Just the Facts

December 21, 2017

Weekly Highlights

- Busiest Day of Week: Wednesday — 149 events
- Busiest Hour of Day: 10:00 PM — 58 events
- Total # of Events: 691
- Average Events/Day: 115.17
- Average Events/Hour: 4.80
- Average Traffic Stops: 1.06 per hour
- DWIs for the week: 1

This Holiday Season

Police Administration Offices will be closed on Friday, December 22nd and Monday, December 25th to observe the Christmas holiday. The LEC Records Division will be open on Friday, December 22nd and closed on Monday, December 25th.

During this holiday season, many families, churches and businesses have been delivering goodies and gift baskets to the station. The staff at the Owatonna Police Department wish to say thank you for your blessings and support. We continue to be honored to serve you in the new year.

Police Explorer’s—On December 14th, the Owatonna Police Department’s very own Explorers volunteered for the third year in a row with the Toys for. We are very proud of the group that worked so hard to help distribute to families in need. Police Explorer Advisors are Officer’s Quinlan and Michael.

Minnesota traffic statistics show that distracted driving is a factor in 1 of 4 traffic crashes. Texting and driving in particular is a major driver distraction that puts others at danger. On Sunday afternoon, OPD responded to a rear-end collision on the 600 block of W. Bridge Street. A 75 year old woman was rear ended and injured by Bethany Butler, 33 of Owatonna, who was found to be reading text messages while driving. A witness reported that the lead vehicle was signaling to turn into AppleBees and was rear-ended and pushed into a sign by Butler. Butler was issued a citation for careless driving and texting and driving.

Don’t Text & Drive!

Just after bars closed on Saturday night, an OPD officer stopped a red truck near Oak Avenue and Rose Street for a non-functioning brake light. As the officer spoke to the driver, he smelled the odor of a spent alcoholic beverage. The officer administered field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test (PBT), which he failed. The driver, identified as Justin Warren-Albert, was arrested for DWI. Warren-Albert was transported to the jail and submitted to a breath test which reported a breath alcohol concentration of .22. Warren-Albert, 23 of Owatonna, was charged with a 3rd Degree DWI. OPD has booked 6 DWI offenders since the statewide DWI enhanced enforcement wave began over the Thanksgiving holiday. The wave ends on Dec. 30th.

At 12:46 a.m. on Wednesday, an officer stopped a vehicle on the SE side of town for a turn signal violation. The driver, Tisha N. Whitcomb, 36 of Northfield, wasn’t able to provide a driver’s license or insurance certificate. The officer used a web-based driver’s license search and found Whitcomb was revoked for no insurance violations stemming from two separate no insurance convictions in Goodhue and Freeborn Counties. Whitcomb was held in custody and formally charged with Driving After Revocation and No Insurance—gross misdemeanor.

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