



HUGO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2025



NEW UNIT MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE

The Sheriff's Office kicked off 2025 by introducing its new Community Impact Unit, which in its first several weeks has conducted speed saturations, coordinated an apprehension in St. Paul and assisted with a violent incident in Scandia in a moving vehicle — and, after a traffic stop where the driver fled, arrested a person with active warrants for felony threats of violence, gross misdemeanor domestic assault and felony fleeing police. The countywide patrol unit's leader, WCSO veteran Sgt. Joe Stoehr, explained that CIU combines the Special investigations Unit with the Special Enforcement Team to help bring a more concentrated approach to street-level community concerns like speeding and other traffic safety issues, but also to address complaints ranging from barking dogs to junk houses. "We can be more consistent and come up with more creative solution in addressing things," Sgt. Stoehr said, like working directly with residents and property owners or coordinating discussions between residents and city staff. CIU has four dedicated patrol officers and specially marked black squads. Be sure to follow the [WCSO Facebook page](#), where we'll be posting updates on CIU's efforts!

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

338

TRAFFIC STOPS

250

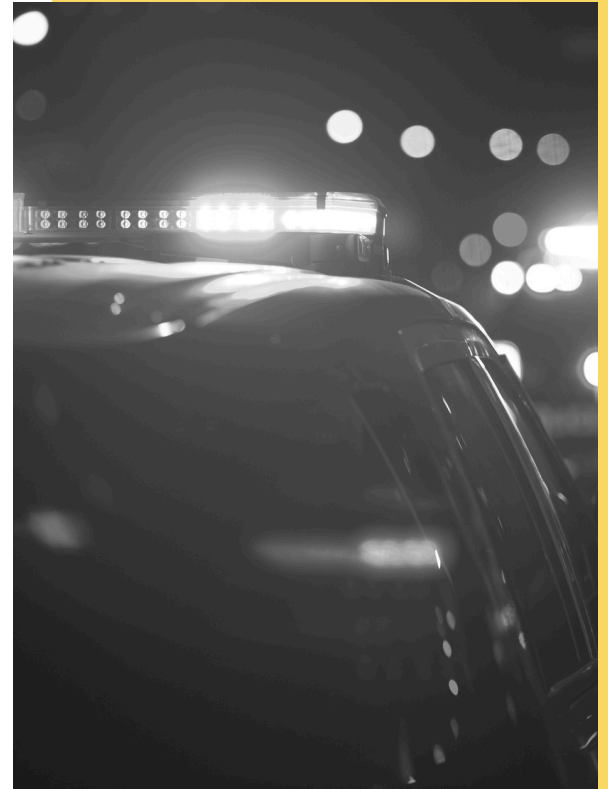
CITATIONS ISSUED

60

WC25002185 SUSPICIOUS PERSON

14XXX VICTOR HUGO BOULEVARD N

At 5:47pm, deputies got a report of a suspicious man in a black hoodie in the trees separating townhomes and a clinic. The man was reported to be watching people, possibly chasing someone, creeping around and hiding when cars passed. While searching the area, deputies found a non-running truck with a child and a puppy inside. The license plate registered to a person who had been served an order for protection, prohibiting contact with his ex-wife. The truck was parked near the ex-wife's unit. One deputy stayed with the child while others continued the search, eventually finding and detaining the man, who said he had been there to try to retrieve some property. Deputies found he had a screwdriver and his ex-wife's passport. She indicated it had been on her counter, so deputies suspected he had used the screwdriver to get inside and take the passport — a clear violation of the OFP. Deputies arrested him and he was transported to Washington County Jail on charges of 2nd degree burglary, possession of burglary tools, violation of an order for protection, theft, neglect of a child, mistreatment of an animal, property damage and failure to obtain a new driver's license after an address change.



MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

In addition to the new Community Impact Unit highlighted on the front page of this month's newsletter, the Sheriff's Office is also pleased to introduce a few leadership transitions in several of our communities, with a goal of continuous improvement, fresh perspectives and adaptability in mind. These are veteran sergeants who will not only lead their deputies but will actively patrol and will be your newest community liaisons. In Hugo, please welcome Sgt. Matt Wieland. Previously, Sgt. Wieland was with the Special Services Division, where he was responsible for supervising the Sheriff's Office fleet operations, with well over 100 vehicles, boats, ATVs and other important equipment. In addition to his fleet duties, he also oversaw the Civil and Evidence units. He has been with WCSO since 2001 and has held various positions including patrol deputy, Lake Elmo Contract deputy, canine handler, Explorer adviser and Patrol sergeant. We encourage you to reach out to him with questions or concerns at matt.wieland@washingtontywn.gov.

Another change to note for the New Year: Following the rest of Washington County, all Sheriff's Office emails now have a new extension: @washingtontywn.gov. Emails sent to the former extension, @co.washington.mn.us, will still go through for a period, but you might consider updating your contacts to make sure you don't miss anything from us!

In service,

Sheriff Dan Starry

