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Worthington Police News



Chief

Troy Appel

Captain

Nathan Grimmus

Sergeants

Tim Gaul

Josh McCuen

Brandon Peil

Dustin Roemeling

Patrol Officers

Chris Hillesheim

Randy Liepold

Colin Meinders

Tyler Olson

Jacob Refsland

Mark Riley

Lucky Sayveo

Bryant Schroeder

Christina Shorter

Alex VanSomeren

Gabe Vander Veen

Investigators

Shawn Elsing

Dave Hoffman

Joe Joswiak

Kyle Schreier

Jake Walker

School Resource

Dan Brouillet

Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Officer Profile: Detective Shawn Elsing

After nearly 28 years of dedicated service, Detective Shawn Elsing is retiring from the Worthington Police Department at the end of October.

Before joining the Worthington Police Department, Detective Elsing was a photographer in Worthington.

After performing a ride along with a local officer, Detective Elsing joined the Worthington Police Department in 1994.



After Detective Elsing joined the police department as a patrol officer, he became a detective and joined the Minnesota Gang Strike Task Force and

the Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force.

Please join us in wishing Detective Elsing many happy years of retirement.

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New Community Service Officer

Please join us in welcoming a familiar face back to the Worthington Police Department, Kirk Honius! Retired officer Kirk Honius has re-joined the department as our new Community Service Officer. Kirk is filling the position left open by the retirement of Myra Onnen.

Animal Control
Laura Miesen

Community Service
Kirk Honius

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
Winston

Halloween Safety

It's hard to believe that the Halloween season is already here.

To prevent it from becoming a real-life horror story, follow these simple tips to help keep your ghosts and goblins safe.

Costume Safety

- Wear costumes that say "flame resistant" on the label or use flame resistant materials such as polyester or nylon.
- Wear bright, reflective costumes, or add strips of reflective tape to increase visibility.
- Consider make up or hats instead of masks to prevent vision from becoming obscured.

- Test any makeup in advance to check for irritation or allergies. If you observe a rash, redness, or swelling discontinue use.

Motorist Safety

- Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited and my move in unpredictable ways.
- Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians, and on curbs.
- Get rid of any distractions, like your phone, so you can concentrate on the road and the surroundings.



- Turn headlights on earlier in the evening to spot children from a greater distance.

Suspicious Activity

If you observe any suspicious activity beyond typical Halloween hijinks, call the Worthington Police Department.



Tik Tok Challenge

A lot of fads that tend to show up on social media are relatively harmless.

However, there is a rumor of a new TikTok challenge that would cross the line into criminal behavior.

The “Slap a Teacher” challenge is starting to show up on the internet.

In this challenge, TikTokers are

encouraged to take a video of them slapping a teacher and then posting it on the social media app Tik Tok.

So far, there is no evidence that students are doing this, but they should be warned if they do, there are potential legal issues along with school sanctions that can be imposed.

In Minnesota, slapping a

teacher can be a 4th or 5th degree assault depending on if there is demonstrable bodily harm.

The school can also impose discipline on the student up to and including expulsion.

Don’t risk your future for five minutes of fame!



Become a Police Officer!

The City of Worthington is hiring a police officer!

If you are interested in joining the ranks of the Worthington Police Department and you are eligible to be licensed by the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training, you are invited to apply.

Go to the City of Worthington webpage under employment and fill out an employment packet. The due date is October 15, 2021.

Canadian Restraining Orders

For a number of years, Canada has recognized American restraining orders and no-contact orders that are designed to protect victims of domestic assault.

Minnesota has now joined six other states in recognizing Canadian restraining orders.

This change in the law will allow Minnesota

peace officers to enforce restraining orders and Domestic Abuse No Contact Orders (DANCO) in Minnesota.

Violations of this new statute (518F.03) are treated the same as the violation of an American court order.

Work Anniversaries

Tim Gaul	Sergeant	28 years
Nancy Veen	Dispatch Supervisor	25 years
Troy Appel	Chief of Police	25 years
Bryant Schroeder	Police Officer	1 year

Worthington Police

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Animal Control

(507) 329-0070

Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ci.worthington.mn.us

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Halloween Spooky Story – “She’s Inside the House”

I’ve never been a believer in the paranormal, but that day I made an exception.

I received a call from an elderly lady who reported seeing a small girl running in her yard.

On the way to the call, it started to downpour like no tomorrow, with lightning and thunder lighting up the sky.

When I arrived at the house, she pointed toward the back yard.

I walked over there and shined my light all over, but did not see anyone.

I went inside the house to speak with the lady, and I found her trembling in the corner.

She said, “She’s inside the house!”

I heard a thump in the background, and I

turned to see a young girl about 13 years old running from one side of the house toward the other.

I quickly moved toward her and told her to stop, but she vanished right before my eyes.

I thought that my eyes were playing tricks on me, but I heard the elderly woman call out “There, there she is, right outside!”.

I turned toward the large window facing the backyard and saw the girl running around. There was no way she could have got past me.

I ran outside to find out she had vanished.



I was able to calm the old lady down before I left.

Some months later I found out the elderly lady had passed away and a new family moved into her house.

Not long after that, dispatch received a call from the same house reporting a girl in the house.

-Anonymous police officer

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**