



10-4

A weekly Q&A
with local
law enforcement

Submit your question to news@owatonna.com or 444-2379

Q: Who are the Owatonna Police Explorers?

A: Integrated into the Owatonna Police Department is a Police Explorer Post, and that may have you asking, who are the Explorers and what do they do? The Explorers meet once every other Sunday with Owatonna Police Officers at 6:30 p.m. at the Law Enforcement Center. The Police Explorer program is open to anyone who has completed eighth grade and is 14-years-old, or anyone ages 15-20.

The Police Explorers are designed to provide young men and women interested in a law enforcement career with accurate career information, experience in the field, and hands on training. The Explorer program also concentrates on the following five aspects: Career opportunities, life skills, service learning, character education, and leadership experience.

At each meeting the Explorers participate in scenario based training with their advisors. Some of the training includes; traffic stops, domestic crisis intervention, search and arrest, hostage negotiations, burglary in progress, and many more. Classroom curriculum of each topic is taught, and is succeeded by realistic scenarios that are used for further training and education.

Police Exploring provides a great network for one to get involved with the law enforcement community. Within the Owatonna Police Department former Police Explorers are; sworn police officers, community service officers, and attending college for a degree in law enforcement. Anyone interested in obtaining more information should contact Sergeant von Wald, Officer Fogel, Officer Hunt, or Community Service Officer Kirchner at 451-8232.

SCOTT KIRCHNER
Community Service Officer