Cops and the Community

**Ouch**—On Friday night at 11:23 p.m., Officers responded to the Best Budget Inn for an assault call. An officer found the victim inside the hotel lobby with a bloody face, eyes that were beginning to swell shut and a partially torn off lower lip. The victim reported being jumped by a Hispanic man he was drinking with and also staying at the hotel. Officers made contact with the roommate of the suspect and were able to establish his identity. Other assisting officers observed a suspect matching the description enter a parked semi-truck nearby. The semi-truck operator said he was drinking beer with some guys he didn’t know when the assault took place. He tried to break it up then went to his semi-truck. Shortly thereafter, the suspect said he needed a place to sleep so he let him in. Officers were able to call the suspect out, then arrest him. Sergio Trevino, age 22 of Willmar, was charged with 3rd Degree Assault—a felony.

**Theft Scam**—Just after noon on Sunday, officers were called to Wal-Mart for a shoplifting in progress. The suspect, later identified as Terrance Harris, concealed a backpack full of Roku electronics inside the garden center where he then threw the backpack over the garden center security fence to retrieve it later. The suspect drove off with a female passenger and was found parked outside Buffalo Wind Wings. During a search incident to arrest, officers found and seized two Roku 4’s which were apparently stolen earlier in the day from the Wal-Mart in Austin using the same M.O., but they went undetected until OPD officers tipped off the store in Austin to look into it. As this couple left Austin, they were caught stealing gas in Blooming Prairie before finding their way to Owatonna. Terrance Harris, 23 of St. Paul, was arrested for Probably Cause Gross Misdemeanor Theft, Gross Misdemeanor No Insurance, and Driving after Revocation. Formal charges against Harris are pending at this time.

**2015 OPD Annual Report**—I have the privilege to present the 2015 Annual Report on behalf of the finest law enforcement officers honored to work for the City of Owatonna. This annual report captures our relationships with our neighbors, friends and colleagues. As you experience our successes through this annual report, I hope you are as proud of the men and women that serve you on a daily basis as I am. - Chief Keith Hiller

**DWI Number 8**—At 10:00 p.m. on Friday night, an officer stopped a vehicle for driving on the wrong side of a divided roadway on the West Frontage Rd at 46th Street NW. Upon stopping the vehicle, the officer noticed the driver was impaired. A driver’s license check revealed the driver was cancelled inimical to public safety for a lengthy DWI record. The passenger riding beside him was the listed owner and wasn’t driving because she had more to drink than the driver—even though she knew the driver didn’t have a valid license and had been drinking also. The driver, Thomas Halvorson, 46 of Lamberton, was arrested and tested at .18, more than double the legal limit. His record revealed seven DWI’s, but only one in the last ten years that counts as an aggravating factor. Halvorson was held in custody and charged with a 2nd Degree DWI, and Driving After Cancellation—Inimical to Public Safety. The vehicle, a 1998 Pontiac Bonneville, was seized and subject to forfeiture.