Chief Dana Crawford and the Boone Police Department are pleased to announce a recent personnel change within the police department. Master Police Officer Justin Warren, who has served the last two years as a detective, has been selected for a position in the Patrol Division as a canine handler. The transition from criminal investigator to canine handler has been occurring during the past several weeks. MPO Warren's prior experiences as a Patrol Officer, a School Resource Officer, and an Investigator are expected to help him be a very effective canine handler.

MPO Warren has been assigned K9 "Maus" as his new partner. Maus is a two-year-old black and tan German Shepherd Dog.
Maus is a full service patrol dog, which means she has many skills that are helpful to the citizens of Boone and to the police department. Some of the skills she has been trained to perform are tracking people, especially helpful with finding lost children, criminal apprehension, article searching, and narcotics detection.

MPO Warren and his new partner have already been quite busy. On 11/27/2012, Maus assisted during the service of a narcotics search warrant. During this search, Maus helped officers locate controlled substances inside the residence. Over one pound of marijuana was seized during this search. Items of paraphernalia and over $2500 in currency were also seized from this residence. This amount of marijuana has a street value of $5,800 in Boone. Chief Crawford said "Maus is already proving to be a big help in the mission of the Boone Police Department. We feel that canines are a great tool to better serve the citizens of Boone."

The specific details of this incident are not able to be released yet, as this case is still being investigated. Arrests are expected in this case.

K-9 Officer Warren, along with Maus, are available to do presentations at schools and civic groups for those interested in the Boone Police Department's K9 program.