

**Police Chief**

Shane Mikkelson

**Lieutenant**

Todd Kintzi

**Full Time Officers**

Officer Zitzlsperger

Officer Starry

Officer Peterson

Officer Letourneau

Officer Swanson

Officer Norten

Officer Gallegos

**CSO's**

Justin Engelmann

Bobby Greene

**Part Time Officers**

Chris Hudok

Drew Moldenhauer

**Reserve Officers**

John Grimm

Davin Hegland

Melanie Estrada

Shawn Muschik

**Office Manager**

Felicia Wallgren

# Blue Line Dispatch

## From your Chief

Hello City of Osseo!

We are just getting over the Christmas Season, and your Osseo Police Department is working and ready to help you with any issues you may have. I want to take this time to let you know about a few programs that we offer to our residents.



Chief Shane Mikkelson

The first program available to our residents is the Car Seat Clinic. The Osseo Police Department, North Memorial Heath, and Safe Kids Northwest Metro are partnering to teach you how to correctly install and use child car restraints. Our next car seat clinic will be at the Osseo Public Works Facility on March 19, 2024 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. For more information, please email Officer Starry at [hstarry@ci.osseo.mn.us](mailto:hstarry@ci.osseo.mn.us).

The second program we have available is free coats for people in need. We have sizes for youth to adult. If you know of someone who needs a coat, please reach out to us, and we would be happy to help in any way we can. It is that time of year to reach out and help someone in need.

As we head into 2024, please let us know what we can do for you. The Officers of this department are willing to help in any way. We are here when you need us and always on duty!

## City Ordinance Alert

The Osseo Police Department has been noting an uptick in 24-hour parking violations. We want to remind you that city ordinance 71.01(A) states that no vehicle shall be parked on any street or highway in the city for more than 24 hours. Having a parking permit displayed does not exclude you from abiding by this ordinance.



Officers will chalk the tires of vehicles for 24-hour parking. When they return, they are looking to see if the vehicle has moved. A citation will be issued if the vehicle has not moved. They will then recheck it 24 hours later. If it still hasn't been moved, it will be issued another citation and impounded at Citywide Towing.

*Leadership*  
*Commitment*  
*Service*



## Winter Driving Tips

Now that temps are finally getting colder and snow falling, here are some winter driving tips to help you prevent an accident and stay out of the ditch.



**Slow down:** It's harder to control or stop your vehicle on slick or snow-covered roads and increase your following distance so you have plenty of time to stop for vehicles ahead of you.

If the roads are slick or snow-covered, drive at a SAFE speed. It's ok to drive under the speed limit in slick conditions, driving at a higher speed in these conditions is dangerous.

**Vehicle equipment:** clear all your windows completely of snow and frost. Do not drive with only a portion of the window clear as this will allow you to see any hazards in the roadway.

Service your vehicle regularly and check your tire pressure. Proper air pressure in your tires helps with traction in the snow. If your vehicle does not have snow tires, consider installing them.

Make sure both of your headlights are working. One less headlight takes away a lot of visibility and will make it hard to see what's in front of you.

**Be prepared:** With the cold temps, it is a good idea to make a winter emergency bag with a blanket, gloves and hat, extra socks, and even extra jacket or clothes. This bag will help you stay warm if you break down or go in a ditch. Sometimes, it can take a while before a tow truck or someone else can get to you.

If you're taking a road trip or traveling a few hours away, consider letting others know where you're going and what route you're taking. Check-in with them during stops and when you arrive at your destination. Check the weather daily, and plan for extra travel time. Most mornings, there is frost on the ground that causes slick roads; if a snowfall is expected, give yourself even more time for travel the roads always seem to be worse than expected.

**Dress appropriately:** Dress in warm layers. If you can't bring extra clothes or have your emergency bag with you. Keep a pair of winter boots in your car as well.

If you have an infant, heavy, thick coats or clothing can interfere with proper harness fit in a car seat. They should wear warm, thin layers for proper harness fit then place blankets or coats around your child for extra warmth.

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## Crime Prevention

Happy New Year! Are you planning on taking a trip this year? Are you worried about leaving your home behind? Thinking you left your garage door open, or the front door unlocked? Did you know the Osseo Police Department offers vacation house checks to help put your mind at ease? So, you can fully enjoy your vacation knowing that your home is safe. If you are planning a trip, stop by the Osseo Police Department and let us know so we can keep an eye on your home while you are away.



Here are some tips before your trip:

- Make your home look occupied even when you are not home.
  - ⇒ Set up lights on timers.
  - ⇒ Put your mail on hold when you are out of town.
- Lock up your house.
  - ⇒ Lock all windows. Close all curtains/blinds.
  - ⇒ Lock all doors.
  - ⇒ If you have an Alarm System, don't forget to activate it.



