



# SCOTT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# FIVE POINTS OF THE STAR

Kevin Studnicka - Sheriff

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## FROM THE SHERIFF

### Patrol Car Cameras

When the idea of a patrol car mounted video camera hit the streets about 15 years ago, officers who would feel its affects met it with much skepticism. After all, the biggest proponents for the idea were those people who would always spend 15 or 20 minutes bashing the law enforcement profession every chance they got.

However, an interesting result came about. Instead of putting more headaches on the law enforcement community, the cameras were busy saving officer's hides.

Take a state law enforcement agency for example, (I will not disclose what state, but it is not Minnesota.)

This agency took the most abuse over the years about their misconduct when dealing with the public. Anti-police groups were screaming for patrol mounted cameras to finally catch these "thug" officers on tape. The cameras were installed.

So, what happened? The "thug" officers were getting cleared of wrongdoings at a higher level than before the cameras were installed. In 2000, this agency received 584 officer complaints about so called "misconduct." Keep in mind, we are talking about a department with 2,500 officers. The patrol cameras alone cleared more than 10 % of the officers involved in complaints. In 67 of those cases, the review of the video-tapes allowed the Internal Affairs Office

to expeditiously close out those investigations. Additionally, the in car camera video tapes demonstrated that a number of citizen complaints were totally without merit , maliciously filed with the intent of resolving a traffic citation. Many of the original skeptics in law enforcement now swear by the patrol car

By Sheriff Kevin Studnicka



cameras. Of course, there are still those who don't care for the "big brother" element of the camera, but many of those people are becoming converts.



How many incidents can you recall where you only wish that you had a camera in your car recording every-

thing? In today's climate, it seems we have more to fear by not having the cameras. Unfortunately, some people have no hesitation to file a false complaint and attack an officer in pursuit of revenge or improved stance in the courtroom. There are even some who will make a

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## CONTRIBUTORS

### Communications

### Jail

### Operations:

- Investigations
- Patrol
- Civil Process
- Recreational Safety

### Administration:

- Support Staff
- Crime Prevention
- Reserve Units

### Homeland Security:

- SAFCOM

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## PATROL

### Emergency Vehicle Operation

When responding to an emergency call, it's crucial to get there quickly and safely. Although driving "code 3" can be fun, it's also a lot of responsibility. An officer needs to learn and practice emergency driving, just like any other skill in law enforcement.

The Scott County Sheriff's Office sends deputies to the Minnesota Highway Safety and Research Center to acquire the skills needed to operate the squad car safely.



The MHSRC is designed to provide drivers with the chance to operate vehicles in real life scenarios in a controlled environment. Not

just designed for law enforcement, they also teach drivers of semi

trucks, snow plows, buses, all terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles. They also offer courses for regular drivers looking to improve their driving skills.

The MN Peace Officer Standards and Training Board requires licensed officers to attend a pursuit driving course at least once every three years. Valuable skills are obtained during this course such as

- Collision avoidance,
- Straight line braking,
- Brake to steer combinations,
- Steer to brake combinations,
- Serpentine,
- Law enforcement backing,
- Skid control,
- Emergency vehicle cornering,
- Highway response, and
- Effectiveness of red lights and sirens

By Deputy Nate Olson

To increase the abilities of the more rural departments and also to increase the awareness of officers who don't normally drive on gravel roads, the facility has just added a dirt track. This area specifically is used to help officers get the feel of handling squad cars on gravel roads while responding to emergencies.

After all of the skills have been practiced throughout the course, students are rewarded with a practical exercise: the "good guy" against the "bad guy"! In this exercise, some officers are selected as good guys and some are selected as bad guys. The good guy attempts to catch the bad guy in a timed pursuit around the driving course. During this game, officers utilize all of the skills they have learned throughout the training.

For more information on the Minnesota Highway Safety and Research Center, visit them at <http://www.mnsafetycenter.org/>

## FROM THE SHERIFF

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complaint just out of pure and ignorant disdain for law enforcement.

Regardless of where the location, whether in downtown

Los Angeles or downtown Lydia, if the law enforcement profession is following the rules, the squad mounted camera can only help us serve the community.

## SUPPORT STAFF

### Law Named for Victims of Violent Crime (Part 2)

Bryan's Law - Named for Bryan Dylan Nisenfeld who disappeared in the spring of 1997 from his college. His partial remains were found 6 months later. Bryan's Law amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 by requiring institutions of higher education to notify parents if their child is reported missing.

