

**Police/Court Abbreviations**

Abbreviations: A&D, Alcohol & Drug; DUII, Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants; BUII, Boating Under the Influence of Intoxicants; CCSO, Columbia County Sheriff's Office; DWS, Driving While License is Suspended; MIP, Minor In Possession of Intoxicants; MVA, Motor Vehicle Accident; PCS, Possession of Controlled Substance; ODL, Oregon Driver License; FTA, Failure to Appear in Court; NTSI, National Traffic Safety Institute; DA, District Attorney; VIP, Victim Impact Panel; FF&A, Fines, Fees and Assessments.

**Did You Know...**

By Chief Matthew Workman  
Vernonia Police Department



has a new police officer in its ranks. Officer Michael Kay

Many of you may have noticed that the Vernonia Police Department (VPD)

started on October 1 and is already out patrolling the streets. Officer Kay has over eight-and-a-half years of experience as a police officer with his recent service being with the Warm Springs Police Department. Officer Kay is also a certified K-9 Officer and the department hopes to bring his K-9 onto the force as well. Look for a future article in *The Independent* about the Police K-9.

In recent weeks, VPD offi-

cers have taken a handful of reports of unlawful entry into vehicles. Often, vehicle break-ins are crimes of opportunity where the suspects are looking for unlocked vehicles that contain valuables, money, cigarettes, or nice stereos. You can reduce your chance of being a victim by locking your vehicle and removing valuables such as wallets, purses, and money.

Officers have stepped up patrols in the evenings and early

morning hours but a little prevention can go a long way to reducing this type of crime.



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