

Worthington Police News

Chief

Michael Cumiskey

Captain

Chris Dybevic

Sergeants

Jason Beckmann
Bill Bolt
Kevin Flynn
Tim Gaul

Patrol Officers

Erick Baumgart
Ted Buhner
Jacki Dawson
Chris Hillesheim
Kirk Honius
Joe Joswiak
Randy Liepold
Josh McCuen
Mark Riley
Kirk Schelhaas
Bruce Stugelmeyer
Brett Wiltrout

Investigators

Troy Appel
Shawn Elsing
Nate Grimmus
Dave Hoffman

School Resource

Bob Fritz

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Worthington Police Department (507) 372-2136

A Message from the Chief

The Worthington Police Department strives to be a benchmark police agency in all our operations. The pursuit of continual improvement is never ending. As we reflect on where we have been and where we are going we have learned that internal and external communication needs to be constantly reviewed to see if our

communication is leading to understanding. Our newsletter was born from this process and our goal is to create an opportunity to speak to the public and put information in your hands. Thank you to Officer Chris Hillesheim for his efforts with the legwork and construction of our publication and special

thanks to Barb Hussong who has proofread and edited our inaugural edition. If you would like to subscribe to our newsletter, please email:

bhussong@co.nobles.mn.us

Judicial Happenings

There have been many changes in the judicial system recently in Southwest Minnesota.

To start with, Governor Mark Dayton appointed public defender Terry Vajgrt as Judge for Rock County. Judge Vajgrt replaced Judge Timothy Connell, who retired after 24 years of service.

Governor Dayton also appointed Nobles County Attorney Gordon Moore as Judge for Nobles County. Judge Moore has replaced Judge Jeffrey

Flynn, who retired in January after 27 years of service.

Both Judges have already started their duties as of March.

With the appointment of Gordon Moore as judge, this has left a void in the Nobles County Attorney's Office. Deputy County Attorney Kathleen Kusz has been appointed by the Nobles County Board of Commissioners to finish out Judge Moore's term of County Attorney.

The Worthington Police Department would like to wish everyone the best of luck in their new positions.



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
Laura Christensen
Candy Malmquist
Larry Rogers
Regan Roloff
Nancy Veen

New Officer – Erick Baumgart

The Worthington Police Department would like to congratulate our newest officer, Erick Baumgart on passing Worthington's field training program. Erick is from the Winona area.

Officer Baumgart spent the last twelve weeks in field training where he learned to be a Worthington Police Officer.

During this twelve week period, Officer Baumgart was paired up with one of three field training officers to learn about patrol operations, policy and procedures, report writing, investigations, tactics, and geography.

This training is very difficult and stressful. Not all candidates are successful in passing field training.

Officer Baumgart has started his patrol duties as of March and is already on patrol.



Call of the Month

The call of the month article picks one call of interest to give the reader an insight into the behind the scenes work done by the men and women of the Worthington Police Department.

This month's call involves a sharp-eyed police officer and a stolen vehicle.

The police officer was on routine patrol one night around 8:30 when he

observed a car matching the description of a vehicle stolen from Windom the night before.

A quick check of the license plates confirmed the officer's suspicions. After calling for back up, the officer stopped the stolen car and took one adult and two juveniles into custody.

The adult and one juvenile were held in the Nobles

County Jail pending court appearances, while one of the juveniles was released to his parent.

A search of the vehicle turned up property stolen during a burglary of a local residence.

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

Ask an Officer

Did you ever have a question for police officers, but didn't want to ask them in person?

Each month, one question will be selected and answered in this newsletter. So here is your chance.

Send your comments and questions to:

chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us
and it may be answered here.



Scam Alert: The Grand Parent Scam

This month's scam is a common scam that is making its rounds through Worthington again.

The victim in this scam typically receives a telephone call from a person posing as their grandchild and claims they are in jail and need money wired to them in order to get out of jail.

The scammer will try to play on the emotions of the victim by begging them to send the money by making comments such as "don't you love me" if the victim questions them about what happened.

The scammer will also try to create a false sense of urgency in the victim by claiming something bad will happen if the money is not received soon.

The scammer typically will ask for several thousand dollars to be wired using companies such as Western Union.

The easiest way to protect yourself from scammers like this is to hang up on them and to call the relative they were posing as.

Many of these scammers are becoming more

sophisticated the longer this scam is around. They can use the internet to quickly learn about the people they are trying to scam. Don't be surprised if they know your name and the name of your relatives.

If you receive a call like this, report this to the Worthington Police Department at 507-372-2136.



Grand Parent Scam

By the Numbers: 2011 Worthington P.D. Selected Statistics

Type of Incident:	Number:
Traffic Stops:	2,576
Burglary:	38
Burglary Alarms:	183
Thefts:	236
Property Damage:	181
Assaults:	59
Accidents (Property Damage):	293
Accidents (Injury)	24
Accidents (Fatal)	0
Accidents (Hit and Run)	104
911 Calls	1,100

***The Worthington
Police Department
Dispatch received
1,493 calls to 911 in
2011. Of those calls,
1,100 were from the
City of Worthington.***

Worthington Police

1530 Airport Road
Suite 300
Worthington, MN 56187

PHONE:
(507) 372-2136

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

This month's dumb criminal comes from right here in Worthington.

This dumb criminal was a mechanic at a local repair shop. One day while working on a customer's car, this mechanic picked up a smell he was familiar with, the smell of marijuana.

Instead of reporting this odor to the police or to his supervisor, he searched the car until he found what he was looking for. The marijuana, in this case, just happened to be medical marijuana and in a prescription bottle from Colorado.

The mechanic then decided to take an

impromptu lunch break and went home.

Two of his co-workers saw what happened and reported the incident to their manager. The manager in turn reported the incident to the police.

The police arrived on scene and interviewed the mechanic, who confessed to the theft and took the officer to his house to recover the marijuana.

The mechanic charged with theft, possession of marijuana and was promptly fired from his job.

For those who were wondering, the state of Minnesota does not recognize medical marijuana and possession

of marijuana is still illegal under state and federal law.



Mission Statement

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

WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
1530 AIRPORT ROAD
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WORTHINGTON, MN 56187