sergeant Roemeling

Officer Heimer has already completed his final shift as a Worthington Police Department officer and has entered the field training program of the Olmstead County Sheriff's Department.

The Worthington Police Department would like to wish Deputy Heimer the best of luck as he continues his journey as a law enforcement officer.

With all of these changes, what does that mean for the Worthington Police Department?

That means hiring new officers and training, training, training!!!

We are looking forward to meeting the new people who will accept the challenge of joining 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

The Tide Pod Challenge

What has started out as a bizarre video on social media has gone viral and is causing children and teens to end up in emergency rooms across our nation.

This new trend is known as the “Tide Pod Challenge”.

The “challenge” involves people placing Tide Pods in their mouth and filming themselves as they chew the pods and gag from the liquid inside.

According to the American Association of Poison Control Centers, there have been at least 86 cases of intentional misuse of the laundry packets in January 2018 alone.

In 2017, the poison control centers reported

more than 12,299 exposures to the laundry detergent pods with the vast majority of these cases being accidental exposures involving children under the age of five.

The ingestion of the concentrated detergent in the laundry pods is a serious and potentially life-threatening event.

Just a small exposure to the laundry detergent can cause vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain.

Larger exposures can cause the formation of considerable amounts of foam, which can pose an aspiration risk and severely affect breathing.

Other risks include inflammation of the



esophagus and depression of the central nervous system which can cause unconsciousness and death.

If someone ingests a laundry pod, call 911 for an ambulance and call the poison control center at 800-222-1222.

The ingestion of laundry pods can also be an issue for our loved ones with dementia as well. Five adults died over the last five years after they ate laundry pods.

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: New License Plates

With the start of 2018, comes a new law that authorized the special license plate that honors fallen police officers. The new license plate requires an extra \$10.00 state fee and a \$25.00 donation to the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association.

The Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association (MLEMA) is dedicated to assisting the families and home agencies of those law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

The MLEMA also preserves and maintains the law enforcement state memorial monument on the capital grounds in St. Paul and offers counseling, immediate financial assistance, and many other services for family members following the death of an officer killed in the line of duty.

Scam Alert: Porch Pirates

When one thinks of pirates, it is easy to picture a swashbuckling buccaneer sailing the high seas with a parrot on his shoulder.

A modern-day version of this pirate can now be seen prowling the streets of our cities; always on the lookout for treasure to plunder.



These modern-day pirates have earned the moniker of “Porch Pirates”.

A “porch pirate” is a person who unlawfully enters someone’s property with purpose of stealing packages from the doorstep of their home.

With the ever-increasing use of e-commerce, more and more packages are being delivered to our homes.

In 2015, an estimated 23 million Americans fell victim to these porch pirates.

Porch pirates have been known to follow delivery trucks around and wait for them to deliver packages to steal.

One of the most important things you can do to protect yourself from these pirates is to make sure your package is delivered when someone is available to accept the package in person, either at home, at work, or to a trusted neighbor’s house.



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.

2017 Line of Duty Deaths

After three years of increasing police line of duty deaths (LODD), we are encouraged to see the number of officers killed in 2017 is near a 50 year low with 128 officers making the ultimate sacrifice according to the National Law Enforcement Officer’s Memorial Fund.

This is the second lowest number of officer fatalities in the past 50 years with most of the reduction in fatalities being attributed to better training and the “Below 100” initiative.

The “Below 100” initiative seeks to reduce officer deaths by encouraging police officers to wear their seatbelts, wear their vests, watch their speed, understand what is important now and to avoid complacency in performing their duties.

Some of the 2017 LODDs include:

47	Traffic Related Deaths
44	Gunshot Deaths
16	Job Related Deaths
7	Beaten to Death
5	Drowned
4	9/11 Related Deaths
2	Helicopter Crashes
2	Boating Accidents
1	Stabbed to Death

In addition to these officers, approximately 177 K-9 officers also gave their lives in service to their communities.

The 2017 LODDs include Minnesota officer, William Mathews of the Wayzata Police Department.

Officer Mathews was killed on September 8, 2017 when he was picking up debris on Highway 12.

Officer Mathews was struck and killed by a woman who was alleged to be under the influence of a

controlled substance and was receiving and reading text messages.

Officer Mathews left behind his wife of 9 years, Shawn Mathews and his 7-year-old son, Wyatt.

Officer Mathews name will join the 21,183 names currently engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officer’s Memorial in Washington, D.C.

These names represent officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty since 1791. This list includes Officer Roy Robert Fitch of the Worthington Police Department who died on June 19, 1938 after receiving injuries after a fall on duty.

“It is not how these officers died that made them heroes, it is how they lived” – Vivian Eney Cross, Survivor

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

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

What started off as a routine Friday night for one Charlotte, NC man, the evening turned frightening when he returned home and found people in his townhome.

The man was able to leave his house and call the police without being seen by the suspects.

The police quickly arrived and arrested two suspects.

While the police were

still investigating the original break-in, they were startled to find three more men breaking into the house.

Equally startled to find the police in the house, the three men quickly ran from the scene.

After a short foot chase, the men were taken into custody as well.

Breaking into a house is just plain dumb; breaking into a house



while the police are still investigating a prior break-in takes dumb to a whole new level!

Credit to wbtv.com for the story

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**