

**Chief**

Troy Appel

**Captain**

**Sergeants**

Kevin Flynn  
Tim Gaul  
Nathan Grimmus  
Brett Wiltout

**Patrol Officers**

Dan Brouillet  
Chris Hillesheim  
Kirk Honius  
Joe Joswiak  
Randy Liepold  
Tyler Olson  
Josh McCuen  
Colby Palmersheim  
Brandon Peil  
Mark Riley  
Alex Tokar

**Investigators**

Shawn Elsing  
Dave Hoffman

**School Resource**

Jacki Bomgaars

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Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

## Officer Profile: Chief Troy Appel

Born and raised in Worthington, Troy Appel grew up surrounded by the home construction business. He worked his way through high school and college as a carpenter, since his family built many of the homes in Worthington since the 1950's.



While attending college in 1993, Troy was hired to work part-time for the Worthington Police Department. After graduating from Mankato State in 1994, he continued to work for the department. Troy was hired as a full-time patrol officer in 1996, which was the same year he married his wife Kristin.

In 1999, Troy was promoted to investigations and worked as the only full-time drug investigator in Southwest Minnesota. He worked undercover to purchase large quantities of meth, cocaine, and marijuana for the local,

state, and federal agencies.

In 2005, Troy was appointed as the Commander of the newly formed Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force and was asked to create a workable task force model to deter drug crime in the area. After nearly 10 years as BRDTF Commander, Troy was recently promoted to Public Safety Director

for Worthington, filling the position on October 6.

Troy has two daughters, Kalea and Kiara. In his time off, he enjoys spending time with his family, waterskiing, hunting, fishing, and biking.

**Animal Control**  
Virgil Veen

**Community Service**  
Myra Onnen

**Reception**  
Barb Hussong

**Records**  
Shari Droll  
Julie Jeppesen

**TAC/IT**  
Gary Gerdes

**Dispatch**  
Tonya Aanenson  
Stephanie Culham  
Hannah Huls  
Jodi Mulder  
Larry Rogers  
Nancy Veen

**K-9 Officers**  
Mack  
Thor

## Notable Calls

Recently the Worthington Police Department received an attempt to locate message from the Coon Rapids Police Department to check on the welfare of a 23-year-old woman.

The Coon Rapids Police Department believed that the female was being held against her will.

The female was talking to a friend on her cell phone when she yelled “call the police” before her cell phone went dead.

To add to the cause for alarm, the suspect in this incident had an active Minnesota Department of

Corrections arrest warrant and has a history of being assaultive toward law enforcement officers.

Officer Randy Liepold was working the morning of this incident and went to Interstate 90 to watch for the suspect’s vehicle.

Shortly after beginning surveillance, Officer Liepold located the suspect vehicle and initiated a traffic stop.

As a result of the traffic stop, the suspect was taken into custody and the victim was treated for injuries received



in the incident and then reunited with her family.

As a result of Officer Liepold’s actions, he received a letter of commendation for his level of professionalism that allowed this traumatic series of events to come to a safe and successful conclusion.

Congratulations to Officer Liepold for a job well done!

## Law Review: Criminal Vehicular Homicide and Injury

The law review for October is Minnesota State Statute 609.21 Criminal Vehicular Homicide and Injury. This statute makes it illegal for someone to cause the injury or death of another person:

- while operating a motor vehicle in a negligent manner
- while under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- where the driver who causes the accident leaves the scene
- where the driver has actual information that a peace officer has issued a citation or warning that the vehicle has been defectively maintained and that defect has created a present danger to others and the injury or death was caused by the defective maintenance.

**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: Another Facebook Scam

The latest scam to hit Worthington uses Facebook to try to scam their victim.

The scam starts out when you receive a Facebook message from someone you know stating that they had some good news to share.

The good news is that they just happened to have won the lottery!

The scam can go one of two ways from here.

The friend on your Facebook messenger will ask you to send money via Western Union to pay for the taxes or they will tell you how you can also win the lottery by sending money via the Western Union for the taxes.



A couple things you can do to protect yourself are to review your Facebook privacy settings to allow only friends to see your posts. Also, talk to your friends in person if you receive a questionable message like these.

If your friend actually did send a message like this, talk them out of it and report the incident to the 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](mailto:chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us). You may remain anonymous.

## New Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force Commander

Congratulations to Sergeant Grimmus who was just appointed to replace Troy Appel as Commander of the Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force. Commander Grimmus took over the Commander position as of October 6<sup>th</sup>.



## Halloween Safety Tips for Motorists

All motorists need to be especially alert and cautious when driving on Halloween because of the high number of pedestrians walking the streets.

- Watch for children darting out from between parked cars.
- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.
- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.
- Never use your cell phone while driving.
- Discourage teens from driving on Halloween. There are too many hazards and distractions for inexperienced drivers.



## 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](mailto:bhussong@co.nobles.mn.us)

Animal Control

(507) 360-7044

Community Service Officer

(507) 372-8189

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We're on the Web!

See us at:  
[www.ci.worthington.mn.us](http://www.ci.worthington.mn.us)

## Criminal of the Month

The Criminal of the Month for October started off simply enough with a call early one evening to a local residence for a loud music complaint.

As the first officer arrived on scene, he quickly realized the loud music call was an underage drinking party.

During the course of the investigation, one of the officers went down to the basement and located an intoxicated male.

The officer talked with the intoxicated male for several minutes until a

second officer joined him. Upon seeing the second officer, the intoxicated male yelled, "We gotta get out of here! The cops are here!" and ran to the nearest window and tried to climb out of it.

The intoxicated male was quickly apprehended and was charged for illegal acts.

It makes you wonder, how drunk you have to be in order to talk to a uniformed police officer for five minutes and not realize he is an officer.



## Mission Statement

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

**WORTHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**1530 AIRPORT ROAD**  
**SUITE 300**  
**WORTHINGTON, MN 56187**