Cleary Act - Named for Lehigh University freshman, Jeanne Ann Cleary who was assaulted and murdered while asleep in her dorm room. This law requires colleges and universities to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses.

Cassie's Law -Named for Cassie Dehl who was killed by an abusive boyfriend.

Cassie's Law provides for parents to obtain restraining orders on behalf of their minor children to protect them from abusive dating partners.

Katie's Law - Named for Minnesota local Katie Poirer, abducted from Moose Lake. This law provides funding to improve the tracking of sex offenders. It also requires sex offenders to give the state detailed personal information when they register.

Lizzie's Law -Named for Lizzie Thompson who, at the age of 3, witnessed her mother's murder by her father. The father tried to get court ordered visitation with

By Deputy Mary Hensel

his daughter. The law prohibits the granting of visitation rights to a parent who has been convicted of murdering the other parent.

Jenna's Law - Named for nursing student Jenna Greishaber, 22, who was stabbed and bludgeoned to death by a recently paroled violent felon. This law ends parole for violent offenders.

The Lindbergh Law -the Federal kidnapping law was enacted in 1932 in reaction to the kidnapping of 20 month old Charles A. Lindbergh Jr.

Naming laws after victims is about turning grief into action - making sure loved ones didn't die in vain.

Quoting missing children advocate, John Walsh, "It's not about closure, it's more about justice."



KATIE POIRER

## CHAPLAIN SERVICES

### Hope

What is hope? There are many different definitions: to expect with confidence, trust, to cherish a desire with anticipation, or belief in fulfillment. But what does that mean?

For those of us that drive to and from work each day, we "hope" to arrive at our jobs safely. For those in law enforcement, we "hope" to make it home at the end of our shift. For those in highway maintenance, we "hope" everyone drives safely and slowly by our work zone.

For those that rely on computers, we "hope" they never crash.

We all hope for things each day. Do you ever hope about your spiritual journey? Although spirituality is different things to different people, it is a road we all travel. How many times do we take the time and examine our own lives to see where we are really going?

We recently celebrated Easter Sunday. For Christians, our belief is that God sent his only Son, Jesus, to give us hope and love. We

By Chaplain Bob Raleigh

can use His example to turn our lives into a positive example for others.

Although Christians believe that God loves us all unconditionally, you don't have to believe in God to love others. It doesn't take much. Smiles are free. Using your turn signal while driving is easy. Opening a door for someone carrying a heavy load only takes a moment. Even little things can give others happiness, love, and hope.

I hope you have a wonderful day!



## PATROL VOLUNTEERS

### Training the rookie reserve

My name is Shawn Larkin and I have been with the Scott County Sheriff's Patrol Reserve Unit since May of 2007. Being a part of this unit is a very rewarding privilege and honor.

When you become a Scott County Sheriff's Office reserve deputy, you have to go to a reserve school put on by the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. I'm currently attending the training along with 5 other patrol reserves and 3 mounted reserves. We started the class on March 4 and will end on May 3, with a graduation ceremony on May 6 in Maple Grove. The class is every Tuesday night for 3 hours, held at Hennepin

County Public Safety Building in downtown Minneapolis.

Only half way through the class, I've already learned so much! Many reserves from all over Hennepin County attend this class so we're able to find out how other agencies use their reserves.

So far, classes have included information on:

- Dealing with the mentally ill,
- Care and custody of a suspect, and
- The United States Secret Service

In upcoming weeks, we'll get to meet deputies who work Narcotics, Water Patrol, and Hate Crimes. We're also going to take a tour of one of the

By Reservist Shawn Larkin

biggest jails in the metro area - the Hennepin Co. Jail. Our last day of class will be on traffic control. Reserves will spend all morning directing traffic under controlled conditions.

In my opinion, the best class we've had was the searching and handcuffing class. Learning how to handcuff a suspect safely and easily takes practice. The class was very hands on and afterwards, I felt more confident with handcuffing.

I take being a reserve deputy for Scott County very seriously. I have always wanted to be a volunteer and make a difference. As a reserve deputy, I feel like I'll have the opportunity to do so.



## SADDLE UP

By Mounted Reservist Scott Doering

### Junior Posse Program

Many times, law enforcement and youth meet because of trouble: criminal and traffic offenses, vehicle crashes, domestic violence, vandalism, alcohol and drug offenses, assaults, and habitual runaway reports.

To foster positive relationships between our youth and law enforcement, the Scott County Sheriff's Office Mounted Reserve Unit has established the Junior Posse program.

