



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

Colin Meinders

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

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Community Service/Animal Control Officer Profile: Josh Erwin

The Worthington Police Department has a new member of the department, Josh Erwin.

Josh will take over the duties of Animal Control left vacant by the retirement of Virgil Veen just a couple short months ago.

In addition to the animal control duties, Josh will also be learning the position of Community Service Officer currently held by Myra Onnen.

Josh's new position is titled Worthington Community Service Officer / Animal Control Specialist.

Josh will be taking over Myra's duties when she retires. Josh can be reached at 507-329-0070 for any issues regarding Animal Control.

If you see Josh around the community, please feel free to stop and say hi!



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Anniversaries

Congratulations to Officer Tyler Olson for 6 years of dedicated service to the Worthington Police Department!



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 Ananson
Stephanie Evers
Jodi Mulder
Zach Ramerth
Joe Reith

K-9 Officers
Frankee
Mack
Winston

Legalized Marijuana and Traffic Crashes

As we continue to look at how legalized marijuana has affected the people of Colorado, we will now look at traffic crashes.

Since recreational marijuana was legalized, Colorado has recorded a 45% increase in recreational marijuana users. For those aged 12 or older, marijuana use is the 3rd highest in the nation and is 85% higher than the national average.

Since recreational marijuana was legalized, traffic deaths involving drivers who tested positive for marijuana more than doubled from 55 in 2013 to 138 killed in 2017.

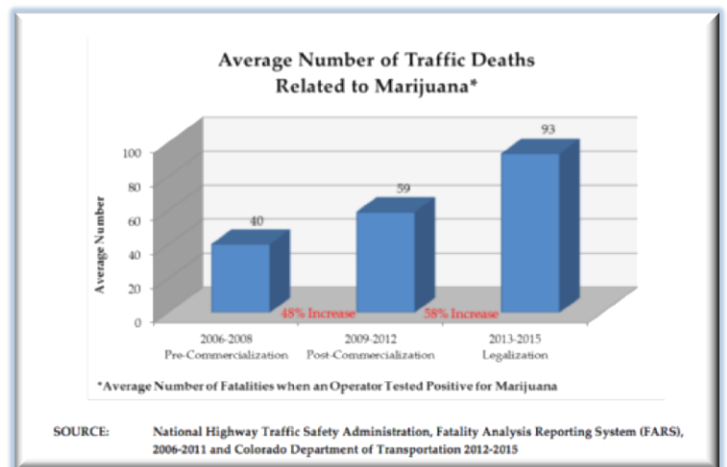
This is a 151% percent increase in marijuana related traffic deaths.

All traffic deaths in Colorado increased by 35% in in the same time frame.

This equates to one person killed every 2 ½ days in 2017 compared to one person killed every 6 ½ days.



These numbers came from the Colorado Department of Transportation and were verified by toxicology reports.



Ask an Officer: Is There a Knife Blade Length Law

Question: Does Minnesota have a law that restricts the blade length on knives?

Answer: Minnesota does not have a blade length law. In fact, Minnesota does not have many knife laws at all. Minnesota State Statute 609.66 does make it unlawful to manufacture, transfer, or possess a switch blade knife that opens automatically.

Minnesota State Statute 624.63 makes it unlawful for the proprietor, lessee, or occupant of any place of amusement, or any plat of ground, or building, who shall use or allow it to be used for the exhibition of skill in throwing any sharp instrument at or toward any human being... shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

The City of Worthington does not have a knife law ordinance; however, other cities and jurisdictions may have them.

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

Scam Alert: Tech Support Takedown 2019

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) just announced the largest ever nationwide elder fraud sweep focusing on tech support fraud.

Last year the FTC received almost 143,000 tech support scam complaints.

People 60 years and over were almost 5 times more likely to fall victim to this scam than younger people and were more likely to lose money on this scam. Due to the numerous complaints received by the FTC, they brought cases against many

organizations, including Elite IT Partners, Inc.

In the Elite IT Partners case, the FTC alleges they purchased key words on Google that let them target people who lost their passwords and were seeking to recover them.

The unsuspecting victim would fill out a form and their telemarketers would call them and gain online access to their computers to “check for problems”.

Once Elite IT Partners had access to the victim’s computer, they would show

them fake evidence of viruses and other problems that had to be removed right away.

Then came the high-pressure sales pitch that got many people to pay for unneeded repairs and maintenance programs.

If you need tech support, find a company you know and trust.

If you receive a phone call or pop up warning you of computer problems, just hang up!



If you think there is a problem with your computer, first update your security software and run a scan.

If you receive a call like this, call the FTC, they are listening.

New Law: Credit Freeze for Children

When someone steals a child’s identity, it can be years before it is discovered and many more years after to correct the damage done.

According to Javelin Strategy and Research, in 2017 over 1 million children fell victim to identity theft and their losses totaled over \$2.6 billion.

Minnesota joined more than 30 other states in allowing families to freeze the credit reports for their minor children.

The credit freeze restricts access to credit reports and makes it challenging for a thief to open credit accounts under someone else’s name.

The new law allows someone acting on behalf of a person younger than 16 to place a freeze on their credit report.

When the credit reporting agency receives a credit freeze request, they must place the credit freeze on the account within 3 days of the request and send out a unique PIN to the customer within 10 days of the request.

The PIN is used to temporarily lift a credit freeze for short periods of time or for specific creditors, such as a car dealership to purchase a vehicle.

The law, which went into effect on September 21, 2018, also prohibits the credit reporting agencies from charging a fee to;

place a credit freeze on their credit report, temporarily lift a credit freeze, or remove the freeze.

This law change applies to all Minnesotans and not just those under 16.

- Experian Security Freeze
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
(888) 397-3742
www.experian.com/freeze
- Equifax Security Freeze
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
(888) 826-0597
www.freeze.equifax.com
- TransUnion Security Freeze
P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016
(888) 909-8872
www.transunion.com/credit-freeze/place-credit-freeze

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) 329-0070

Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.ci.worthington.mn.us

Humor in Law Enforcement

Our tale this month, which comes from Lawrence, Kansas, will give you an idea of the type of people we deal with on a regular basis.

This story starts with the Lawrence Police Department receiving a call for a road rage incident in a local parking lot.

Upon arrival, the police found a standoff taking place.

Instead of a standoff with guns, this standoff was with two people and their cars.

Both cars were facing each other in the parking lot.

One car wanted to enter the parking lot and the other car wanted to leave the parking lot and both were too stubborn to get out of each other's way.

One of the driver's commented that "I got nowhere to go, I can just stay here all night."

After unsuccessfully attempting to get one or the other to move, the sergeant "noped out of there like a day-old



donut" according to the Lawrence PD twitter page.

If you have ever wondered what it's like to be a police officer; it's a lot like this.

Credit: Lawrence PD Twitter

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**