



# The BLOTTER

Your place for up to date Police information

## A Brand New Addition!!-



Recently there has been a new addition to the Duluth Police Department. Some of you may have met her or have seen pictures. We would like to introduce "Kallie" a 1 1/2 year-old black Labrador Retriever who hails from the state of Maryland. Kallie has been teamed up with DTA Community Officer Jeremy O'Connor and works

a rotating shift throughout the year. The team went through 10 weeks of training and is trained in explosives and firearms detection work.

In their short time since graduating their academy they have already been hard at work. They were called to the International Falls High School after a threat there. Thankfully everything turned out and everyone was safe. They have been used by the 148<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing conducting precautionary sweeps at special events, have been called to multiple abandoned/suspicious bag incidents.

Kallie is super social and really enjoys playing tug of war, treats and food in general!!!

## Highlighting Great Work -

I would like to take some time and highlight some great police work done by members of "Patrol Group C". On January 30<sup>th</sup> Officers took reports of multiple vehicles that were damaged in the Technology Village Parking Ramp. The vehicles had tires slashed, windows broken and gas tanks punctured. In addition to all of the damaged vehicles, the suspects also tampered with security cameras in an attempt to get away with their destructive actions.

Officer Tomlin and his partners arrived and launched a full investigation! Officers followed up on leads, viewed camera footage and were able to identify three suspects. By the end of the day they had identified, located and interviewed the suspects. All reports were forwarded for felony charging and the case is closed.

This is a great example of a Patrol Officer going the extra mile and solving this crime, giving the victims some closure. It is awesome to highlight incidents like this, but rest assured the Officers of this department do their best on a daily basis to ensure safety throughout the entire city.

## **Discretion-**

Why do some people get citations and other do not.

As police Officers, we have discretion when it comes to how we handle most situations that we encounter. Under certain circumstances, such as Domestic Violence incidents, State law has taken away our discretion. Other than a select few incidents, patrol Officers are left to determine the most appropriate resolution.

It is often hard to describe all the factors that influence an Officers decision to someone. There are an infinite amount of factors that can have an effect on the outcome, severity of the offense, previous police contacts for similar issues and the report from the person calling 911 are just a few that come into play.

As Police Officers, we are called upon to handle a variety of situations throughout our shift. A main reason we exist is to change behavior. I know what you are thinking...is it that simple? Throughout our shifts we encounter people that break City Ordinances and State Laws. One of our main objectives is to change behaviors of those breaking Ordinances and Laws. We have many tools at our disposal to attempt to change behaviors.

Sometimes this means a person will receive a warning for a violation, a citation or even get arrested! People will often ask, how to you decide what to do? When I trained new Officers, I would be asked this same question. My answer has always been the same. There are certain crimes that State Statute says we "shall" arrest, we have no choice. For the other instances, if we can change behaviors with a warning and education and remain confident it will get the job done, then so be it. There are times when a person has demonstrated that a warning will not change their behavior, and then a citation may be issued. This is the reason we do not ticket or arrest everyone we stop. Every situation is different and we are only looking to change behaviors.

