



WEST ST. PAUL POLICE DEPARTMENT

1616 HUMBOLDT AVENUE, WEST ST. PAUL, MN 55118-3972

Police Administration 651-552-4200 Fax: 651-552-4199

www.wspmn.gov

February 1, 2024

TO: Mayor O'Leary and Council Members
FROM: Chief Brian Sturgeon
SUBJECT: Calls for Service -December 20, 2023 – January 19, 2024 and Public Safety Report

Below is a summary of the calls for service from December 20, 2023 through January 19, 2024.

Harassment

- Internet Harassment – Caller was being harassed by an unknown person on a Facebook group including the harasser posting photographs of the caller's child that was taken off of Facebook. The caller was provided information on removal procedures of the photographs and information to contact Facebook as well.

Suspicious Activity

- The homeowner is out of town and sees on their ring camera that a Xfinity van pulled into driveway and what sounds like a car alarm going off. Spoke with Tom from Comcast who advised they are servicing an internet line going to an adjoining property.
- Black truck with greenish lettering on side has a young female in the backseat with red tape over mouth. Female waved with one hand. Caller reported that a state trooper was behind the vehicle. Caller could not see a license plate of the truck and had limited description of the truck. Several officers checked the area but did not locate anything. State Patrol was also contacted but they were not aware of anything related to this incident.
- Unoccupied vehicle parked in back of the church lot. Came back clear. No apparent issues.
- New construction site and officers located a utility trailer with rear door ajar with tools and product within it and fresh footprints. Checked building/site. No issues were observed and the door was closed.
- Suspicious vehicle out front in the cul-de-sac running with lights on with no one around it. Caller thinks someone was possibly in the back. Officer made contact with occupants who stated they were just "hanging out". They were advised to move along and not "hang out" in the area.

Traffic Stop

- SS- Driver warned for speed and headlight.
- MH – Warned for speed and fail to maintain lane.
- MH – Warned for maintaining lane.
- WS – Warned for tint, headlight and stopped in crosswalk.
- WS – Warned for lane usage. Driving between two lanes with flashers on.
- MH – Warned for stoplight violation.
- MH – Citation for stoplight violation.
- IG – Warned for expired registration and no seatbelt.
- IG – Warned for tint on windows.
- IG – Warned for expired registration and no headlights.
- WS – Warned for expired registration, brake light and no proof of insurance.
- WS – Warned for failure to signal lane change and turn.
- IG – Citation for expired registration.
- MH – Warned for expired registration.

Animal Call

"We Serve with Honor and Integrity"

- Loose dog previously on highway but now in the wooded area near the intersection. Officers were unable to find the dog.

911 Hangup

- Talking in background but cannot hear what is being said. No distress heard. Vehicle traveling on HWY 62 and well out of jurisdiction. No answer on callback.
- Open line call with automated crash notification. Talked with wife who made contact with the husband who confirmed he dropped the phone.

Alarm

- Foyer motion detector. Alarm company received a cancel code while enroute. Squads cancelled.
- Foyer motion detector. Residence has gated driveway and is secluded from roadway. Approached on foot and noted no tracks or footprints. Home secure.
- Residential alarm sounding. Caller is home alone with child. Thinks she heard a pop and all the alarms went off. Homeowner would like home and area check. Officers checked and nothing suspicious was found. There was a power outage in the area with several alarm calls in West St Paul and Mendota Heights at the same time.

Road and Driving Complaint

- Silver Mercedes had been driving into oncoming traffic and almost hit a car. Caller no longer in area. Officers were unable to locate vehicle and it was not at the registered owner's address.

Detail

- Placed temporary stop sign and Salem Church Rd and Salem Lane.

Follow-up

- Returned a phone call reference a previously reported fraud case. The caller provided more information regarding fraudulent charges.

Juvenile Complaint

- Reporter is on a Facebook chat with neighbors, and it was reported to the caller that high school aged kids were having drag races overnight. Officer will advise the night shift.

Items for Discussion

At the June Council meeting we talked about the legislative session that allocated \$23,062 to the City of Sunfish Lake for additional funds for public safety related initiatives. At this meeting, I brought up an idea to purchase one or two portable cameras that are mounted on electrical poles in order to record and provide real time video of locations which are of concern such as areas of illegal dumping. At that time it appeared to have support by Council.

In December of 2023, the City of Sunfish Lake did receive the allocated funding and we can move forward with the purchase of a camera system. I would suggest if the Council is still in favor of this initiative, we order one camera at this time. I have received a quote from a local vendor, Mobile Pro Systems, in the amount of \$9,997.00. There is also a one-time license requirement that is an additional cost.

The West St Paul Police Department has several camera systems in use from Mobile Pro already, that is integrated into our camera management system. This addition is a simple integration into our already existing platform.

If it is the desire of the Council to move forward, I would like approval to utilize funds, not to exceed \$11,000 in order to purchase this camera system. I have attached information on the camera and the quote for your review.

Respectfully,



Chief Brian Sturgeon

2023 ALARM CALLS

	Current	2023 YTD	2022YTD
January	3	3	3
February	3	6	9
March	6	12	10
April	5	17	14
May	1	18	15
June	1	19	18
July	6	25	18
August	2	27	22
September	2	29	23
October	5	34	25
November	0	34	27
December	3	37	30

Numbers indicate burglar alarms received regardless if a cancellation was received prior to officer arrival.

February 2, 2024