Repeat Offender Jailed—

On June 21st, our officers responded to J&B Liquor for a weapons complaint. The reporting person indicated a Hispanic male had been in the store and was threatening him; he reported this same male had been giving him problems all week in the store. On this occasion, the suspect took up a threatening stance, stood in front of him and was yelling in his face. He also indicated the suspect was holding something under his arm and thought it may be a knife or gun. The suspect was located in the 400 block of Oak Ave. When he was searched, a syringe and baggie that contained presumptive positive methamphetamine was found in his pocket. Eloy Tarango, age 29 of Owatonna, was arrested and brought to jail, but not before becoming uncooperative and kicking the inside of the squad door. Incidentally, Tarango’s arrest came less than 24-hours after he was arrested and charged with Disorderly Conduct and 4th Degree Damage to Property for an incident that occurred at the Bridge Street Tavern.

Cops in the Community—

This past week our police officers and community service officers have been out visiting day care centers in Owatonna. On the 22nd, Officer Alex Vogel and Community Service Officers Nate Heeren, Matt Borash and Ben Borash visited a home day care center in southeast Owatonna. On the 26th, Community Service Officers Heeren and Brian Shaw paid a visit to Kid’s Korner. During these visits, our officers give the kids a demonstration of their squad car equipment and talk about safety topics. If you or someone you know is interested in having an officer visit a day care site, please contact Pam Roberts at 507-774-7200 to arrange a visit.

The OPD Hosts the FBI—

This past Wednesday, the Owatonna Police Department hosted Jon Watson, an FBI intelligence analyst out of the Minneapolis FBI Field Office. Mr. Watson specializes on the area of Terrorism and specifically al-ahabaab and spoke to our officers on Minnesota terrorist links. Mr. Watson is a frequent speaker on terrorism and intelligence matters. On July 11th, he’ll be returning to speak to our officers unable to attend this session. This type of training is a part of our officer’s continuing education requirements.

Car Prowlers—

The department has started to see an uptick in the number of reports we’re fielding related to car prowlers—thieves who prowl our neighborhoods at night, entering locked and unlocked cars to take changes, electronics, tools or really anything not bolted down. The incidents so far are targeted in southeast Owatonna in the neighborhoods east of Smith Avenue and south of Havana Road; however, all of our community members should be aware this type of activity can occur in your neighborhood. What can you do?

- Lock your vehicle!
- Don’t leave valuables visible and unsecured in your vehicle.
- Consider parking your vehicle in a well-lit area.

Eloy Tarango

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