Reckless Driver Jailed for Drunk Driving—

On Friday afternoon, our officers were called to the 1000 block of Rolling Green Drive for a driving complaint. We received a report of a vehicle nearly driving in the opposing lane of traffic and not moving over for on-coming traffic. The vehicle was followed by a citizen and when it parked, the citizen noted the driver appeared visibly intoxicated. Another witness reported the driver getting in people’s faces and calling them derogatory names. Our officers located the driver and it was re-affirmed he appeared intoxicated. He was asked to perform field sobriety tests and refused to cooperate in any manner. Subsequently, he was informed he was under arrest, but rather than cooperate, he pulled away from our officers and took a fighting stance. The officers deployed a Taser and he was taken into custody and jailed. Victor M. Martinez, age 31, of Owatonna has been charged with 4th Degree DWI, DWI-Refusal to submit to chemical testing and Obstructing the Legal Process.

Familiar Face on Patrol—

Beginning this week a new but very familiar face will be seen patrolling our neighborhoods. Detective Joel Hunt has been transitioned to the patrol division to covers some gaps in the schedule while we are in the process of hiring new police officers. Joel has been a valued part of the Detective Bureau since 2011 when he was appointed as a school resource officer at the then Owatonna Junior High School. In 2014, Joel was re-assigned as a general detective and has served in that role since. Beside his detective duties, Joel has been/is a field training officer, a SCDIU Tactical Officer, UAS (Drone) pilot, physical evidence officer and was named the 2017 Police Officer of the Year. With all of Joel experience, he is going to be a very valuable addition to the Patrol Division.

Cops in the Community—

Wednesday morning, Community Service Officers Nate Heeren & Brian Shaw and Officers Joel Hunt & Valerie Satre paid a visit to the Cedar Kids day care center near Manthey Park. The officers spoke with the kids about safety, toured their squad cars and Officer Hunt got to show off some of his specialized SWAT gear.

Our Team—

Administration
Chief Keith Hiller
Captain Eric Rethemeyer
Captain Jeff Mundale

Sergeants
Robbe Kniefel
Jason Petterson
Andy DeVinny
Andy Drenth
Josh Sorensen
Tracy DuChene
Jason Matejcek

Corporal
Tom Munns

Detectives
Matt Oeltjenbruns
Brady Vaith
Christian Berg

Patrol Officers
Joel Hunt
Zack Schumaker
Ben Johnson
Jesse Acker
Andrew Van Osdale
Melissa Michael
Travis Ardolf
Jason Christensen
Steven Bowman
Alan Calkahan
Derek Quinlan
Maithia Smith
Alexandra Vogel
Casey Martin
Valerie Satre
Luke Selvik
Travis Johnson

Community Service Officers
Dave Schroeder
Nathan Heeren
Matt Borash (Also Reserve)
Brian Shaw
Ben Borash (Also Reserve)

Support Staff
Kimberly Dub
Pam Roberts
Wendy Gasner

Chaplains
Brent Carlson
Nancy Deetz
Loren Olson

Reserve Officers
Michael Leyva
Michael Bren
Kyle Clausen
Bill Traetow
Lance Ulrich
RJ Kniefel
Mercedes Reyes
Brenner Brase
Dylan Westphall

Records Staff
Kate Schroeder
Barb Rupprecht
Reene Babcock
Rebecca Melchert