Knife Wielding Suspect Arrested—

On October 3rd at approximately 8:46 PM, Owatonna officers were called to 725 E. Vine St. for a domestic assault involving knives. Officers learned the suspect in this case was inside a residence armed with knives that were concealed in both hands. A female victim inside the residence observed the knives and stepped between the suspect and her three sons. The suspect pointed the knives toward the victim and the victim told the suspect he wasn’t going to do this—the suspect replied that he would kill the victim. The suspect charged at another person in the home, but the victim was able to push him out of the residence. The suspect was heard by a witness stating, “you’re dead when I see you”. Darrien Walker, age 47, was arrested and jailed. Walker was charged with 2nd Degree Assault, Terroristic Threats and Domestic Assault.

Click it or Ticket—

Not wearing a seat belt was a deadly choice for half of the people killed in car crashes in Minnesota during the first six months of 2015. Of those people who died in crashes from January through June, 50% were not wearing a seat belt, according to preliminary data. Those numbers for 2015 are consistent with the trend that lack of seat belt use is a contributing factor in about half of all Minnesota fatalities.

Crime Prevention Tip—Motor Vehicle Theft—

To prevent motor vehicle theft, the Owatonna Police Department is asking for your help. Lock your car anytime you are away from it, and take the keys with you. From January 1st to October 6th, the Owatonna Police Department investigated 7 stolen vehicle incidents. In all incidents, the doors were unlocked or the window(s) were down and keys were either in the ignition or left somewhere inside the vehicle. These incidents are all preventable by locking vehicle doors, securing windows and retaining the ignition keys. Stolen cars may lead to other crimes that may pose a risk to public safety such as dangerous high speed pursuits, hit & run crashes or gas drive-offs to name a few. Every vehicle owner is a stakeholder in the safety of our community. Reacting to these thefts once they have taken place has a low probability of success; however, managing risk by safeguarding your property limits the opportunity for a criminal to act and reduces these incidents from occurring.

Stolen Vehicle Recovery—

On Sunday morning, an Owatonna sergeant was patrolling and routinely ran the license plate of a Honda SUV on his in-car computer. The sergeant immediately received an alert that the SUV had been reported stolen out of the Albert Lea. The sergeant followed the vehicle awaiting back-up until the vehicle turned into a driveway in the 800 block of 18th St. SE. At that point, a high risk stop was initiated and the driver was taken into custody. In custody, the driver was showing signs of impairment and performed roadside sobriety tests. In an interview, the driver admitted to selling a stolen laptop for $200 worth of marijuana and smoking marijuana just prior to being stopped. Nathaniel E. Rendon, age 18, was arrested and formally charged in with Motor Vehicle Theft.