



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

June 4, 2021

Volume 12, Issue 24

## I Got Caught—

Early last Saturday evening, patrol officer Melissa Michael spotted a couple of kiddos out riding their bikes, WEARING, their helmets! As part of an effort to promote wearing safety helmets, Officer Michael presented the riders with a coupon for a free Dairy Queen treat. Beware, as this summer, officers with the Owatonna Police Department will be on the look-out for kids correctly wearing a safety helmet; if you're caught, you will receive a voucher for a Dairy Queen treat. This promotion is brought to you by AAA, participating DQ restaurants, Safe Kids Minnesota, Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths Coalition, the Minnesota Chief of Police Association and the Minnesota Sheriff's Association.

**I Got Caught!**  
Congratulations! You were found wearing your safety helmet while riding your:  
 bike     skateboard  
 scooter     in-line skates  
**Free Small Cone**  
 Share Your Pics with Us!  
 #HappyTastesGood    #SafeSummerMN  
 DairyQueen    AAAMinnesota    MNTZO  
 Officer Name or Badge Number  
 AAA EXPECT SOMETHING MORE™    DQ HAPPY TASTES GOOD    TOWARD ZERO DEATHS  
 Please present before ordering. One offer per coupon, per visit. Not good in combination with any other offer. Valid at participating Minnesota DQ® restaurants only. (DLU #29266)    EXPIRES: 12/31/2021

## Department News—

Detective Brady Vaith has been a daily presence at the Owatonna High School, serving as a school resource officer there for five years. At the end of this school year, Brady's investigative rotation will come to an end and he will be re-assigned back to the Patrol Division as a patrol officer. Brady has been a valued part of the Detective Bureau since 2016 and we are so thankful for his service to the staff and students at the Owatonna High School. Brady's advanced experience will be a great addition to the Patrol Division.

Brady's re-assignment creates opportunity and his role will be assigned to Officer Derrik Quinlan. Derrik has been an officer with the OPD since August of 2015 and has been a uniformed patrol officer since his hire. In addition to his patrol duties, Derrik has been one of the advisors with the Police Explorers Unit. Congratulations Derrik and we look forward to you growing into your new role.

Ofc. Anthony Malepsy was a recent hire as a patrol officer. Tony just completed his field training and will be out on solo patrol beginning this weekend. Congratulations Tony!

## Catalytic Converter Thefts—

Catalytic converter thefts locally are on the increase, particularly in business lots or fleet storage lots. To detract a would be thief, consider parking in well-lit areas and close to building entrances, consider marking your converter with high temperature fluorescent paint, or consider adding a security device or have it welded into place. During a recent theft, a surveillance camera caught an image of a dark colored suspect vehicle—see below. If you recognize this vehicle or have any information about these crimes, please contact the Detective Bureau at 507-774-7207.



## Our Team

**Administration**  
 Police Chief Keith Hiller  
 Captain Eric Rethemeier  
 Captain Jeff Mundale

**Sergeants**  
 Jason Petterson  
 Andy DeViny  
 Andy Drenth  
 Josh Sorensen  
 Tracy DuChene  
 Jason Matejcek  
 Zack Schumaker

**Detectives**  
 Brady Vaith  
 Christian Berg  
 Ben Johnson  
 Steven Bowman  
 Valerie Sadro  
 Travis Ardolf

**Patrol Officers**  
 Joel Hunt  
 Matt Deltjenbruns  
 Andrew Van Osdale  
 Melissa Michael  
 Alan Callahan  
 Derrik 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  
 Dietrich Piepho

**Records Staff**  
 Kate Schroeder  
 Renee Babcock  
 Rebecca Melchert  
 ShaLee Ebertowski