

May 2015

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Worthington Police News

Chief

Troy Appel

Captain

Kevin Flynn

Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Nathan Grimmus

Josh McCuen

Brett Wilttrout

Patrol Officers

Andrew Bromberg

Dan Brouillet

Phil Butenhoff

Austin Christensen

Chris Hillesheim

Kirk Honius

Randy Liepold

Colby Palmersheim

Brandon Peil

Mark Riley

Alex Tokar

Jake Walker

Investigators

Shawn Elsing

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

Tyler Olson

School Resource

Jacki Bomgaars

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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Officer Profile: Austin Christensen

The Officer Profile for May is one of our newest officers, Austin Christensen. Officer Christensen was born and raised in Slayton and attended Murray County High School.

Coming from a law enforcement family where his father is the Chief of Police of the Slayton Police Department, Officer Christensen knew what he wanted to do after high school.

Officer Christensen attended Alexandria Technical and Community College and received an Associates of Applied Science degree in Law Enforcement.

After college, Officer Christensen returned to Slayton and joined the Murray County Ambulance service as an Emergency Medical Technician.



In May 2014, Officer Christensen was hired by Rock County Sheriff's Department as a deputy sheriff.

In January 2015, Officer Christensen was hired by Worthington Police Department as a police officer.

When Officer Christensen is not working, he enjoys spending time golfing, hunting and boating.

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
Mack
Thor

Severe Weather Season

Spring is a time of transition where late season snowstorms give way to thunderstorms and tornadoes.

Don't let this dangerous season catch you off guard!

Know your risk: tornadoes, floods, thunderstorms, hail, lightening, and heat can be a killer for those not prepared.

Since 2003, 43 states within the continental United States have come under a tornado watch; 49 states have come under a severe thunderstorm watch; and lightning strikes occur in every state.

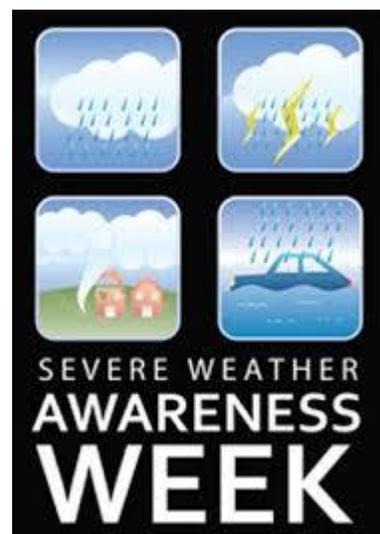
Heat is one of the leading weather related killers in the United States, resulting in hundreds of deaths each year. The heat wave of 1995 claimed the lives of more than 700 people in the Chicago area alone.

In 2014, there were 26 lightening fatalities.

While the weather may be wild, you are not powerless. Prepare for spring hazards with these simple steps:

- Practice a family tornado drill at least once a year.
- Whether driving or walking, anytime you come across a flooded road, turn around.
- Check to see if officials in charge of sporting events have a written lightning safety plan.
- During a heat wave, reschedule strenuous outdoor activities for the coolest time of the day.

For more weather safety information, you can go to the National Weather Service web page at www.weather.gov and go to the weather safety tab.



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: Department of Health Scam

The newest scam to hit the Worthington area is the Department of Health Scam.

This scam starts with the potential victim receiving a telephone call from someone claiming to be from the Department of Health.

The caller is often pushy and asks for the potential victim's information including: name, address, telephone, social security number and banking information.

The caller often calls under the guise that you have been exposed to some type of disease such as a variation of the flu and the information is needed to help get you the treatment.

Other times, the caller will claim that you have won a prize, such as a gift card or a voucher to help offset the cost of medical costs.

Either way, the caller has one goal in mind, and that is to rip you off. If

you receive one of these calls, hang up immediately and call the Worthington Police Department.

Do you have a question about a scam or have been a victim of a scam that you would like warn others about? If so, please email chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us

You may remain anonymous.



National Law Enforcement Week 2015

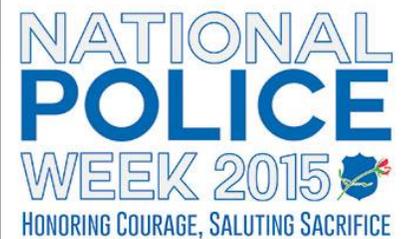
In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial and the calendar week in which May 15 falls, as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

During this time, we remember the fallen officers from the Worthington Police Department, Roy Robert Fitch (End of Watch: June 19, 1938) and from the Nobles County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Terrance Joseph McCall (End of Watch: August 8, 1920).

Line of Duty Deaths in America from 2000-2014

- Total Line of Duty Deaths – 2,436 (2302 men and 134 women)
- Leading causes of death include: 1001 vehicle related, 788 gunfire, 461 other, 186 heart attack
- Officers fatally shot by unarmed offenders – 56
- Most officer deaths – 2001 with 242, least officer deaths – 2013 with 112
- Youngest officer killed was 18, the oldest was 82 and the average age is 40.
- Length of Service – shortest – 1 day, average – 12 years, longest - 55 years
- Minnesota Line of Duty Deaths – 22
- The deadliest month is September with over 350 deaths
- The least deadly month is February with 160 deaths

For more information, you can go to the officer down memorial page at www.odmp.org.



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E-MAIL:
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Animal Control

(507) 360-7044

Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

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

Humor in Law Enforcement

Strange 911 Calls:

A woman in Florida called 911 because she was locked inside her car. It turns out all she needed to do was manually pull up on the door lock.

The unidentified woman was parked at Walgreens in Kissimmee and reported that her car would not start and that she was locked inside her car.

She told the dispatcher that nothing electrical worked, that it was getting very hot in there and that she was not feeling well.

The dispatcher told the woman to pull up on the door lock. The woman tried it and was able to

open the door!

After making numerous calls to 911, a Canadian man was warned that the next call would land him in jail.

That prompted him to reveal that the real reason he was calling: "If you're coming to get me," he told the dispatcher, "can you bring me some smokes."

After a 7-year-old girl from Burnett, Wisconsin called 911 and hung up, police were dispatched to the residence.

When the police arrived, they quickly discovered the problem – the girl's grandfather was cheating in a game of cards.



Mission Statement

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

WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
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WORTHINGTON, MN 56187