

# Squad 99 Police Blotter

Duluth Police Department

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## What's going on?

### *A look inside the Community Policing Office...*

As many of you know, just because the weather outside has changed to frigid cold, doesn't necessarily mean that the work for the Police Department slows down. Officers in the Community Policing Office have been working on some exciting projects lately! We are developing new plans for homeless outreach to better serve the people in our community that are struggling in hopes that we can have a positive impact on their life and most importantly help them to a stable, healthy lifestyle. There are community meetings scheduled to work with stakeholders to address issues we experienced last summer in hopes that we can minimize or eliminate certain issues. There are also plans to redesign our Bike Patrol Unit to have more Officers out interacting with the public during the summer months!!

## What's a "Pinning Ceremony"?

### *A story of new careers...*

For a little over a month there have been 15 new faces navigating the hallways of the Duluth Police Department. They are currently in the academy portion of their training. They are learning some new skills unique to our agency and getting a refresher on some others during the 10-week academy.

This group is special in many ways. It has been said that this is the largest academy class of new recruits that our city has seen. The group consists of Officers that are brand new to our profession, Officers with a few years of experience and some with many years of experience from around the country that have made the decision to come back to their home town.

The pinning Ceremony is a time for the new Officers to be formally recognized as the most recent academy graduates and Officers representing our agency and community. It is a time to share with their families and the community they are going to serve. During the ceremony a loved one "pins" the Officers new badge on their chest, signifying the next step in their career with the Duluth Police Department. This is why is called a "Pinning Ceremony". Please join us at the DECC , January 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm!!!

## Fun Facts from December



Miles Walked – 111

Business Contacts - 115

Parking Enforcement  
Contacts - 10

Meetings (hours) - 4

Self-Initiated Field Activity  
and Community Engagement  
Events - 28

Citations - 2

Arrests –2

Police stickers Handed out-  
too many to count...



## Hey...who is that?!

### *Introducing your new Duluth Transit Authority Officer...*

Officer Jeremy O'Connor was born and raised in Duluth and has lived in West Duluth his entire life. He is a Denfeld High School Grad and went on to obtain his Bachelor's Degree in Criminology at UMD and his Associate's Degree in Law Enforcement at FDLTCC. In his free time, Officer O'Connor enjoys playing recreational hockey in the winter and soccer in the summer. He also enjoys mountain biking and going on hikes with his dog Kaiser.

This is Officer O'Connor's 4<sup>th</sup> year as an Officer with the Duluth Police Department. He recently started his new role as the Duluth Transit Authority Officer based out of the East Community Officer Substation in the Duluth Transit Center. Officer O'Connor likes to be active within the community and building positive

relationships with our youth. He is currently an advisor to the department's Police Explorers Program and a member of the Lake Superior Child Abduction Response Team.

## Its COLD outside!!

### *A tale of the missing car...*

A couple of weeks ago Officers working dayshift downtown took a vehicle theft report. It was a cold day with sub-zero temps and a brisk wind. It turns out this was a situation that Officers see every winter, multiple times.

The vehicle owner was at work and understandably did not want to drive home in a cold car. Hey... what's wrong with letting it warm up for a bit? The owner did not have a remote start. We can all see where this is going ...

A few minutes after starting the vehicle and leaving the keys in it, the vehicle owner discovered the vehicle was GONE! Thankfully this story ends well and the vehicle was discovered a while later, abandoned in a parking lot.

This is a great reminder for all who do not have a remote start in their vehicle. Please, do not give criminals an opportunity to victimize you. You may remember from past Blotter articles that many of the "property crimes" are crimes of opportunity. Please, please, please... use a remote start if you are going to leave your vehicle unattended, do not leave any valuables in your vehicle, lock your doors and do your best to park in a well-lit area if you are coming or going after dark.

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR!!!!**

