



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

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Mom and Son Arrested in Traffic Stop—

On December 15th, a patrol officer stopped a vehicle for a driver's license violation—the officer knew the male driver and learned his driving status was suspended. As the officer approached the vehicle, he observed the driver making furtive movements toward the center console and passenger floorboard area. The officer also noted behaviors and indicia in the vehicle of drug usage—our canine Vegas was summoned to the scene. Vegas conducted an external sniff of the vehicle and gave indicators of drugs use in the car—the driver was placed under arrest for suspicion of DWI. The vehicle was also occupied by a female party. During a search of the vehicle, presumptive methamphetamine and marijuana was found in the female's purse and she was subsequently arrested. Clif Caron, age 25 of Owatonna, and Tanya Ackerman, age 49 of Owatonna, son and mother, were brought to



Clif Caron



Tanya Ackerman

the Steele County Detention Center, booked and released pending formal charges.

Headlights On—

The law is simple... If you're behind the wheel and there's precipitation, your vehicle's

headlights, taillights and marker lights need to be turned on. Even if it's just a light flurry. Drivers might assume the sensors will activate all of the vehicle's lights in reduced visibilities, but that is not always the case. They do not always turn on automatically, especially during the day. That's why it's important to consult your owner's manual and learn how to turn your lights on manually. Seeing *and* being seen can help reduce your chances of being involved in a crash, so be sure to

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double check that your vehicle's headlights, taillights, and marker lights are shining before heading out on the road. Ultimately, it's one more way to drive smart and keep yourself and others safe on Minnesota roads.

DWI Testing Refusal Charges Filed—

Early Sunday morning, a patrol officer stopped a vehicle for a registration violation. When the officer initiated the stop, the driver was slow to stop, finally pulling into a driveway. The officer met with the driver and observed signs of intoxication. He also found the driver to have an outstanding arrest warrant. The officer attempted to arrest the driver; however, the driver attempted to walk away—he was taken into custody, but not before becoming belligerent and yelling. Once the at the jail the driver continued to be uncooperative and refused any further DWI testing. Robert Santiago, age 49 of Owatonna, has been charged with 2nd Degree DWI-Refusal to Submit to a Chemical [Breath] Test.



Roberto Santiago

Our Team

Administration

- Police Chief Keith Hiller
- Captain Eric Rethemeier
- Captain Jeff Mundale
- Captain Josh Sorensen

Sergeants

- Jason Petterson
- Andy DeVinny
- Andy Drenth
- Tracy DuChene
- Jason Matejcek
- Zack Schumaker
- Benjamin Johnson

Detectives

- Christian Berg
- Steven Bowman
- Valerie Satre
- Travis Ardolf
- Derrick Quinlan

Patrol Officers

- Joel Hunt
- Brady Vaith
- Matt Oeltjenbruns
- Andrew Van Osdale
- Melissa Michael
- Alan Callahan
- Alexandra Vogel
- Casey Martin
- Luke Selvik
- Travis Johnson
- Benjamin Metcalf
- Joshua Lee
- Anna Martin
- Zachary Plein
- John Van Alstine
- Jeremy Katz
- Michael Brein
- Anthony Malepsy
- Kyle Martin
- Matthew Lounsbury

Community Service Officers

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- Gabrielle Flemming
- Julia Hansen

Canine

- Vegas

Support Staff

- Kimberly Dub
- Pam Roberts
- Wendy Gasner

Chaplains

- Brent Carlson
- Loren Olson

Reserve Officers

- Michael Leyva
- Steve Wrede
- Gabrielle Flemming
- Maddie Ziegler
- Dietrich Piepho

Records Staff

- Kate Schroeder
- Renee Babcock
- Rebecca Melchert

From the team at the Owatonna Police Department

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

In observance of the Christmas Holiday, police administration and records will be closed on Thursday, December 23rd and Friday, December 24th.



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