Busiest Day of Week: Friday—103 events
Busiest Hour of Day: 8:00 AM—41 events
Total # of Events: 603
Average Events/Day: 86.14
Average Events/Hour: 3.59
Average Traffic Stops: 1.07 per hour

DWIs for the week: 1

Again this year we will be hosting a Citizen’s Police Academy, beginning September 28, 2016 and running through November 16, 2016. The academy is meeting Monday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and is designed to give residents and business owners a unique opportunity to become better acquainted with members of the Owatonna Police Department and its day to day operations. Applications for this year’s class will be accepted through September 14, 2016. For more information, contact Pam Roberts at 507-774-7200 or click here.

Gun Threat—On Friday at 1:13 p.m. OPD officers were called to Country Inn & Suites to investigate a gun threat incident based on a witness account. Officers leaned that the suspect, Christopher Winegar, went to the hotel to locate his daughter who was also staying with her mother and another man at the hotel. The mother had called Winegar asking him to come and get them because the man they were staying with was posting “weird” stuff on Facebook. When Winegar arrived at the hotel, he was observed pulling a gun out of his waistband and purportedly pointed the firearm in the face of a male tenant, then search the room for his daughter – who was no longer there. Winegar was located outside his vehicle in the Taco Bell parking lot, where the woman in this story was apparently employed. A Ruger .22 pistol was found, unloaded, under the driver’s seat of the suspect’s vehicle. Christopher Winegar, age 28, was arrested and charged with 2nd Degree Assault with a deadly weapon.

Predatory Offender Violation—While officers were investigating the weapons complaint at the Country Inn & Suites, the targeted victim in this case was a registered sex offender with a non-extraditable warrant out of North Carolina and thus a predatory offender out of Minnesota. Our investigators identified this individual as Robert Clement, from Forsyth County, NC. He came to Owatonna about 8 days ago from Mounds View, MN whose predatory offender unit had not had contact with Clement since 2012. Clement moved back to Mounds View in May of 2016 and failed to register with Mounds View and Owatonna police agencies. Clement gave our detective false addresses in the Mounds View area that did not exist. Robert Clement, age 31, was arrested and charged with a felony for knowing violate predatory offender requirements.

Is the Police Citizen’s Academy for You? - The citizen’s academy is an educational program that gives citizen’s who live or work in Owatonna a unique opportunity to gain first hand information about the work and duties of a police officer and particularly how police officers serve the citizen’s of Owatonna. This course is free to eligible persons, who are at least 18 years of age and pass a criminal background check. Participants will hear presentations from members of the OPD that have specialized training, skills and talents in subject areas such as laws of search, seizure and arrest, crime scene investigations, department structure and specialized divisions, SWAT, narcotics & enforcement, police use of force and some hands-on experience. If this program is for you, apply today.

New Police Officer—On Thursday, September 8th, Ethan Meyer joined the Owatonna Police Department as a Police Officer. Officer Meyer is from Eyota, MN and is a 2015 graduate from Minnesota State University, Mankato with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Law Enforcement. He has prior experience as a police officer serving the Spring Grove, MN community since January until joining the ranks at OPD. Officer Meyer began his 16 week field training program on Thursday, September 8th. Please help welcome Officer Meyer, badge 144. Officer Meyer can be reached at (507)774-7000 ext. 6144 or by email Ethan.Meyer@ci.owatonna.mn.us