



The Patrol

Serving the communities of Wayzata and Long Lake

THE COMPLAINT DEPARTMENT

At the Wayzata Police Department, we respond to complaints about various issues or activities just about every day. In this issue of *The Patrol*, we'll discuss two that we receive on a regular basis.

Bicycles – A common complaint relates to bicyclists traveling through town and disregarding stop signs and pedestrians walking in crosswalks. Bicyclists riding on the roadway are required to adhere to the same traffic laws as motor vehicles. That means they must stop at stop signs and yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. They can travel side by side in pairs, but no more than two at a time. Based on complaints, the police department has directed patrols to watch for and enforce these driving and riding laws.

School Bus Stop Arms – School is in full swing, so motorists need to be aware of school buses stopping to load and offload students. It seems that at the start of each school year there is some confusion as to when you must stop for a school bus with its' red lights flashing and stop arm extended. Most of the confusion occurs on 4-lane roadways (Central Ave. near the Wayzata Medical Building for example). Drivers sometimes believe that only the vehicles on the same side of the road as the bus must stop. That is NOT correct. That's only the case on a divided highway. In Wayzata and Long Lake, every time you encounter a school bus with red lights flashing and stop arm extended, you MUST stop. Violations of this law are either a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor.

FROM THE CHIEF

On behalf of the entire Wayzata Police staff, I'd like to offer our thanks to the community for all of the support over this past year. I've been the police chief in Wayzata for nearly 15 years and have always felt a strong level of support from our residents and business community. The love and kindness shown in the last year, however, has been nothing short of amazing! We thank you!!!

In a period of eight short days (August 31st and September 8th), we remembered two Wayzata heroes. Sgt. James Anderson and Officer Bill Mathews made the ultimate sacrifice, each giving their own life while protecting and serving others. It's important to never forget their service and sacrifices. These two tragedies have taken a significant toll on our community and our police department. The kindness shown by the people of Wayzata and Long Lake is heartwarming and inspiring. We will never forget the officers or your support.

DISTRACTED DRIVING CHANGES LIVES

Distracted driving does change lives. Just ask the family of Officer Bill Mathews, who was struck and killed by a distracted and impaired driver last fall. The lives of Bill's wife, young son, father, brother, co-workers, and friends have been changed forever. Why? Because someone chose to pay attention to their cell phone instead of the 6-lane freeway system they were travelling on. The phone was more important than the safety of that driver and others.



The crash that took the life of Officer Mathews is not an anomaly. Distracted driving is the leading cause of motor vehicle crashes in Minnesota and nationwide. Thousands of lives in the U.S. are lost each year because of distracted driving, with cellular devices being the most common cause. Pictured above is the vehicle of 16 year-old Marcus, who was killed while driving his 12 minute trip to work. He became distracted and his car drifted off the road. This vehicle appeared in the 2018 James J. Hill Days parade as a reminder of the dangers of distracted driving. Pay attention! Lives, including your own, depend on it!



Police Chief Mike Risvold



QUARTERLY STATISTICS

June 2018

Part 1 Crimes:

Robbery, homicide, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, shoplifting, theft from vehicles, theft, bicycle theft, etc. 12

Part 2 Crimes:

Non-weapon assaults, fraud, vandalism, drugs, DWI, liquor laws, suspicion, curfew, runaways, etc. 48

Traffic & Parking:

Citations, verbal warnings, written warnings, bike citations, etc. 507

Medical & Other:

Trespassing, medical, fire alarm, found property, hazardous conditions, MV accidents, etc. 486

July 2018

Part 1 Crimes:

Robbery, homicide, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, shoplifting, theft from vehicles, theft, bicycle theft, etc. 9

Part 2 Crimes:

Non-weapon assaults, fraud, vandalism, drugs, DWI, liquor laws, suspicion, curfew, runaways, etc. 31

Traffic & Parking:

Citations, verbal warnings, written warnings, bike citations, etc. 451

Medical & Other:

Trespassing, medical, fire alarm, found property, hazardous conditions, MV accidents, etc. 466

August 2018

Part 1 Crimes:

Robbery, homicide, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, shoplifting, theft from vehicles, theft, bicycle theft, etc. 17

Part 2 Crimes:

Non-weapon assaults, fraud, vandalism, drugs, DWI, liquor laws, suspicion, curfew, runaways, etc. 44

Traffic & Parking:

Citations, verbal warnings, written warnings, bike citations, etc. 339

Medical & Other:

Trespassing, medical, fire alarm, found property, hazardous conditions, MV accidents, etc. 450