



Chief
Troy Appel

Captain
Kevin Flynn

Sergeants
Tim Gaul
Nathan Grimmus
Josh McCuen
Dustin Roemeling

Patrol Officers
Chris Hillesheim
Kirk Honius
Randy Liepold
Colin Meinders
Tyler Olson
Jacob Refsland
Mark Riley
Lucky Sayveo
Kyle Schreier
Madison Stearns
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

Waseca Police Officer Shot

The new year has barely started and already tragedy has struck a small Minnesota Police Department.

Just before 8:00 p.m. on Monday, January 6, Waseca Police Officer Arik Matson was one of four officers who responded to a report of a suspicious person with a flashlight in the back yard of a house on the 900 block of 4th Avenue SE.

The suspect, 37-year-old Tyler Janovsky, was located nearby.

During the encounter, Janovsky opened fire on the officers, striking Officer Matson in the head.

Other officers on scene returned fire, injuring Janovsky.

Officer Matson, who was gravely injured in the shooting, was airlifted to North Memorial Health Hospital in Robbinsdale for treatment.



Officer Matson is currently in critical, but stable condition.

Officer Matson, who is married with two small children started his career with the Waseca Police Department in 2013 as a part time officer and moved to full time in 2015.

Officer Matson is a patrol officer for the Waseca Police Department and is a member of the South-Central Drug Investigative Unit and is a DARE officer for the Waseca Public School System.

In addition to his service with the Waseca Police Department, Officer Matson is a volunteer firefighter and city council member for the town of Freeborn, Minnesota.

As for Janovsky, he has a lengthy criminal record including convictions for Accessory to Murder, Burglary, Terroristic Threats, and drug crimes,

At the time of the incident, Janovsky had an active warrant for Methamphetamine production.

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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
Zach Ramerth
Joe Reith

K-9 Officers
Frankee
Mack
Winston

Business Burglaries

Recently the Worthington Police Department caught a burglar that just walked around and checked local businesses for unlocked doors.

This technique worked for this burglar because he did find unlocked doors.

According to the FBI, businesses are burglarized on average once every six seconds across the United States costing over \$1.4 billion in annual profits.

Over the last decade, burglaries have almost doubled, often with the thieves striking the same place multiple times.

If this wasn't bad enough, only about one in six burglaries are cleared by arrest.

As a business owner,

there are a few simple steps to help protect your business.

First and foremost, make sure your doors are locked each day. Take a minute to walk around your business and pull on the doors. Not only will this ensure the doors are locked, but it can tip you off to other potential problems; such as doors that are propped open and doors that are not closing properly.

Next consider investing in a burglar alarm. Silent alarms are preferred by the police since it gives us a chance to catch the burglar in the act.

Next on the list is to invest in a good quality video camera system.

It is recommended that the video camera records to a storage device off premises in



case the burglar notices the camera system and decides to steal it.

Along with that, you should check the system weekly to make sure it is still recording properly and has not malfunctioned.

Finally, don't leave cash and other valuables unsecured.

If you must leave valuables in the business, consider storing valuables in a sturdy safe that is mounted to the floor or wall or is too heavy for a burglar to carry away.

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

Anniversaries

Congratulations to Dispatcher Zachary Ramerth for his one-year anniversary with the Worthington Police Department!

Scam Alert: A New Low

Scammers will do a ton of scummy things to separate their victims from their valuables, but there are no words that adequately describe the absolutely revolting new scam out there.

This scam started when a North Dakota father, John Stautz, received a telephone call from the scammer.

The scammer called John and told him his son, who is a United States Marine, was killed on active duty in a live fire training drill.

John said he was upset, frustrated, scared, and just did not know what to do.

The scammer then asked John when and where he wanted his son buried and how soon he would like that done.

After talking to the scammer, the scammer said he would call back to work out further details.

This left John just stunned and he ended up waiting to tell his wife because he just couldn't find the words to tell her what happened.

The scammer did call back and during this conversation the scammer asked for John's Social Security number.

John started to get suspicious over the call and was able to reach out to family members who verified his son was fine.

The armed forces have a very detailed and specific policy that covers providing a death notification to a service member's family.



For example, the Marine Corps Casualty Assistance Program Manual is over 180 pages.

At no point will the original death notification be made by telephone.

If you receive this type of call hang up immediately.

Waseca Police (Continued)

Janovsky's arrest warrant stemmed from a search warrant of his residence that was executed approximately 3 weeks ago.

During the execution of the search warrant, police alleged they found several grams of Methamphetamine, nearly 900 Pseudoephedrine, Marijuana, 30 grams of Psilocybin Mushrooms, a handgun, drug paraphernalia and instructions for making meth.

According to the search warrant affidavit, Janovsky's younger brother warned him of the police arrival at the residence allowing him to escape out a basement door.

Calls like this hit hard for the entire law enforcement community.

Many of us went to college together, worked together and trained together.

For the Waseca Police Department, Officer Matson was the first officer to be shot in the line of duty.

Waseca Police Chief Penny Vought stated it best when she said "This is the worst nightmare a law enforcement agency can face, and we're living it right now".

Shortly after the shooting happened, multiple law enforcement agencies in the metro area sent officers to stand watch over Officer Matson at the hospital to help keep him and his family safe.

A GoFundMe account has been set up and anyone wishing to help Officer Matson's family can go to <https://www.gofundme.com/f/arik-matson-family>.

Credit: mprnews.org
Startribune.com

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Community Service Officer

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ci.worthington.mn.us

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of Minnesota

1-800-222-TIPS

www.crimestoppersmn.org

Crime Doesn't Pay... We Do!

Humor in Law Enforcement

The Franklin, MA Police Department had a mystery on their hands last month.

After collecting toys for the Christmas charity drive, they started to notice some of the toys were disappearing from the police station.

Stunned that toys were missing from the police department; officers reviewed the video from the police department.

Shockingly they found the toy thief

was a member of the police department, K-9 therapy dog Ben Franklin!

K-9 Ben Franklin is a golden retriever therapy dog used by the police department, who assists in the schools, senior center, and other community events.

Ben Franklin was found to be hording the toys in his room at the police department.

Normally stealing Christmas gifts will get you placed on



Santa's naughty list but they are hoping that Santa can forgive Ben Franklin for this offense.

Credit: The Patriot News

Mission Statement

**Serving Worthington with honor and integrity
by working WITH the community
to provide exceptional public safety.**

**WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
1530 AIRPORT ROAD
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WORTHINGTON, MN 56187**