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JUNE

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LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



THIS ISSUE:

- *Police Week and Police Officer Memorial Day*
- *Ask a Cop - Noise Ordinances*
- *Training Topics - Spring Refresher Annual Training*
- *Social Media Highlight - Officer Peterson Cleaning Up The Streets*
- *Reserve Review*
- *Calls for Service Report*

POLICE WEEK AND POLICE OFFICER MEMORIAL DAY

Each May, law enforcement agencies across the country take time to observe National Police Week and Police Officer Memorial Day. While our work continues day in and day out, this week offers a dedicated time to pause, reflect, and honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving their communities.

Police Officer Memorial Day, observed annually on May 15th, is a solemn reminder of the dangers that come with the badge. It's a day where flags fly at half-staff, names are read aloud at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., and departments big and small take time to remember their own. These are not just names etched into stone, they are parents, siblings, partners, and friends. They were protectors of their communities, and they stood for something greater than themselves.

Locally, we marked the day with quiet reflection and appreciation—not just for those we've lost, but also for the support we continue to receive from our community. That support matters. Whether it's a wave from a passing driver, a thank you card sent to the police department, or simply the understanding that we're all working toward the same goal: a safe, thriving community. It fuels us more than most people know.

National Police Week, which encompasses May 15th, serves to not only remember those lost but to recognize the service and sacrifice of all law enforcement professionals. From major cities to small towns, officers put themselves in harm's way every day, often with little fanfare. It's a week that reminds us why we do what we do and why it's worth doing right.

At the La Crescent Police Department, Police Week is more than a line on the calendar. It's an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to service, to remember those who have gone before us, and to thank those who stand beside us today. We are proud to serve this community, and we carry the memory of the fallen with us every time we put on the uniform.

To our community: thank you for continuing to stand with us.



TRAINING TOPICS - SPRING REFRESHER ANNUAL TRAINING

This year's countywide Spring Refresher gave officers a chance to revisit core skills and get hands-on exposure to new resources. Training included reviews of handcuffing techniques, safe suspect handling, and scenario-based call response exercises, critical tools that help us stay sharp and consistent in the field.

Alongside the basics, we were introduced to some of the newer technology now available to our area. One highlight was an exposure training with the County Posse's Drone Team. These unmanned aerial systems are already proving valuable in search and rescue efforts and scene documentation, and this session gave officers a better understanding of how they can assist during real-world incidents.

Refresher training like this helps ensure we're working safely, legally, and effectively—and gives us a chance to learn from our partners across the county. Our thanks to the Sheriff's Office for organizing another successful and relevant training.

ASK A COP - FIREWORKS ORDINANCES

"What fireworks can I shoot off in town?"

Minnesota has specific rules when it comes to fireworks, and knowing them can help you avoid a ticket. In Minnesota, most explosive or aerial fireworks are illegal for consumer use. That includes firecrackers, bottle rockets, Roman candles, and anything else that flies or explodes.

What is legal? You can use things like: wire or wooden sparklers (under 100 grams), cones and tubes that emit sparks (non-aerial), snakes, glow worms, smoke devices, and trick noisemakers like party poppers and snappers

These items must be used on private property—not in streets, parks, or public spaces. You also have to be 18 or older to buy them, and stores must check ID at the time of purchase. If you're ever unsure, feel free to reach out. We'd rather answer your question than see anyone get hurt or cited.

Stay safe and have a fun (and legal) celebration!

- Officer Weinfurtner



SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHT - OFFICER PETERSON CLEANING UP THE STREETS

High winds rolled through town recently, and with them came all kinds of unexpected hazards, downed branches, blown-over signs, and in one case, a large trash dumpster that had shifted adjacent to a traffic lane.

Officer Peterson responded to the scene and found the industrial-sized dumpster near the roadway, posing a risk to passing vehicles. With no time to wait and the wind still howling, he took matters into his own hands, literally, and pushed the dumpster back into a safe, secure position.

While it might not be in the job description, this is a great example of the everyday problem-solving officers do to keep the community safe. Whether it's calming a scene, directing traffic, or wrangling rogue dumpsters in a windstorm, we're lucky to have officers like Peterson who step up when it counts. Thanks for the muscle and the quick thinking, Officer Peterson!

MAY CALLS FOR SERVICE

393 Total Calls for Service

Notable Call Types:

911 (Hang Ups and Open Lines) - 10
Accidents - 5
Accident With Injuries - 1
Alarms - 4
Animal Complaints - 15
Assist Other Agency - 22
Child (Calls Involving) - 13
Civil Matter - 3
Community Policing - 28
Damage to Property - 2
Death - 1
Domestic - 3
Extra Patrol - 16
Foot Patrol - 2
Found Property - 7
Harassment - 1
Intoxicated Person - 1
Juvenile (Calls Involving) - 6
Lost Property - 7
MAARC Report - 1
Medical - 18
Motor Vehicle Unlock - 2
Noise Complaint - 2
Open Door - 3
Ordinance Violation - 9
Parking Complaint - 10
Public Assist - 5
Public Hazard - 7
Scams - 3
Suspicious - 13
Theft - 4
Traffic Complaint - 13
Traffic Stop - 83
Trouble With Party - 15
Welfare Checks - 10



RESERVE REVIEW

The last two months we switched things up a little bit. Rather than receiving training, our reserve officers assisted sworn law enforcement throughout Houston County by “acting” in scenarios. Reserves played the roles of suspect, victim, witness, and bystander in various scenarios for required continuing education credits for the officers and deputies.

-Corporal Clark

