



Worthington Police Department (507) 295-5400

Chief
Troy Appel

Captain
Kevin Flynn

Sergeants
Tim Gaul
Nathan Grimmus
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

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School Bus Safety Tips

Love it or hate it, school is back in session and that means that school busses will be back on the road in full force.

The safety of our students is a top priority for the Worthington Police Department.

The police department routinely patrols in and around our schools in the morning and afternoons and will perform routine walk throughs of the school to make it as safe as possible.

Because we can't do it alone, here are some information and safety tips to help make this school year as safe as possible.

According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA), school buses are the safest vehicles on the road. In fact,



students are 70 times more likely to get to school safely when taking a school bus as opposed to taking a car.

The greatest risk to your child's safety is not riding the school bus, but getting on and off the school bus.

For Students and Parents:

- As parents, you should take the time to talk to your children about school bus safety.
- To start with,

children should arrive at the school bus stop approximately five minutes early to prevent them from being rushed or hurried at the bus stop.

- Children should stay approximately six feet from the curb and should not approach the bus until it is stopped, the door is open, and the bus driver signals it is safe to approach.

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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 Evers
Jodi Mulder
Joe Reith

K-9 Officers
Frankee
Mack
Winston

Active Shooter Training

The Worthington Police Department just completed their training in active shooter situations.

Active Shooter training starts off in the classroom where officers learn about prior active shooter events such the Colombine School shooting in 1999.

In active shooter events, the perpetrator has the goal to kill as many people as possible and often do not stop until confronted by law enforcement.

Officers also learned about dealing with Emotionally Disturbed Persons and other people having mental health emergencies. The training then moved to the Round

Lake Community Center where officers participated in multiple hands-on scenarios.

This training focused on the proper tactics to end active shooter events.

Officers donned protective gear before entering the Round Lake Community Center armed with weapons modified to shoot simunition rounds, which is similar to paintball rounds.



While officer safety is normally a high priority for police officers; in an active shooter event, stopping the shooting is the highest priority, even above their own safety.

Constant training like this allows the Worthington officers to be prepared to handle almost any emergency!



Bill Mathews Memorial Highway

Last September, Wayzata Police Officer Bill Mathews was removing debris from the highway when he was struck and killed by a motorist who was under the influence of a controlled substance and who was texting.

The motorist, Beth Freeman, pled guilty and was sentenced to 98 months in prison for Criminal Vehicular Homicide.

In recognizing the sacrifice made by Officer Mathews, Governor Mark Dayton signed a bill into law that designates a section of U.S. Highway 12 within the city limits of Wayzata as the "Officer Bill Mathews Memorial Highway".

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

School Bus Safety

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- Students should never walk behind the school bus.
- If a student needs to cross the street, they should cross approximately 10 feet in front of the bus and only after making eye contact with the bus driver.
- If a student drops something near the bus, they should always tell the bus driver first before attempting to pick up the item. The bus driver may not see

the student if they duck down to pick up the item.

For Motorists:

- Yellow (amber) flashing lights on a school bus indicates the bus is preparing to stop to load and unload students. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.
- Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting

- on and off the bus.
- Motorist must stop their vehicles and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the stop arm is retracted, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.
- Minnesota law makes it illegal to pass a school bus on the right when the

school bus is displaying amber flashing lights.

- Violations of the school bus stop arm laws can result in hefty fines and arrest.

If everyone does their part, we can make this another safe year for everyone!



Ask an Officer: Rash of Missing People

What is behind the rash of missing people across Iowa? Why are there so many more missing people recently?

After Mollie Tibbetts went missing on July 18, 2018 from the small town of Brooklyn, Iowa; missing person cases have been popping up across social media and the news.

In the two weeks after Mollie's disappearance another 49 missing people were reported according to the Iowa Department of Public Safety.

When you look at these cases, the majority of them are under 20 years old and the vast majority of

these missing persons return within 24 hours of being reported missing.

In 2017, the Iowa Department of Public Safety averaged 12 missing juveniles per day around Iowa.

The number of missing people is not increasing, but the awareness surrounding missing people has increased.

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety runs a website called the "Minnesota Missing and Unidentified Persons Clearinghouse" which lists missing people from across the state along with a brief biography of the incident.

Worthington has a missing person listed on this website, Lucia Perez. Lucia Perez went missing on June 27, 2011 after she traveled to Iowa with another male to seek employment.

Lucia has not been seen or heard from since. If you have any information about this case, please contact the Worthington Police Department.

Do you have a question for a police officer, but never had the chance to ask?

Here is your chance! Each month, one question will be selected and answered in this newsletter. Send your comments and questions to:

chillesheim@co.nobles.mn.us

Humor in Law Enforcement

Worthington Police

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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

From the Southlake
(TX) DPS:

REST IN PEACE,
LOYAL FRIEND –

This morning, August 29th, 2018, one of our most loyal stewards of the Southlake Police Department, Orange Cone, was run over and crushed by an unknown suspect, as his four other cone co-workers watched in frozen horror.

O. Cone's sole duty has been to help guide parents dropping off their students, and to prevent them from parking in the fire lane (which as you may have



heard, is kind of a big deal). In O. Cone's final breath, he exhaled, "remember that cones are considered traffic control devices and you could be cited for disregarding them".

Even in the end, he wanted to protect us. Please drive safely and where you are supposed to, especially at schools.

O. Cone leaves behind three cone kids, which are basically those little cones you buy when you want to set up a soccer field in your back yard, but don't want to splurge on actual soccer nets. You know what I am talking about.

Drive Safe!

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**