**Just the Facts**

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**Child Pornography Arrest—**

Early in March, our detectives were investigating a reported robbery and came into possession of a laptop, cell phones and some electronic storage devices from a known person that were reported to contain child pornography. A search warrant was obtained and 23 images of child pornography were found on the computer. On March 15th detectives served a search warrant at 112 21st NW, the suspect’s residence. During the execution of the warrant, the suspect was located and arrested on suspicion of possession of child pornography. During the search, officers uncovered 3-4 drawers full of young girls under clothing and other items of young girls clothing. During an interview, he admitted to having images of kids both naked and clothed. John C. Eppel, age 51 of Owatonna, has been charged with Possession of Pornographic Work Involving Minors—a felony. Eppel remains in custody.

**Domestic Violence Arrest—**

Last Saturday, our officers were called to 520 Adams Avenue for a reported domestic assault—a victim had Facebook messaged a friend to call 911. Officers interviewed the female victim who reported being assaulted after an argument. The victim alleged being choked twice, pushed down into a closet and pushing her while holding her child. The victim also reported a choking incident that occurred on March 15th. While talking with officers, the officers noted the victim was crying and shaking; they also noted the victim had bruising & swelling on her neck and bruising up and down her arms. Officers located the suspect outside the apartment building and placed him under arrest. David Alvarez, age 28 of Waseca, has been charged with two counts of Domestic Abuse by Strangulation, Domestic Abuse and Child Endangerment.

**Cops in the Community—**

On Thursday morning, Community Service Officer Ben Borash stopped by an in-home day care on Leif Avenue. CSO Borash met with the day care kids to talk about bicycle safety, what to do if they get lost, animal encounters and gave them a squad car demonstration. If you’re interested in having an officer stop by a day care, or for any other group or organization, please contact Pam Roberts at 507-774-7200 or click [here](#).

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**Department News—**

During the March 5th City Council Meeting, the Council Chambers was the venue for an officer recognition and new officer swearing-in ceremony. New officers being sworn in were Brooke Baker, Corey Turner, Benjamin Metcalf, Joshua Lee, Nathan Heeren, Matthew Borash, and Alexandra Jorissen. The swearing-in ceremony was highlighted by each new officer having their badge pinned on their uniform by someone special of their individual choosing. Also during the ceremony, retired Detective Thomas Munns, Former Officer Michaela Smith, Sergeant Jason Matejcek, Detective Christian Berg and Officers Sean Cooper, Travis Ardolf, Derrik Quinlan, Casey Martin and Luke Selvik were given Class D Commendations. Class D Commendations are awarded for outstanding performance on a single event or for situations that demonstrate the application of the member’s job skill under difficult situations.

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**Our Team**

- Chief Keith Hiller
- Captain Eric Rethmeier
- Captain Jeff Mundale
- Sergeant Robbe Kniefel
- Jason Petterson
- Andy Deviny
- Andy Drenth
- Josh Sorensen
- Tracy Duchene
- Jason Matejcek
- Detective Matt Oeljebnrens
- Brad Vahl
- Christian Berg
- Ben Johnson
- Patrol Officers
  - Joel Hunt
  - Sean Cooper
  - Zach Schumaker
  - Andrew Van Osdale
  - Melissa Michael
  - Travis Ardlff
  - Jason Christensen
  - Steven Bowman
  - Alan Callahan
  - Derrik Quinlan
  - Alexandra Vogel
  - Casey Martin
  - Valerie Satter
  - Luke Selvik
  - Travis Johnson
  - Nathan Heeren
  - Matthew Borash
  - Brooke Baker
  - Alexandra Jorissen
  - Benjamin Metcalf
  - Joshua Lee
- Community Service Officers
  - Brian Shaw
  - Ben Borash
  - Colin Troeger
  - Colin Regenscheid
- Support Staff
  - Kimberly Dub
  - Pam Roberts
  - Wendy Gasner
- Chaplains
  - Brent Carlson
  - Nancy Detz
  - Loren Olson
- Reserve Officers
  - Michael Leyva
  - Michael Brein
  - Kyle Clausen
  - Bill Traetow
  - Lance Ulrich
  - RJ Kniefel
  - Brennen Brase
  - Kaden Lopez
- Records Staff
  - Kate Schroeder
  - Barb Rupprecht
  - Renee Babcock
  - Rebecca Melichert

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