

## Oswego Police Department

Chief Jeffrey R. Burgner



# Homeowners Association Newsletter

January 1st, 2023

Editor – Deputy Chief Kevin Norwood

Volume 2023, Issue 1

#### Photo(s) of the Month



2022 Shop with a Cop

The Oswego Police Department, Meijer and School District 308 held our annual Shop with A Cop on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Each child was partnered with a Police Officer to purchase gifts for themselves and family members. We always look forward to this annual tradition!











#### Village Ordinance Reminders

- It is unlawful to deposit snow onto the streets while removing snow from resident driveways and sidewalks
- Do not leave unattended, or park any motor vehicle upon any village street when there is 2" or more of snow.
- If a vehicle is parked in violation of this ordinance, and where it constitutes an obstruction to snow plowing or traffic, interferes with the use of streets, or in any other manner creates a dangerous or unsafe condition, the vehicle will be towed at the owner's expense.

Comments or questions about this publication can be directed to Deputy Chief Kevin Norwood.

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### Oswego Police Department Now Wearing Body Worn Cameras



Oswego Police officers started wearing body worn cameras as part of their uniform on Monday, December 12, 2022, in addition to the in-car video cameras in their patrol vehicles, Oswego Police will now be equipped with Motorola V300 Body Cameras, which will be worn on an officer's chest to audio-visual record interactions between the officer and the public. The cameras have a microphone to capture sound and have internal data storage to save video footage for later review. Pursuant to State law, body-worn cameras must be turned on whenever an on-duty, uniformed officer is responding to calls for service or engaged in any law-enforcement related encounter or activity.

Although the State's Law Enforcement Officer-Worn Body Camera Act now requires all law enforcement agencies in Illinois employ body worn cameras by the year 2025, obtaining these cameras has been a goal of the Oswego Police Department for some time. Use of body worn cameras have been shown to enhance the transparency of law enforcement agencies while at the same time protecting officers and municipalities from unjustified complaints or false accusations of misconduct.

The Oswego Police Department is anticipating many benefits from utilizing body worn cameras. Use of these cameras to document interactions with the public can provide valuable evidence in criminal investigations and prosecutions. The use can also lead to officer skill enhancement as police supervisors and administrators are able to review officer performance and actions at incidents.

"The implementation of body worn cameras is an example of the police department's commitment to being transparent with our community," stated Deputy Chief Jason Bastin. "It also provides us an opportunity to capture the quality service that our officers provide daily to the residents and businesses of the Village of Oswego."

Officers have received training in the use of the cameras as well as on the statutory requirements of use, including respecting the reasonable privacy expectations of citizens. The Oswego Police Department's use of body worn cameras will follow the Law Enforcement Officer-Worn Body Camera Act and the SAFE-T Act, along with the best practices and policies set by the Oswego Police Department.

#### **Personal Winter Safety Tips**

**Hands free** – Keeping your hands in your pockets increases the risk of you falling or completely losing your balance in case you slip while walking on ice or snow.

**Warm up before shoveling** –With your muscles warm, you will work more efficiently while reducing the risk of injury.

**Forget Coffee and Cigarettes** – Before shoveling or doing any strenuous work, avoid caffeine and nicotine. They increase your heart rate and may cause your blood vessels to constrict.

*Stay dry* – *Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits the cold rapidly.* 

Fireplace - If you have a fireplace, keep the flue closed when you're not using it.

Heating Vents - Make sure your furniture isn't blocking your heating vents.