May 2016 Volume 5, Issue 5

Worthington Police News



Chief Troy Appel

<u>Captain</u> Kevin Flynn

Sergeants

Tim Gaul Nathan Grimmius Josh McCuen Brett Wiltrout

Patrol Officers

Andrew Bromberg
Jacki Bomgaars
Chris Hillesheim
Kirk Honius
Randy Liepold
Colby Palmersheim
Tyler Olson
Jacob Refsland
Mark Riley
Dustin Roemeling
Alex Tokar
Jake Walker

Investigators

Shawn Elsing Dave Hoffman Joe Joswiak Brandon Peil

School Resource

Dan Brouillet

Individual Highlights:

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Ask an Officer

Criminal of Month

Mission Statement

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

National Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Week

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15th falls, as National Police Week.

Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

National Police Week is a collaborative effort of many organizations dedicated to honoring America's law enforcement community. The principal organizers of National Police Week include:

 National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund, which produces the annual candlelight vigil;



- The Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) /Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary (FOPA), which organize the Peace Officers Memorial Day service at the United States Capitol;
- Concerns of Police Survivors, which holds the National Police Survivors Conference.

Some of the events surrounding Police Week include: Annual National Police Week 5K, Standing Watch for the Fallen Ceremony, TOP COPS Awards Ceremony, Emerald Society & Pipeband March, FOP/FOPA Wreath Laying Ceremony and the National Police Survivors' Conference.

This May 15th, please take a moment out of your day and remember the sacrifice made by these officers and by the families they left behind.

(www.nleomf.org)

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 Culham Hannah Huls Jodi Mulder Larry Rogers

K-9 Officers

Frankee Mack Thor

Text confidential tips to the Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force 100% Anonymous



Line of Duty Death Statistics

The Officer Down Memorial Page (ODMP) is a website dedicated to "remembering all of law enforcement heroes" by tracking line of duty deaths.

The first line of duty death in the United States was Constable Darius Quimby of the Albany County Constable's Office in New York. Constable Darius Quimby was killed by gunfire on January 3, 1791.

Since Constable Quimby's death in 1791, 22,481 other officers have died in the line of duty.

In 2016, there have been 34 officers who have died. Of these officers, the leading cause of death has been intentional gunfire with 16 officers, an increase of 60% over gunfire deaths in 2015.

The second leading cause of death for law enforcement officers in 2016 has been auto crashes with six, a decrease of 13%.

The ODMP web page also tracks K-9 officers who have died in the line of duty.

In 2016, there have been 12 K-9 who have died in the line of duty. The leading cause of death for our K-9 partners has also been gunfire, with five K-9's being shot. The second leading cause of death is being struck by a vehicle with three K-9 officers being killed this way.

When we look at Minnesota, 239 officers have made the ultimate sacrifice with gunfire being responsible for almost half of officer deaths with 130 officers being killed by gunfire.

The next closest causes of death are heart attacks (21), being struck by vehicles (15), automobile crashes (14), and motorcycle crashes (12).

The Minneapolis Police Department



has the most line of duty deaths with 47 officers and one K-9 officer, while St. Paul is a close second with 32 officers and three K-9 officers.

Around southwest Minnesota, agencies that have lost officers include: Fairmont PD (1), Ghent PD (1), Ivanhoe PD (1), Martin County SO (2), New Ulm PD (3), Nobles County SO (1), North Mankato PD (1), Redwood County SO (1) and the Worthington PD (1).

Local officers who have died in the line of duty are Worthington Police Officer Roy Robert Fitch who died June 19, 1938 from a duty related illness and Nobles County Sheriff Terrance Joseph McCall who dies on August 8, 1920 from gunfire.

Scam Alert: Government Grant Scams

"Because you pay your income taxes on time, you have been awarded a free \$12,000 government grant! To get your grant, simply give us your checking account information, and we will direct deposit the grant into your bank account!"

If this sounds familiar, then you have received a call from a Government Grant Scam.

These scammers may call you out of the blue or you may have seen the scam as an advertisement in the newspaper. In either case, the claim is the same, your application for a grant is "guaranteed to be accepted" and "you will never have to pay the money back"

The scammers generally follow a script which includes congratulating you on your eligibility, asking for your checking account information so they can "deposit the grant directly into your checking account or to pay a one-time fee", and reassurance that you can get a refund if you are not satisfied.

The Federal Trade

Commission (FTC) has a few simple rules to keep consumers from losing money:

- Don't give out your bank account information to anybody you don't know.
- Don't pay any money for a "free" government grant.
- Look-alikes are not the real things. Just because the caller says he is calling from a government agency, doesn't mean that he is.
- Phone numbers can deceive. Con artists can disguise their area code to



make it look like they are calling from somewhere that they are not.

 File a complaint with the FTC if you have been a victim of a scam.

www.consumer.ftc.gov

Ask an Officer: Drinking in a Motor Vehicle

Recently I was asked if it was legal to drink in a car if you were not driving.

This answer depends on a few different factors.

Generally, Minnesota State Statute 169A.35 makes it illegal to drink in a motor vehicle if it is upon the streets or highways.

There are exceptions for certain vehicles such as limousine services and certain buses.

If you are on private property, it would generally be legal to drink in a vehicle as long as you are not intoxicated.

If you drink to the point of intoxication, you can be arrested

for a violation of Minnesota State Statute 169A.20, Driving While Impaired (DWI), even if you are on private property.

The DWI law does not have an exception for private property. The statute covers motor vehicles within the state and on any boundary water of the state.

In addition, Minnesota's DWI statute does not require you to be actually driving the vehicle to be in violation. If you are driving, operating, or are in physical control of the vehicle, you can be arrested.

Simply sitting behind the wheel of a motor vehicle with the keys in your pocket could result in a DWI arrest.

While it would be legal to drink alcohol in a motor vehicle on private property, as long as you are not impaired, why risk a potential DWI charge that will haunt you for years to come?



Do you have a question for a police officer, but never had the chance to ask?

Here is your chance! Each month, one question will be selected and answered in this newsletter

Send your comments and questions to:

chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us

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Animal Control

(507) 360-7044

Community Service Officer

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We're on the Web!

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

Humor in Law Enforcement

Having a run in with a dumb criminal can happen to anyone, even NFL players.

New England Patriots kicker Stephen Gostkowski, discovered this recently when someone broke into his truck and stole his Nike book bag and his iPad.

A couple days after the theft occurred, Gostkowski noticed a half-dozen selfies of the suspect showed up on his iCloud account. With photos in hand, the police used the "find my iPhone" app to take them to the front door of the suspect, 19-year-old Ralphy Olivero.

For his trouble, Olivero will spend the next year on probation for the theft.



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