

# Police officer charged with DUI, suspended

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NAPERVILLE -- A veteran Naperville police officer was arrested by a co-worker and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, police said Thursday.

Sgt. Alan Trotsky, 47, was off duty when he was pulled over at 1:50 a.m. Wednesday while driving west on Aurora Avenue near Devonshire Court, near downtown Naperville, police said. Trotsky was stopped after his car crossed the center line, police said.

Trotsky refused to submit to a Breathalyzer test, and police said they did not know his blood-alcohol content. A blood-alcohol content higher than .08 is grounds for a DUI charge in Illinois.

Trotsky, a 19-year veteran of the force, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and driving left of the center line, police said. He has been suspended with pay, police said.

# Police sergeant, ex-mayoral candidate charged with DUI

By Bill Bird  
SUN STAFF

A Naperville police sergeant and one-time candidate for mayor of Yorkville was arrested and charged with drunken driving early Wednesday morning on Naperville's near west side.

Alan L. Trotsky, an award-winning, 19-year veteran of the police force, also faces a charge of improper lane use for driving left of the yellow dividing line in the center of the roadway.

Trotsky, 47, was arrested by fellow Naperville police Sgt. Ernest Knight during a routine traffic stop at 1:50 a.m. Wednesday, according to a written police arrest report.

Knight curbed Trotsky's vehicle near Aurora Avenue and Devonshire Court, the report indicated. The intersection is a few blocks west of Naperville Central High School.

Police Sgt. Joel Truemper, the department's internal affairs and public information officer, said Trotsky was not driving a police car at the time of his arrest. "He was not in uniform, he was not on duty and he did not have (his police service pistol) with him," Truemper said.

Trotsky was driving west on Aurora Avenue when his vehicle was curbed, Truemper said. He was alone at the time.

Truemper would not say where Trotsky had been before his arrest, nor would he discuss the content of any conversation Trotsky and Knight might have had at the scene.

Trotsky refused to take a breath test or perform any of the physical sobriety tests police often ask motorists to take when stopped on suspicion of drunken driving, Truemper said.

A married father of two who lives in Yorkville, Trotsky is a graduate of Lewis University in Romeoville. He joined the Naperville police force in 1986 and was promoted to sergeant in January 2004.

Trotsky is the recipient of several in-house police commendations. As one of nine members of the police traffic unit, he shared in a 1998 police chief's Meritorious Unit award.

He also vied in 1999 with two aldermen to succeed retiring Yorkville Mayor Bob Johnson. Trotsky's proposals to transform Yorkville into a major industrial and commercial center became a key component of his platform.

Trotsky finished a distant third in the April 1999 mayoral election, but was appointed four years later to the Yorkville Plan Commission.

Truemper said Trotsky has been placed on paid administrative leave from the police department pending conclusion of an internal affairs investigation of the incident. Trotsky, if found guilty, faces a penalty ranging from unpaid suspension to dismissal from the force.

"All matters handled by the Naperville Police Department internal affairs unit are kept confidential, unless they are forwarded to the Naperville Board of Fire and Police Commissioners," Truemper said.

A court date for Trotsky had not been set as of Thursday.

Contact Bill Bird at [wbird@scn1.com](mailto:wbird@scn1.com) or (630) 416-5274.

01/06/06

# Naperville sergeant to fight DUI charge

**By Christy Gutowski**  
*Daily Herald Legal Affairs Writer*  
Posted Friday, January 20, 2006

A Naperville police sergeant accused of drunken driving while off duty in the city he is sworn to protect is fighting the allegations.

Alan Trotsky, a nearly 20-year veteran of the force, is facing a DUI charge after a fellow sergeant stopped his car at 1:50 a.m. Jan. 4, less than a mile from the police station.

Trotsky is on paid suspension.

Trotsky refused to submit to breath or field sobriety tests, authorities said. Still, the 47-year-old Yorkville man vehemently denies the allegation and is preparing a defense.

On Thursday, his lawyer called a retired Woodridge police officer, Brian Sawyer, to testify during a court hearing to determine if Trotsky's driver's license will be suspended next month.

If Trotsky wins the summary suspension hearing, prosecutors typically are forced to drop the charges because their evidence is weak.

Sawyer testified that he and Trotsky and a handful of other officers had been at the Lantern, a Naperville tavern, while planning a banquet for families of slain officers.

Sawyer said Trotsky had the equivalent of five beers during a five-hour period and was not too intoxicated to drive. The retired 22-year officer said he left with Trotsky and witnessed his friend's driving, which he said was consistent with a sober motorist.

The case wasn't due in court until the end of the month, but defense attorney Terry Ekl moved it up because Sawyer will be leaving the country soon to train officers in Iraq.

The hearing was continued. Ekl said he also plans to call as witnesses Trotsky, the other four police officers who were at the bar that night and the backup arresting officer.

Ekl suggested there is bad blood between Trotsky and the sergeant who arrested him. He said his client was unfairly targeted.

"There is absolutely no question that he wasn't impaired by alcohol," Ekl said. "It is obvious that there is ill will by (the arresting sergeant) toward Al Trotsky that led to this false arrest. We're going to establish the officer did not have probable cause to arrest him."

Trotsky was stopped near Aurora Avenue and Devonshire Court after being accused of improper lane use for driving left of the yellow line in the center of the road.

He is due back in court Jan. 31 before DuPage Associate Judge Bruce Kelsey.

**A Benefit:  
"To Repair The Thin Blue Line"**

**Benefit for Sgt Al Trotsky**

**January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Starting at 6:00pm**

**@  
The Phoenix Club  
515 Phoenix Court  
Aurora**

**Enter lower level on eastside of building  
Cash bar, food and raffle  
\$20.00 donation at the door**

**Contact Joe Matchett Cell 630-853-  
(Naperville PD)**

**Or**

**Kevin Lindblom Work 630-719-  
(Woodridge PD)**

**Tammie Lindblom 630-719-**

**Or**

**Brian Sawyer Cell 630-995-**

Woodridge #'s  
(I deleted the last  
four digits of  
all phone #'s)

