Social Host Enforcement—

The Owatonna Police Department is a strong supporter of the Steele County Safe and Drug Free Coalition, in fact, our own Chief Hiller is currently the Chairman of the organization. As supporters, we also strive toward keeping our community and its youth free from the harmful effects of alcohol, drugs and tobacco use and sometimes that support comes in the form of enforcement—such was the case last Friday night. Our patrol officers noticed an uptick in the numbers of calls involving hotels and drugs/alcohol and assigned two officers to plain clothes to area motels to focus on drug and alcohol violations. While in the area of the Microtel, the officers observed a number of younger looking people entering the hotel with what appeared to be alcoholic beverages. The officers contacted the occupants in two rooms and in doing so, found alcoholic beverages and juvenile/underage drinkers. The investigating officers and assisting patrol officers issued citations to 18 individuals for minor consumption of alcohol and two individuals were charged with violating the City of Owatonna social host ordinance.

The social host ordinance stipulates it is unlawful for any person(s) to—

Host or allow and event of or gathering;

At any residence, premise, or any other private or public property;

Where alcohol or alcoholic beverages are present;

When the person knows or reasonably knows that an underage person will or does consume any alcohol or alcoholic beverage—or possess any alcohol with the intent to consume it: and

The person fails to take reasonable steps to prevent possession or consumption by the underage person(s)

Robbery Suspects Arrested—

During the early morning hours on Wednesday, Owatonna officers were called to the 200 block of Broadway for the report of an armed robbery. Responding officers learned from the victim that he had been approached by three black males—one suspect brandished a handgun and the victim was ordered to turn over his property. The victim turned over his cell phone and $26 in cash. The victim was struck on the face before the three suspects and a black female fled the scene in a black car. Shortly thereafter, a Steele County deputy reported seeing a similar vehicle heading northbound on I-35 at a high rate of speed. The vehicle was stopped near Faribault and the occupants were identified by the victim as the robbery suspects. A search warrant was executed on the suspect vehicle and a black .357 replica pellet gun, the victim’s cell phone and a small amount a marijuana was recovered in the vehicle. The four occupants, three males and one female were arrested. Ali Mohamed was charged with 1st Degree Aggravated Robbery and False Name to Police. Mohamed Adan was charged with 1st Degree Aggravated Robbery, 2nd Degree Assault and Terroristic Threats. Abdi Abdi was charged with 1st Degree Aggravated Robbery and 2nd Degree Assault. Fauzia Adan was charged with Aiding and Abetting 1st Degree Aggravated Robbery.