



## City of Oshkosh Police Department

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OSHKOSH POLICE DEPARTMENT

Date: 11/27/2023  
Time: 01:30 PM  
Contact: Officer Kate Mann  
Public Affairs / Crime Prevention  
(920)236-5742  
Subject: K9 Magic

OSHKOSH, WI (November 27, 2023): The Oshkosh Police Department is saddened by the passing of Oshkosh Police K9 Magic. K9 Magic became unexpectedly ill this past weekend and it was discovered that she had cancer surrounding her heart and other organs. Medical staff determined that there was nothing further that could be done to help Magic recover so she was euthanized to end her pain.

K9 Magic (Golden Retriever) was almost 4 years old and was acquired by the Oshkosh Police Department in March 2022 from Journey Together.

Magic was the department's therapy dog and she helped provide emotional support to both members of our community and Officers. She worked with our Behavioral Health Officer, Scott Sopata, and the Mental Health Crisis Specialist Co-Responder, Kayla Rodriguez. They respond to behavioral health related calls, highly sensitive/emotional calls for service, as well as being used to support employees of the Oshkosh Police Department after Critical Incidents. Magic had 364 deployments during her 20 months of service with the department.

Magic was such a kind and happy dog with the softest fur. If we had a dollar for every time someone mentioned how soft she was, we'd have a never-ending supply of her favorite treats. Aside from all the calls for service that Magic was a part of, she was always out and about in our community. Magic attended "Magic Moments" once a month at Oshkosh North High School, "Coffee with a Cop" at Oshkosh West High School, various visits to the Day By Day Homeless Shelter, Solutions Recovery, State Street Center, Winnebago County Crisis Center and DHS, Winnebago County Sherriff's Department Dispatch, Aurora ER, and Mercy ER-just to name a few. Magic had also recently attended a critical incident stress debrief for officers. Magic selected a specific officer, who was impacted by the incident, out of a room full of people. Magic's intuition was like no other. This is just one specific example of how Magic has impacted and helped others.

Our police department, the community, and the city as a whole will miss Magic. Magic was so loved and cherished. Magic's impact on our community and its

members will never be forgotten. Magic was truly one of a kind and the first of her kind in our community.

Ofc Sopata and Kayla would like to extend their gratitude for everyone's support of the Behavior Health Team and of Magic.

We want to thank all of the medical staff at the BluePearl Pet Hospital and Animal Hospital of Oshkosh and who assisted K9 Magic.

More information about the memorial service for K9 Magic will be released in the near future.