At this time, we're working closely with the 4H horse

project in Scott County.

However, any youth or young adult ages 10 - 20 is eligible to join.

Some of the requirements are:

- Having your own horse and trailer,
- Living or attending school in Scott County,
- Completing an application, background check and interview, and
- Parents or guardians permission,

All applicants will have to demonstrate their ability to

handle and control their horses safely by participating in our annual sensory evaluation.

The Junior Posse won't just be used for "poop patrol." Members will receive training in search and rescue, mounted defensive tactics, first aid and C.P.R. Youth will ride beside adult mounted reserves during parades or the county fair, and participate in public relations demonstrations.

For more information, contact Scott Doering at

[scottufa@msn.com](mailto:scottufa@msn.com)



## IN THE JAIL

By Corrections Officer Tom Busch

### Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA)

In 2003, President Bush signed into law the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). Congress passed this law with the goal of supporting the “reduction, elimination, and prevention of prison sexual violence within facilities at the federal, state, and local level.”

This action was in response to statistics compiled by human rights agencies which estimated that more than one million inmates had been the victim of sexual violence in the 20 years prior to enacting the law.

Beginning in 2007, training was implemented to educate Scott County jail staff in the identification, intervention, and prevention of inmate sexual violence. Staff members attended a “train the trainer” session hosted by the Minnesota Department of Corrections. In December, 2007, a 2 ½ hour PREA training session was implemented as mandatory training for all jail staff. By the end of April, 2008, all jail staff will have attended this training, with the additional goal of having all jail volunteers complete the training by the end of 2008.

The training provides an overview of existing Scott County jail policies that address sexual violence, which are:

- Sexual Misconduct Between Inmates,
- Sexual Conduct Between Staff and Inmates, and
- Officer Code of Ethics.

Staff are also educated to look for signs of inmate aggression, how to deal with inmates who have been victimized, and to recognize their own professional boundary expectations.

This training educates staff members of the problems associated with working in a closed, single sex society such as a correctional facility. Inmates value aggression, power, and loyalty, and their status within the facility is often associated with those values.

Staff are trained to spot offenders who exhibit vulnerabilities that may lead to victimization, while at the same time, identify those offenders who have a history or a likelihood of committing predatory offenses. This includes debunking existing myths such as: if there are no reports of sexual violence then it doesn't exist; and, offenders usually “consent” to involvement. In reality, sexual violence may exist to some extent in every facility, and an inmate who is a victim of sexual violence is just that—a victim.

However, PREA provides staff with the knowledge to identify and report all circum-

stances of sexual misconduct that may occur within the facility. Sexual violence inside the walls of a correctional facility is no different than if it occurs in society at large. Predators gratify themselves by exerting power, control and humiliation over the victim.

Inmates may also prey upon staff members, with the ultimate goal of obtaining monetary goods or having a sexual relationship with the officer. A good portion of the PREA training is dedicated to educating staff about appropriate staff-inmate interaction, and recognizing the signs that they or another officer may be vulnerable to committing a boundary violation. A general boundary violation may be something as simple as doing a favor for an inmate.

However, it may lead to a more serious dual relationship where the officer smuggles items into the facility for the inmate. Sometimes the ultimate goal of an inmate is to draw an officer into this cycle for the sole purpose of engaging in a sexual relationship with the officer. All types of boundary violations are wrong and Scott County jail policies forbid it. Additionally, any staff member who engages in a sexual relationship with an inmate can be prosecuted for a felony offense under Minnesota state



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## CRIME PREVENTION

By Deputy Mary Hensel

### Cabin / Lake Home Safety

Much of the same crime prevention tips we use to protect our homes can also be used to protect our lake cabins and homes.

#### To Deter a Burglar

- Install interior lights on timers to go off and on periodically, giving the appearance someone is in the home.
- Use Operation ID numbers to mark your property in case your property is stolen. These numbers can be obtained from local police or sheriff's offices where your cabin or lake home is located.
- Place Operation ID stickers on your windows and any outside sheds to show that your property is marked.
- Take video or pictures of everything in your home and on the property for insurance purposes.
- Lock all doors and windows and use deadbolts. If you do not have deadbolts on your exterior doors, consider having them installed.
- Keep your lawn mowed and all bushes trimmed back to a maximum of 3 feet. This will give the appearance that you are there and trimmed bushes will make it harder for anyone to hide behind them.
- Set up a neighborhood vacation watch with your neighbors. Get to know

your vacation neighborhood, just like the neighbors back at home. Ask them to report any suspicious activity at your residence, especially when you are not there.



