

May 2023

Volume 12, Issue 5

Worthington Police News



Chief

Troy Appel

Captain

Nathan Grimmus

Patrol Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Josh McCuen

Mark Riley

Detective Sergeant

Brandon Peil

Patrol Officers

Ryan Golombiecki

Chris Hillesheim

Siddney Kounlabout

Randy Liepold

Destini Miller

Tyler Olson

Jacob Refsland

Bryant Schroeder

Christina Shorter

Investigators

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

Kyle Schreier

Jake Walker

School Resource

Dan Brouillet

Gabe Vander Veen

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

National Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Week

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15, 2023, as National Peace Officer Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15th falls into, as National Police Week.

Congress followed up by establishing a joint resolution that 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.

Across the United States, we lost 245 law enforcement officers with the top three causes of death being medical (113), gunfire (64), and vehicle crashes (57).

In Minnesota, we lost one officer last year, Deputy Sheriff Dallas



Edeburn due to a duty related heart attack.

At the time of this writing, Minnesota lost another hero to gunfire.

Pope County Deputy Sheriff, Josh Owen, was shot and killed at the scene of a domestic assault. A second Pope County Deputy Sheriff and a Starbuck Police Officer were also shot during the same incident.

This incident was less than a week after a police officer was shot in Granite Falls

while they were serving a “knock and announce” search warrant during a drug investigation. Also two Wisconsin police officers were killed during a traffic stop in Cameron, Wisconsin.

As we prepare to remember and honor our fallen officers, please take a moment to keep these officers and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Credits:

nleomf.org

odmp.org

Photo credit: laceypd.org

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Animal Control
Zach Ramerth

Community Service
Kirk Honius

Reception
Barb Hussong

Records
Shari Droll
Julie Jeppesen

TAC/IT
Gary Gerdes

Dispatch Supervisor
Stephanie Evers

Dispatch
Tonya Aanenson
Camryn Baumhoefner
Erin Johnson
Jodi Mulder
Zach Ramerth

K-9 Officers
Winston

End of Watch: Deputy Josh Owen

End of Watch: Pope County Deputy Sheriff Josh Owen, April 15, 2023.

On April 15, 2023, at around 7:30 p.m., two deputies from Pope County Sheriff's Department and an officer from Starbuck Police Department responded to the town of Cyrus, Minnesota for a domestic dispute.

During the investigation of the incident, all three officers were shot. Deputy Owen was fatally wounded during the shooting.

Deputy Owen was a veteran of the United States Army and Minnesota National Guard. He also enjoyed spending time on the water and was an avid scuba diver.



Deputy Owen was killed on his 44th birthday.

He leaves behind his loving wife, Shannon and their young son.

Deputy Owen's name will be added to the National Law

Enforcement Memorial in Washington D.C. and will join the ranks of more than 23,000 other officers who have also given their lives in the line of duty.

Credit: Rural Deputy Facebook Page

It is not how these Officers die that made them Heroes...It is how they lived.

-Police Survivor, Vivian Eney Cross



Work Anniversaries

Jodi Mulder
Gabriel Vander Veen

Dispatcher
School Resource Officer

9 years
7 years



Helmsley Charitable Trust Grant

The Worthington Police Department has received a grant from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust Fund providing 14 brand new Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) worth almost \$30,000.

The Helmsley Charitable Trust gave \$18.8 million dollars to the University of Minnesota Medical School with the aim to provide law enforcement officers and first responders across Minnesota with more than 8,300 AEDs with the goal of improving cardiac arrest survival.

The three-year project aims to provide every law enforcement vehicle in Minnesota with an AED and to train agencies to deliver immediate cardiac care prior to the arrival of Emergency Medical Services.

Under the grant, the Police Department will receive the new AEDs in May and they will be deployed to all police department patrol vehicles. In addition to the new AEDs, the grant will cover the cost of any defibrillator patches used on a patient.

The Worthington Police Department is often the first on scene to medical emergencies and the new AEDs will help save lives!

About the Helmsley Charitable Trust

The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust aspires to improve lives by supporting exceptional efforts in the U.S. and around the world in health and select place-based initiatives. Since beginning active grantmaking in 2008, Helmsley has committed more than \$3 billion for a wide range of charitable purposes. Helmsley's Rural Healthcare Program funds innovative projects that use information technologies to connect rural patients to emergency medical care, bring the latest medical therapies to patients in remote areas, and provide state-of-the-art training for rural hospitals and EMS personnel. To date, this program has awarded more than \$500 million to organizations and initiatives in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Minnesota, Iowa, Montana and Nevada. For more information, visit www.helmsleytrust.org.

Local Fallen Heros

Worthington Police Officer Roy Robert Fitch.

EOW: June 19, 1938

Age: 50

Cause: Duty Related Illness

No Photo Available



Nobles County Sheriff Terrance Joseph McCall

EOW: August 8, 1920

Age: 51

Cause: Gunfire while arresting a male for stealing clothing from a traveler's suitcase.



Minnesota Game Warden Melvin A. Holt (Assigned Worthington area)

EOW: July 12, 1940

Age: 55

Cause: Gunfire while assisting other game wardens investigating illegal fish shipments from Iowa to Waterville MN. Three game wardens were killed.



Credit: ODMP.com

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We're on the Web!

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

**CRIME
STOPPERS**
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1-800-222-TIPS
www.crimestoppersmn.org
Crime Doesn't Pay... We Do!

A Part of America Died....

A humorous story this month does not seem appropriate, so instead here is a poem about the sacrifice police officers make.

Someone killed a policeman today.

And part of America died.

A piece of our country he swore to protect will be buried by his side.

The suspect who shot him will stand up in court, with counsel demanding his rights, while a young, widowed mother must work for her kids and spend alone many long nights.

The beat that he walked was a battlefield too, just as if he'd gone off to war.

Thought the flag of our nation won't fly at half-mast, to his name they will add a gold star.

Yes, someone killed a policeman today, it happened in your town or mine.

While we slept in comfort behind our locked doors, a copy put his life on the line.

Now his ghost walks a beat on a dark city street, and he stands at each new rookie's side.

He answered the call and gave us his all.

And a part of America died.

Author Unknown

Mission Statement

**Serving Worthington with honor and integrity
by working WITH the community
to provide exceptional public safety.**

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