May 2019

Volume 8, Issue 5

# **Worthington Police News**

OR INTEGRITY TRUE PORT

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

# **National Police Week**

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation that designated May 15<sup>th</sup> as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which the 15<sup>th</sup> falls as Police Week.

In 1982, a group of 120 survivors and supporters of law enforcement gathered in Senate Park for a memorial service.

Since then the event known as Police Week has grown to a series of events, which attracts thousands of survivors and law enforcement officers to Washington D.C. each year.

National Police Week draws between 25,000 and 40,000 attendees from across the Unites States and throughout the world to remember officers who have given their lives in the line of duty.



In addition to the annual memorial service, other events this year include:

- Annual Blue Mass held at St. Patrick's Catholic Church;
- National Police
  Week 5K Run/Walk;
- Annual Police K-9 Memorial Service;

- Law Enforcement United Bike Ride;
- 31st Annual Candlelight Vigil;
- National Police Survivors Conference and C.O.P.S Kids/Teens.

Credit: Policeweek.org

<u>Chief</u> Troy Appel

<u>Captain</u> Kevin Flynn

#### Sergeants

Tim Gaul Nathan Grimmius 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

#### Individual Highlights:

Fallen Officers	2
DNR Officer Wynn	2
Scam Alert	3
Law Review	3
Humor in LE	4
Mission Statement	4

**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





BRDTF Tips available on Apple and Android devices

### **Fallen Officers**

National Peace Officer's Memorial Day celebrates the lives of America's law enforcement officers. who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Last year, 163 law enforcement officers gave their lives in the line of duty.

Gunfire was the leading cause of death, with 52 officers dying by gunfire.

9/11 related illness was the next leading cause of death claiming the lives of 27 officers. Automobile crashes killed another 26 officers.

Of the officers killed in 2018, three were killed in Minnesota.

United States Border Patrol Agent, Christopher Bacon, was killed in an automobile crash on June 7, 2018.

Correctional Officer, Joseph Gomm of the Minnesota Department of Corrections, was killed by an inmate in the Stillwater State Prison on July 18, 2018.

Correctional Officer, Joseph Parise of the Minnesota Department of Corrections, died after suffering a heart attack while responding to assist another officer being assaulted by an inmate.

Last year, 28 K-9 officers also gave their lives in the line of duty.

Of the K-9 officers who died, gunfire was the leading cause of death



with seven K-9 officers being killed by gunfire.

2019 is not starting off any better for line of duty deaths. As of April 29, 2019, there have been 35 officers and three K-9 officers killed.

This Peace Officer Memorial Day, please take the time to remember these officers, the sacrifices they made, and the loved ones they left behind.

Credit: ODMP.org

### **DNR Officer Eugene Wynn**

On April 19, 2019, Minnesota Conservation Officer Eugene Wynn drowned in Cross Lake (Pine County). CO Wynn and a Pine County Deputy responded to a report of a possible body in the lake and both officers were thrown from the boat while responding to the call.

Deputies on scene attempted to rescue CO Wynn with a rowboat, but CO Wynn slipped beneath the water and did not resurface. Officer Wynn became the latest officer to die in the line of duty and was the  $22^{nd}$  conservation officer to make the ultimate sacrifice.

CO Wynn, who was a conservation officer since 2001, is survived by his wife and two children.



# **Scam Alert: Social Security Scam Calls**

Over the last couple of months, Social Security Scammers have been flooding the area with calls.

In these scams, the caller pretends to be from the Social Security Administration and tells the victim that their Social Security number is being suspended due to suspicious or criminal activity. One potential victim in Worthington was told their Social Security number was used by a drug trafficking suspect and the FBI was coming to arrest them unless they send money by Western Union or MoneyGram to clear it up.

Fortunately for this potential victim, she saw a Worthington squad car on Oxford Street and flagged down the officer for advice and did not fall victim to this scam.

#### What you should know:

Your Social Security number is not about to be suspended.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) will never call and threaten your benefits or tell you to wire or transfer money to them.

The real SSA number is 800-772-1213, however come scammers are spoofing their telephone number to appear that it is coming from the SSA.



Never give out your Social Security Number to anyone who contacts you.

If you get one of these calls, tell the FTC at ftc.gov/complaint.

# Law Review: Hands Free Law

Starting August 1, 2019, Minnesota's new "hands-free" law will go into effect.

With the passage of this law, Minnesota will join 16 other states and Washington D.C. in banning handheld phone use while driving.

#### What you can do:

Under this law, a driver can still make calls, send text messages, listen to music and get directions, but only if they are using voice commands or single-touch activation.

If there is an emergency situation, such as if the driver needs emergency assistance or if there is an immediate threat to life and safety, the driver can hold the phone in their hand. Authorized emergency personnel can also hold their phones while driving as long as they are performing their official duties.

#### What you can't do:

You cannot hold your phone in your

hand while you are part of traffic. Being part of traffic would include stopped at red lights and struck in traffic.

You cannot use your phone to video chat, live stream, Snapchat, look at photos, play games, use apps, read text messages, or scroll or type in your phone

#### **GPS Systems**

Systems that are only used for navigation and in-car screens and systems are allowed and exempt from the hands-free law.

#### **Penalties:**

<u>First Violation</u>: The first violation is \$50 plus court fees.

Second and subsequent violations: The second and subsequent tickets are \$275 plus court fees.

While the law does not go into effect until August 1, 2019, it is highly recommended for drivers to start obeying the law now to help make our roads safer!

Credit: swnewsmedia.com



#### 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) 295-5400

Community Service Officer (507) 372-8189

#### We're on the Web!

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

## **Humor in Law Enforcement**

In the never-ending fight against illegal drugs; Police in Piauí, Brazil recently raided the home of two alleged crack cocaine dealers.

During the high stressed raid, officers heard shouting of "Mamãe, polícia!" (which means Mama, police!) coming from within the house.

Surprised officers quickly took the suspect, a lime-green parrot, into custody.

Officers reported that

the parrot started shouting as soon as they got close to him.

The bird, which was quickly dubbed the "trafficking parrot" exercised his right to remain silent and refused to talk while in police custody.

After several attempts to get the parrot to talk, it was transferred to a local zoo to serve his time for drug trafficking.

The parrot's owners were located and arrested as well.

### **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

