Just the Facts

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Owatonna Assists Steele County Deputies —

On Saturday afternoon, an Owatonna sergeant responded to an address in Steele County on County Road 45 North to assist Steele County Deputies with a burglary in progress—a male reportedly looking for a battery kicked in a garage door. The sergeant arrived in the area to find a Minnesota State Trooper out with the suspect. The suspect appeared agitated and was walking toward the trooper—the trooper was extending his arm to keep the suspect from getting close to him. The sergeant assisted the trooper with the suspect, who turned his attention to the sergeant and began approaching him—the sergeant forcibly pushed the suspect backward. The sergeant and trooper controlled the suspect to the ground where he was handcuffed. The Steele County Sheriff’s Office conducted this investigation. As a result, Ryan Patzer, age 29 of Center City, MN, was charged with 3rd Degree Burglary, Possession of Stolen Property, DWI—Under the Influence of Controlled Substance and Obstructing Legal Process—Interfere with a Peace Officer. As a result of this suspect apprehension, our sergeant suffered minor injuries to his arm and hand.

Rough Start to Adulthood—

Last Thursday afternoon, our officers were called to the area of Riverside and Kelly for the report of an assault. The investigating officers learned that a male victim had been assaulted by his girlfriend. The victim reported they were celebrating the suspect’s 18th birthday and an argument ensued while they were walking to their home. At the home, the victim checked on the suspect who had been in the bathroom for a while. The suspect exited and began hitting and scratching the victim all over—officers observed the victim had deep scratches about his face, neck, arms, chest and side; he appeared to have bruising around both eyes. In an interview, the suspect didn’t remember much because she had been drinking. Viance Nin, age 18 of Owatonna, has been charged with two counts of Felony Domestic Assault. The offenses were enhanced to a felony due to previous assault adjudications. Coincidently, prior to this incident, our officers had contact with Nin on an unrelated disturbance and she was charged with Minor Consumption of Alcohol.

Wear the Badge—

The Minnesota Chief of Police Association recently released another officer profile in their Wear the Badge Series. In this episode, the Association features Officer Sara Schutte of the Duluth Police Department. Originally a bio/natural history major, Office Schutte loved critical thinking and problems solving, but missed community engagement. As a police officer, she loves interacting with the community and admits that being the person to help people when they are at their absolute worst is a tremendously rewarding feeling. To view the episode, click on the Wear the Badge logo.