

July 2020

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Worthington Police News



Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Chief

Troy Appel

Captain

Nathan Grimmus

Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Josh McCuen

Brandon Peil

Dustin Roemeling

Patrol Officers

Chris Hillesheim

Kirk Honius

Randy Liepold

Colin Meinders

Tyler Olson

Jacob Refsland

Mark Riley

Lucky Sayveo

Kyle Schreier

Gabe Vander Veen

Jake Walker

Investigators

Shawn Elsing

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

School Resource

Dan Brouillet

Individual Highlights:

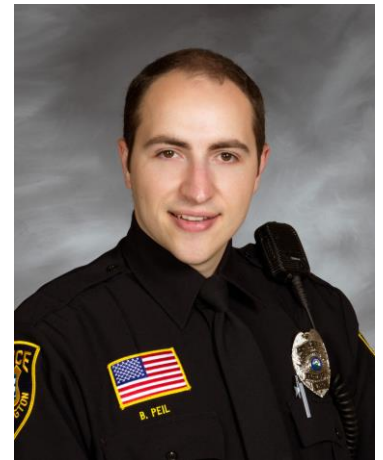
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Promotion: Detective Sergeant Brandon Peil

Congratulations to Brandon Peil on his promotion from Detective to Detective Sergeant.

Detective Sergeant Peil has filled the opening left by the promotion of Nathan Grimmus to Captain. Detective Sergeant Peil will supervise the detective and school resource officer division.

Join us in congratulating Detective Sergeant Peil in his new position!



Work Anniversaries

Officer Kirk Honius	30 years
Detective Shawn Elsing	23 years
Captain Nathan Grimmus	16 years
Sergeant Joshua McCuen	14 years
School Resource Officer Dan Brouillet	7 years
Dispatcher Joseph Reith	3 years

Minnesota Courts Require Facemasks

Starting July 13, a new mandate will take effect that will require facemasks for all in-person court appearances.

This rule can be waived if social distancing can occur in the public areas of the court or if plexiglass partitions are present.

A judge can also authorize the removal of a mask or face covering if they feel it is appropriate.

Animal Control
Open

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

New Laws

Selling Animal Parts

It is now illegal to sell certain animal parts in Minnesota, including a tooth or tusk from any species of elephant, hippopotamus, mammoth, mastodon, walrus, whale, or narwhal.

It is also illegal to sell any part of a rhinoceros' horn.

Tobacco

In September, the minimum age for buying any tobacco product will increase

from 18 to 21 years old, matching federal law.

It is also illegal to furnish cigarettes to someone under 21.

Possession and use of tobacco by those under 18 is no longer illegal.

Instead the law requires law enforcement and the court system to consult with interested parties to develop civil penalties for those under 21 who violate the tobacco law regarding



possession and use of tobacco.

Medical Marijuana

Starting August 1st, medical marijuana can be prescribed for people who suffer from chronic pain or macular degeneration.

Scam Alert: Pocket Fires

The newest and albeit funniest scam to hit the shores of the United States is the “pocket fire” scam.

In this scam the potential victim will get a call warning them of the dreaded pocket fire.

The caller will try to convince the victim there is a recall on their debit or credit card and they need to give them their card information to verify if the card is subject to a recall.

The call warns the victim that there was a batch of defective cards issued and they could short out,

causing their pants pocket to burst into flames, hence the dreaded pocket fire!

The electronics in our bank cards are not physically capable of shorting out and starting a fire.

If you receive a call like this, simply hang up on the caller after your done laughing at them.

Credit: Hacking Humans podcast



COVID-19 Exemption Cards

Many states are requiring the use of face coverings to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Since these requirements have gone into place, “COVID” cards have started to appear online and on social media.

These cards state that the holder has a disability that prevents them from wearing a mask and that it is illegal for any business to ask them to disclose their condition.

Some of these cards will have the seal of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the telephone number for reporting American’s with Disabilities (ADA) hotline.

These cards are not endorsed by the DOJ or any other federal agency.

The ADA does not provide a blanket exemption to people with disabilities from complying with legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operations.

The public can visit ADA.gov or call the ADA Information Line at (800-514-0301) for more information.



Ask an Officer: Is It Legal To Open Carry

Is it legal to open carry a handgun in a store?

In Minnesota, it is legal to open carry a handgun in public, if you have a permit to carry a handgun. (624.714. subd. 1a).

Minnesota law does not require you to conceal a handgun that you are carrying.

You are not limited to how many handguns you can carry either. (MN 624.714)

How to get a handgun carry permit

To get a handgun permit in Minnesota you must meet the following requirements:

- Be a citizen or permit resident of the United States;
- Be at least 21 years old;
- Not be prohibited from possessing a firearm under
 - 518B.01 subd 14;
 - 609.224 subd 3;
 - 609.2242, subd 3;
 - 609.749 subd 8
 - 624.713
 - 624.719
 - 629.715 subd 2
 - 629.72 subd 2
 - Any federal law
 - Must not be listed in the criminal gang investigative data system under section 299C.091
- Have training in the safe use of a pistol and provide certificate
- Complete an application for a permit
- Provide a photo identification
- Pay a \$100.00 fee

Once these requirements are met, the applicant will be subject to a background check.

Once the background check is completed and the applicant passes, they will be issued a permit to carry.

Permits are issued by the Sheriff’s Department where the applicant lives for Minnesota residents or any sheriff’s office for non-Minnesota residents.

Permits are typically valid for five years, but can be revoked if the permit holder no longer meets the requirements to possess a pistol in Minnesota.

Worthington Police Department

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) 329-0070

Community Service Officer
(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ci.worthington.mn.us



1-800-222-TIPS
www.crimestoppersmn.org

Crime Doesn't Pay...We Do!

Humor in Law Enforcement

As a police officer, one of the most dreaded calls you can receive is a request for a welfare check where someone had not picked up their mail in several days or they have missed work for several days when they never miss work.

Many times, the result of these calls is the officer finding the subject of the welfare check deceased in the residence.

Last winter the Worthington Police Department received a welfare check on an older lady who had not been seen in several days.

Officer's arrived on scene and found a mailbox full

of mail and no tracks in or out of the house.

After knocking on the door and receiving no response, the officers entered the residence believing exigent circumstances existed.

Entering the house in the middle of the night, officers called out the homeowner's name without response.

As they reached the last room in the house, they shined a light on the bed and observed the homeowner in the bed, not moving.

One of the officers reached out, grabbed the women's foot to check for



signs of life and was met by a loud "get the h*** out of here"!

After blurring out a couple choice words himself, the officer identified himself and checked on the welfare of the women.

Fortunately everything was ok except for a little damage to the officer's pride.

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**