## CIVIL PROCESS/WARRANTS

By Deputy Dennis Tietz

### Wanted for Warrants

To date, approximately 1100 warrants for arrest have been issued by Scott County for 2008. Unfortunately, we don't have the staff to round up all of these criminals. For the last 3 years, the Scott County Sheriff's Office has been publishing a "wanted" list in the Shakopee Valley News, Savage Pacer, Jordan Independent, Prior Lake American, on the Scott County website and KCHK radio. The wanted list consists of people in Scott

County who have a warrant out for their arrest and is distributed quarterly.

Although the list is not necessarily a "most wanted" directory, we publish and air it to increase public awareness and to enlist the public's help in locating these individuals. Many times, people will voluntarily turn themselves in when they see their face and name plastered all over the newspapers. Crimes range from misdemeanor drunk driving offenses to more serious felonies, such as assault or

fleeing.

If you, a family member or a friend has an outstanding warrant, we ask that you take care of it as soon as possible. You could very well be the next person on the list! It'll save you time and money if you schedule on your time rather than ours. For example, if you have a warrant and you're pulled over for a traffic violation on the way to your parent's 30th wedding anniversary celebration, you are guaran-

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## RECREATIONAL SAFETY

### Why is my road so Rough?

Many of you may be asking this very question this spring. Part of the reason the roads are so rough has to do with the freezing/thawing cycle that we go through yearly in Minnesota. Last fall, we had 19 inches of rain in about a month. That water was never able to completely dry out in our roadbeds, and consequently froze. Now that spring is here, warmer temperatures are causing the roadbeds to thaw, which causes shifts in the ground, which breaks up the pavement and make the roads rougher.

This, in combination with heavy trucks transporting goods over these thawing roadbeds, causes even more

shifting which makes the roads buckle further and we get more bumps and pot-holes.

To try and alleviate some of this stress on our roadways, the State of Minnesota and the County enact Spring Load Restrictions (SLR's) every year. The Sheriff's Office and the Highway Department have started a resource-sharing project this spring. The first phase of this project involved six new truck scales being purchased over a two-year period; phase two puts two employees, one deputy and one highway maintenance worker, out on the streets to enforce the SLR's in Scott County. As is evident by the adjacent photo, these employees have seen some rather interesting loads being hauled

By Deputy Bret Krick

on our vulnerable roadways, and citations have been issued to the violators. Part of the fine money paid comes back to the road authority and may be used to repair our roads.

Any questions about Commercial Vehicle Laws or Load Restrictions can be directed to Deputy Bret J. Krick at 952-445-1411 or [bkrick@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:bkrick@co.scott.mn.us).



## FROM THE CHIEF DEPUTY

By Chief Deputy Dean Opatz

### New Volunteer Program

The Sheriff wants you!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The Sheriff's Office is putting together a new volunteer program that needs "YOU" for it to be a success.

"Support Your Local Sheriff" is a program that will help further our vision of building partnership and trust with our community. The goal is to open the lines of communication, build new and lasting relationships, and have you see our Office from the inside. We will invite you to

participate in the four Sheriff's divisions and get a real feel for our Office. We are still building the list of activities for this program.

So what is the next step? Please look at our website, your local newspaper and the Scott County Scene in late summer or early fall for more information. We will begin with an advertisement campaign and have detailed information about the program.

If you've ever thought about getting involved with your local Sheriff's Office, "NOW"

is the time.

We are looking forward to partnering with you.

Dean Opatz

Chief Deputy



## HOMELAND SECURITY

By Homeland Security Manager Chris Weldon

### Personal Preparedness Are you ready?

Being prepared for emergencies is crucial at home, school, work and in your community. Disaster can strike quickly and without warning. It can force you to evacuate your neighborhood, workplace

or school or confine you to your home. What would you do if basic services – water, gas, electricity or telephones – were cut off?

Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene

after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone right away. The best way to make you and your family safer is to be prepared before disaster strikes. We encourage you to: Get a Kit, Make a Plan, and Be Informed.

Consider the following when assembling or restocking your kit to ensure your family is prepared for any disaster:

Store at least three days of food, water and supplies in your family's easy-to-carry preparedness kit. Keep extra supplies on hand at home in case you cannot leave the affected area.

Keep your kit where it is easily accessible.

Remember to check your kit every six months and replace expired or outdated items.

