



THE OWATONNA POLICE
DEPARTMENT
EST. 1909

The Owatonna Police Department is dedicated to providing a safe and secure community through partnerships, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Policing excellence through our People, our Work, and our Relationships

Just the Facts

May 14, 2021

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Criminal Sexual Assault—

Last week we reported a criminal sexual assault and the arrest and charges on Erick Mendoza. Following this arrest and charges, our child protection detective and child protective services identified another child victim of Mendoza. Following the interview with the child, Mendoza, who had been released from custody, was located and arrested again. As a result of the disclosures by the second child, Mendoza faces amended charges to the additional complaint as well as an additional charge of Stalking with Sexual or Aggressive Intent—a felony.



Erick Mendoza

Department News—

Monday marked a fresh start to a new chapter as Kyle Martin began his career as an Owatonna Police Department police officer. Kyle may be another familiar name to those who keep track of the comings and goings of the department; Kyle served as a community service officer for the OPD from 2014 through 2016. Kyle left the department to accept a licensed position with the Madelia Police Department where he has been for the past five years.



Kyle is a graduate of Faribault High School and holds an Associates Degree from Riverland Community College. Please join us in welcoming Kyle back to the Owatonna Police Department.

National Police Week—



This is National Police Week—the time we remember police officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. May 15th was designated National Peace Officer's Memorial Day in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy. The week containing May 15th was designated National Police Week. National activities are hosted each year in Washington DC to honor those law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice the previous calendar year and to offer support to the survivors of those officers as well as survivors of other years.

Court Order Violation Arrest—

On May 5th, our officers received a complaint of a trespasser at 431 State Avenue—the reporting person indicated a person named Brandon had been knocking on his door for the past 10-15 minutes screaming for a female, his girlfriend. Responding officers believed they knew the identity of Brandon, that he may have violated a protective order and had a warrant for his arrest. Shortly thereafter, Brandon was spotted a short distance away walking through a parking lot. Brandon also spotted our officers and took off running. A ground search began, led by our Canine Vegas and his handler—together, they located Brandon hiding in some foliage and he was apprehended. In addition to his warrant matter, Brandon Froid, age 35 of Owatonna, faces a charge of Violating a Domestic Abuse Order for Protection—a felony.



Brandon Froid

Our Team

Administration

Police Chief Keith Hiller
Captain Eric Rethemeier
Captain Jeff Mundale

Sergeants

Jason Petterson
Andy DeVinny
Andy Drenth
Josh Sorensen
Tracy DuChene
Jason Matejcek
Zack Schumaker

Detectives

Brady Vaith
Christian Berg
Ben Johnson
Steven Bowman
Valerie Satre
Travis Ardolf

Patrol Officers

Joel Hunt
Matt Oeltjenbruns
Andrew Van Osdale
Melissa Michael
Alan Callahan
Derrick Quinlan
Alexandra Vogel
Casey Martin
Luke Selvik
Travis Johnson
Benjamin Metcalf
Joshua Lee
Anna Martin
Zachary Plein
John Van Alstine
Jeremy Katz
Brandon Fandel
Michael Brein
Anthony Malepsy
Kyle Martin

Community Service Officers

Brian Shaw
Gabrielle Flemming
Julia Hansen

Canine

Vegas

Support Staff

Kimberly Dub
Pam Roberts
Wendy Gasner

Chaplains

Brent Carlson
Nancy Deetz
Loren Olson

Reserve Officers

Michael Leyva
Bill Traetow
Julia Hansen
Steve Wrede
Gabrielle Flemming
Osbeida Aguilar
Asberry Thoreson
Maddie Ziegler

Records Staff

Kate Schroeder
Renee Babcock
Rebecca Melchert
ShaLee Ebertowski