



# One Chief's Perspective

Roseville Police Department  
3/17/2017

## Connecting with our Community



Last week Officer Mike Holtmeier, Officer Tom Pitzl and CSO Ku Tee teamed up to staff a career fair at Century College. They were able to connect with about 30 students interested in a law enforcement career.



On a related note, earlier this week the [Roseville Police Foundation](#) agreed to fund the first Roseville Police Community Service Officer Police Skills Training Scholarship. This is a brand new, needs based scholarship program I brought to the board a few months ago. The scholarship covers many of the

costs to attend police officer Skills training conducted at only a few locations across the state. Minnesota, unlike some other states, mandates this training which adds about \$5,000 in additional costs to the student. Skills training takes place before the student is hired by a law enforcement agency.

This is a great endeavour by the Roseville Police Foundation and greatly assists Roseville CSOs in need of financial support as they pursue their goals of becoming a police officer...*in Roseville, we hope.*

## Coyotes in Roseville

The past few years I have written about coyotes in Roseville and how people can co-exist with Mother Nature's creatures. Most coyotes are born in April and May, and that is when the coyote parents are most protective of their dens containing the pups. It makes sense to revisit the topic of coyotes in March so readers can acclimate themselves in preparation for increased contacts.



Please visit our website to view a [2015 Roseville presentation](#) on coyotes in urban areas.

The idea was to educate residents about coyotes, focusing on how to live with them and how to reinforce their natural fear of humans. Even though Roseville is in the middle of the most urban county in Minnesota, *Mother Nature* is alive and well. We only [respond](#)

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to wild animal calls if there is a threat to human life or if the animal is injured and unable to care for itself. *Mother Nature* is too large for us to become further involved. I hope this helps everyone to become more accustomed to the relatives of Wile E. Coyote.

## **Swindles...**They mutate like the flu

The first 13 days of March have produced at least 19 calls for service related to frauds in Roseville.

Frauds and forgeries are common in a suburb like Roseville with a large retail presence. With the Internet, we now see frauds mutating in a myriad of ways. Some recent reports come to mind.

The current nation-wide talk of immigration reform has helped to produce a [fraud](#) where victims who have recently migrated to the U. S. are contacted by fake customs officers and fleeced for all of the money in their pockets. A note on a Homeland Security website, under the Payment by Phone or Email section, reads, "...we will never ask you to pay fees to a person on the phone or by email".

In another fraud, victims receive an email indicating their home computer has fallen prey to a virus. In a recent Roseville case, the victim was conned out of over \$9,000.

Recently, a Roseville victim responded to a Craigslist ad for the rental of a home valued at over \$1.1 million. The rent was listed at \$780/month, which again proves the "It's too good to be true" statement.

Craigslist also has provided several examples of people purchasing a car and not changing the registration with the State of Minnesota. One of our record technicians indicated people "never" change the title after purchasing a car via Craigslist unless the previous owner accompanies the new owner to the local DMV and oversees the process. This is important to you as the past owner... you could receive parking citations in the mail or your name and reputation could be dragged into civil and criminal court if the new owner is up to nefarious things. *Thanks for the tip, Amy.*

We offer many tips to protect yourself from fraud on our [website](#). Another great resource is the [Twin Cities Retail Crime Association](#), of which we are a participating agency. Some of their information is available to the world without becoming a member.

Take Care,

Chief Rick Mathwig

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