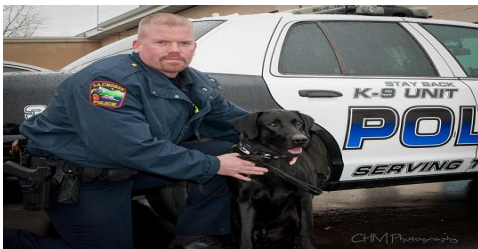


Over the last couple weeks the La Crosse Police Department's Investigative Bureau has executed several search warrants and made multiple, high profile drug arrests. These large cases can overshadow the excellent work being done by the front line officers. The front line uniformed police officers are the "back bone" of our police department. We would like to highlight a recent night of activity from Officer LeQue and his new K-9 partner Ralph. Officer LeQue is assigned to second shift patrol and recently took over the handling of K-9 Ralph from Officer Fitzgerald who was promoted to an Investigator.



On March 2nd the newly formed K-9/Handler relationship took a big step forward with a highly productive night. Officer LeQue deployed K9 Ralph on 4 separate traffic stops resulting in the arrest of 6 people, the recovery of over 36 grams of marijuana, and 3 drug smoking pipes. One of these deployments led to the arrest of a suspect wanted for a heroin related charge; a drug that has repeatedly proven to be dangerous to our community. Assistant Chief Abraham stated: "Our K-9 units have proven to be a tremendous asset to the Department and the community. The message to drug dealers is clear, keep out of La Crosse" The La Crosse Police would like to thank the community for their continued support of men, women and K-9's that work extremely hard to keep our community safe and drug free.