Whether purchasing a preparedness kit or assembling your own, your family's kit should contain items that enable you to provide comfort for everyday scrapes or treat life-threatening emergencies.

A standard preparedness kit should include the following items.

- **Water** - The Red Cross recommends that each person store one gallon of water per day for at least three days.
- **Food** - When preparing for a disaster, store at least

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## INVESTIGATIONS

By Detective Sergeant Phil Nawrocki

### Donation to the Crime Scene Unit

This Scott County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit recently received a donation in the amount of \$1000.00 from Wal Mart. Deputy Daryn Kral worked with Wal Mart management in reference to the donation.

The donation will be used to purchase crime scene shirts and pull over jackets for the members of the crime scene unit. The donation will also be used to purchase tripods for cameras, items for the fingerprint kits and miscellaneous equipment.

On behalf of the Scott County Sheriff's Office I would like to thank WalMart for the generous donation to the crime scene unit. I would also like to thank Deputy Kral for taking the initiative in seeking out the donation.



## IN THE JAIL

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law.

It has become ingrained in our culture that sexual violence and incarceration go hand-in-hand. Popular media, such as the motion picture industry, reference sexual violence whenever life behind bars is

depicted in movies. As corrections professionals, we take what we learn from PREA and implement it with the goal of preventing sexual violence behind bars and preserving basic human rights for all inmates incarcerated in the Scott County Jail.

## CAPTAIN'S CORNER

By Captain Greg Muelken

### 25th Annual Scott County Law Enforcement Memorial Scholarship

Please mark your calendars for May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008. This date is important for a couple of reasons. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed into law that every May 15<sup>th</sup> be known as "Peace Officer's Memorial Day", and the week that May 15<sup>th</sup> falls as National Police Week. In 1994, President Bill Clinton amended the law to include that the flag of the United States be flown at half-staff on every May 15<sup>th</sup> on all government buildings.

Secondly, this date is the same date as the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Scott County Law Enforcement Memorial Scholarship Banquet. The committee is excited and proud to have reached this landmark! The committee was formed in 1983 to memorialize local law enforcement officers who died while on active duty by establishing a scholarship fund.

The four officers memorialized by this scholarship program are:

- Luverne E. Relander  
January 7, 1974  
Scott County Sheriff's Office
- Terry J. McGovern  
May 20, 1974  
Shakopee Police Department
- George D. Lill  
March 15, 1983  
Scott County Sheriff's Office
- Jon F. Niemann  
December 30, 2003  
Scott County Sheriff's Office

This fund is maintained by the generous donations of private citizens and local businesses.

Approximately 130 scholarships have been awarded to date with over 60% of these candidates currently working in the field of Law Enforcement and of these, approximately 60% work with agencies in Scott County.

The banquet will again be held at the Shakopee American Legion, with social hour beginning at 6:00 pm, and dinner at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$15 each. If you'd like to purchase tickets, or if you want to make either a cash or door prize donation, please contact Captain Greg Muelken @ 952.496.8134 or Sgt Duane Jirik @ 952.496.8725.

To mark our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, your dinner ticket will get you entered into a drawing for door prizes generously donated by local businesses.



## CIVIL PROCESS

*(Continued from page 6)*

teed not to arrive on time!  
You'll be going to jail.  
Unless there's another valid,  
licensed driver in the vehicle  
with you, your car will be  
towed.

If you recognize anyone on  
the list or have questions  
about an individual having a  
warrant, please contact Dep-  
uty Dennis Tietz at 952-496-  
8724 or [dtietz@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:dtietz@co.scott.mn.us)

## HOMELAND SECURITY

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three days of non-  
perishable, nutritious food  
that requires little or no  
water or cooking to pre-  
pare.

- **Medications** - Be sure to include a week's supply of prescription and over-the-counter medications. Also keep a list of all medications and dosages, allergies, doctors' names, and nearby hospitals.
- **Radio** - Keep a battery-powered or hand-crank radio in your kit and don't forget to include extra batteries.
- **First Aid Kit** - Be prepared to treat yourself, your loved ones, and others who need help.
- **Personal Documents** - if you are displaced after a disaster. Some of the records you may need include a picture ID, passport, birth certificate, and insurance policies.
- **Contact Info** - Keep a list of family phone numbers and addresses as well as a copy of your out-of-area emergency contact.
- **Map** - Include a map of the surrounding areas with highlighted evacuation routes.
- **Money** - Keep small bills and change on hand to buy necessary supplies like water.
- **Clothing** - Keep an extra set of warm clothes, rain gear and sturdy shoes in your kit.
- **Sanitary Supplies** - Include extra toilet paper, feminine supplies, personal hygiene products, bleach, and any other personal products you may need.
- **Pet Supplies** - Remember to include your pets in the plan.
- **Tools** - Keep an adjustable wrench in your preparedness kit to turn off your gas if necessary. Other tools may include a manual can

opener, plastic sheeting,  
garbage bags with ties, and  
duct tape.