To sign up for Vacation House Checks, you must stop by the Osseo Police Department (415 Central Ave) and fill out the Vacation form. The form includes your name, address, and dates you would like your property to be checked. If you plan on having lights set on timers, please provide that information so that the OPD Team is aware when checking your property. The OPD Team will check your property and ensure that your home is secure and in the same condition as you left it. Once you return, you will be provided with a log of all the house checks completed on your property while you were away.

Are you a Business Owner in Osseo? The OPD team has a program that allows you to share contact information so we can get ahold of you during non-business hours. Does your business have cameras? The OPD Team is creating a list of businesses with cameras in case of crimes committed in the area. Please let us know where your cameras are located to help the OPD Team protect your business and our residents even more. The OPD Team will contact keyholders in the following situations:

- Officers find your business unsecured.
  - ⇒ Open door/window.
  - ⇒ Broken door/window.
- Alarms at your business.
- Vandalism.

To register as your business's key holder, please email [Osseopd@ci.osseo.mn.us](mailto:Osseopd@ci.osseo.mn.us). You will then receive an email from the OPD team to register your business.

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## From your Lieutenant

### Osseo Police Community Services Officers

A few months ago, the Osseo City Council approved hiring a part-time Community Service Officer (CSO) to supplement the needs of the police department.

What is a CSO, you ask? CSO's are civilian staff tasked to aid Osseo's sworn police officers by responding to lower-priority calls for services that do not require a sworn officer. They wear a similar uniform as police officers and drive a marked squad; however, they do not have arrest authority.



LT. Todd Kintzi

We were lucky to have two candidates apply for the position, and we hired them both. Both CSO's currently share one part-time position and collectively work 32 hours per week. Our CSO's are currently enrolled in college classes to earn a degree to become police officers. Our goal is once our CSO's are eligible to become sworn police officers, we can promote them and save the city money and time with the expense and long field training process associated with hiring a new officer.

Some types of calls CSO's handle include vehicle lockout, motorists assist, animal control, department vehicle needs, parking enforcement, traffic control at accidents, non-custodial transports, and some code enforcement. Since launching our CSO program this fall, our CSO's have done a great job helping the department. Often, police officers would have to transport evidence to the BCA in Saint Paul or The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office in Minneapolis, taking an officer out of the city and unavailable for calls.

Having a CSO on duty will help keep our sworn officers in Osseo patrolling our streets while these administrative details can be done by our CSO's. CSO's will also patrol the city and be an extra set of eyes and ears in town, keeping watch. For more information about the Osseo CSO program, please contact the Osseo Police Department.

## What's Happening in your neighborhood?

### Incidents:

Motorist Assist – On the 9700 block of 93rd Ave; An officer found a vehicle blocking the roadway. The officer found that the vehicle had become disable and provided emergency lights while a tow was called to remove the vehicle.

Traffic stop – An officer conducted a traffic stop at the 9500 block of County Road 81 and issued a citation for the driver having a revoked drivers license.

Trespass – Officers responded to a trespassing complaint at the 300 block of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NW. Officers spoke with the reporting party and assisted with removing the unwanted party from the premises.

Traffic Stop – An officer conducted a traffic stop after observing a vehicle whose driver was on the phone. The officer gave the driver a verbal warning.

Arrest/Traffic Stop – An Officer observed a vehicle that they did not recognize in the area of the 100blk of 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SE. The officer ran the license plate and found the license plates to be revoked for impoundment, a common occurrence with a DWI conviction. The Officer also found the registered owner's drives status to be Canceled – Inimical to Public Safety (Canceled IPS). The officer conducted a traffic stop and found the driver to be the owner. The driver was placed under arrest and transported to Hennepin County Jail for Gross Misdemeanor driving while Canceled IPS. The vehicle was then impounded.

Warrant Arrest – Officers on the 14000 blk of County Road 81 found that the registered owner of a vehicle had a warrant for their arrest. Officers conducted a traffic stop and found the driver to be the owner. The warrant was confirmed, and the driver was arrested without incident.

### Accidents:

Accident – An officer was dispatched to a 2-vehicle crash near the 8800 blk of Jefferson Hwy. The officer arrived on scene to find that a vehicle had rear ended a bus that had stopped for the railroad crossing. There were no injuries. A state crash report was completed, and the passenger vehicle was towed.

Property Damage Accident – An officer was called to the 100 block of 1st Ave NW for an accident. The officer was told that the driver had been “driving stupid” and was trying to slide in circles on the fresh snow when he collided with a legally parked car. The driver was then cited for careless driving.



*“Look Officer,  
I’m not trying to  
be difficult. All  
I’m saying is, If  
you caught me  
then you were  
speeding too.”*



## Osseo Police Department Mission Statement

### OSSEO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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THE MISSION OF THE  
OSSEO POLICE DEPARTMENT  
IS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE  
OF ITS CITIZENS AND STRENGTHEN  
THE BOND BETWEEN THE POLICE AND  
COMMUNITY THROUGH A TRADITION  
OF LEADERSHIP, COMMITMENT  
AND SERVICE

