Residential Burglars Arrested—

On February 7th, Owatonna officers met with a male reporting that several individuals entered his residence, threatened him with a knife and damaged some property. The victim alleged he heard someone knocking on his bedroom window and then heard someone enter his home through a garage service door. He heard someone yell for him then observed three known males enter his bedroom. One of the males demanded to know where a cell phone was, then damaged a tablet by throwing it on the floor. The victim was allegedly pushed onto a bed and then a knife was produced and held up to his neck. The victim threatened to call the police and the three suspects and a fourth driver left the residence in a silver vehicle. While the officers were still at the scene of this alleged crime, the silver vehicle drove by the residence—after conducting a traffic stop, two of the suspects were apprehended. Two additional suspects were later located at a residence in Owatonna and also apprehended. Noriah M. Tabor, age 19, faces (2) counts of 1st Degree Burglary and (1) count of 2nd Degree Assault with a Dangerous Weapon. Three male juveniles, all age 16, face formal charges of 1st Degree Burglary.

A Chilling Word of Warm(n)ing—

This past weekend officers were called out to the area of Mill Street and Cedar Avenue for suspicious activity. The responding officers learned that a citizen had started their car to warm it up and left it running & unattended. While the car was running and unattended, the vehicle owner observed some juveniles in the area that were acting suspicious. Another family member investigated and found one of the juveniles in the driver’s seat of the running car—all of the juveniles took off running and were later apprehended by our officers. After interviews with the juveniles were complete, one 14-year old male was cited with Motor Vehicle Tampering. This case is a good reminder about our winter months and leaving a running vehicle unattended. Although Minnesota does not have a law specific to leaving a running vehicle unattended, sometimes the potential risk is not worth the reward.