To receive further information on preparedness measures please visit:

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)  
[www.codeready.org](http://www.codeready.org)

## 9-1-1

### Helping Us Help You

Finally, spring has arrived. The weatherman has promised 63 degree temperatures today with a chance of thunderstorms this afternoon. Here in 911 Dispatch we know that nice weather or thunderstorms are not the only events that bring emergencies. Winter weather brings a wide array of emergencies as does the heat of summer and severe weather. Obviously many emergencies can occur at any given time so today we will discuss how to help us help you.

When you have a need to call 911, seconds count. The most important piece of information we need is your location. Where do we need to send help? If you have an exact address of the location, whether it is a business or a

home, then that would be best. But if you only know the name of the business and what street it is on, then we can look up the exact address quickly. Knowing what city you are in is very helpful. Many businesses are located in several different cities in Scott County. Since our 911 center dispatches police, fire, and ambulance for all cities and townships in Scott County, it narrows down our search if you know what city you are in. Wherever you are, we can get your location if you call 911 from a "land line" phone as opposed to a cell phone.

There are many times when you need to use your cell phone for the call. The best thing you can do for yourself and others is know your surroundings. Know the name of

911 Dispatcher Kathleen Abbott

the road you are on and what direction you are traveling. If you leave your house in Shakopee and you drive to Jordan, then you will probably drive southbound on 169. Be aware of what street signs you are passing or what businesses you pass by. If you make a habit to know your surroundings when not in an emergency, then if the time comes to call 911 you will know where you're at.

There are many other questions we will ask on a 911 call. The most important information we gather for the responders is:

- any injuries
- any alcohol, drugs, or

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## LITTLE KNOWN LAWS

### MSS 169.48 Vehicle Lighting

Driving in the rain? Remember, wipers on, lights on. Subdivision 1, Lights to be displayed; (a) Every vehicle upon a highway within this state:

1. At any time from sunset to sunrise,
2. At any time when it is raining, snowing, sleet-ing, or hailing, and
3. At any other time when visibility is impaired by

weather, smoke, for or other conditions or there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead,

Shall display lighted head-lamps, lighted tail lamps, and illuminating devices.

By Deputy Mary Hensel





SCOTT COUNTY SHERIFF'S  
OFFICE

301 S. Fuller St.  
Shakopee, MN 55379

Administration: 952-496-8300  
Dispatch: 952-445-1411  
Emergency: 9-1-1  
Kevin Studnicka - Sheriff

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[WWW.CO.SCOTT.MN.US](http://WWW.CO.SCOTT.MN.US)

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WORKING WITH YOU TO MAKE  
SCOTT COUNTY  
A SAFER PLACE  
TO LIVE , WORK AND PLAY.

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weapons involved

- Is the incident you are reporting "in progress" meaning is there still a danger present?
- Descriptions of persons or vehicles
- Your name and phone number
- Any other important information concerning the call

We ask the same questions on ALL calls, not just calls to the 911 line.

Sometimes you may wonder why we ask so many ques-

tions. Why don't we just send the police?

As soon as you call, the person taking the phone call is typing the information to send the help. The dispatcher is airing the call to the responders right away while the call-taker is asking you further questions. In this way we can get the help started right away and continue to gather further information to help handle the call in the best way. It can be confusing for a caller in distress to be asked so many questions. He or she may even think some questions aren't important. However, we have the training to know what informa-

tion is needed for each situation.

As the person reporting an emergency, you are actually the first responder to any situation. You are the eyes and ears to relay the information to the police, firefighters, and EMS personnel. The more information you can relay to the 911 dispatcher over the phone, the better and safer the response will be. A better response equals a happier outcome.

Our goal at the Scott County Sheriff's Communications Center is keeping everyone safe and ensuring a high quality of life. Whether you are calling about a dangerous

situation or calling about a barking dog, we intend to offer the highest quality service. Please understand our need to ask questions. Your answers will help us help you.