

**Law Enforcement Division  
Bi-Weekly Report  
1/13/2019 – 1/26/2019**

**DISTRICT 1**

Conservation Officer (CO) Brett DeLonge and Probationary Conservation Officer (PCO) Breanna Reed held a presentation at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall in Republic for a group of predator hunters. The hunters learned about the laws and regulations associated with predator hunting. Information covered included licensing, safety zones, hunter orange, predator calls, lighting requirements, bag limits, bait, and elevated platforms. The hunters asked several questions regarding the upcoming annual Republic Predator Hunt. There were approximately 30 hunters who attended the presentation.

CO Brett DeLonge and PCO Breanna Reed donated approximately 200 pounds of moose and deer meat to the Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette. The venison was supplied from a deer that was illegally taken and the moose meat was the result of a moose that was hit by a vehicle. Superior Custom Game Processing donated their time to process and package the deer that was illegally taken in Marquette County.

COs Josh Boudreaux and Jonathan Kamps checked a group of predator hunters off a powerline in Sands Township. When officers asked the individuals to produce the hunter orange they wore on their way to their set, one of the individuals reached into his pocket, then frantically began checking his other pockets realizing he had forgotten it on the dash of his truck at the road. Having no prior history of violations COs followed the individual back to his truck to retrieve his hunter orange and explained the reasoning for the law. The hunter, who had just recently gotten into predator hunting, stated it was a mistake he was sure to never make again and thanked the COs.

While on patrol and performing taxidermy inspections CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Noah Thompson encountered a taxidermist who had not properly maintained his records, enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Boudreaux conducted a snowmobile and ice safety presentation at Upper Peninsula Power Company as part of their regularly scheduled employee safety meetings. The presentation, which covered the importance of planning and proper equipment was well received and gave employees an opportunity to have their questions answered.

COs Josh Boudreaux, Johnathan Kamps, Cody Smith, Brett DeLonge, PCO Breanna Reed, and Sergeant (Sgt.) Brian Bacon, along with Michigan State Police (MSP) assisted the Marquette County Sheriff search and rescue with a lost hiker that had been hiking in the northern rural Marquette County area. Extremely cold temperatures, -20 below zero at points, heavy snow fall, and no cell phone reception made the search difficult. After three days the student was located deceased.

CO Jeremy Sergey was checking anglers on Shakey Lakes in Menominee County when he came across a group of anglers packing up for the day. After checking fishing licenses, CO Sergey noticed one of the individuals had a bass. CO Sergey asked the individual if he happened to know when bass season closed. The individual said he thought sometime in October. CO Sergey informed the individual catch and immediate release is all year round however possession of bass ended on December 31st. The bass was seized, and a citation was issued.

COs in Menominee County have completed a two-month investigation in which an individual shot a wolf during the 2018 firearm deer season. The wolf was equipped with a radio collar which tracks the wolf and sends a mortality signal upon the death of the wolf. A confession was obtained on January 15, 2019.

CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Noah Thompson conducted several taxidermy inspections in Iron and Dickinson Counties. During one inspection the COs found the taxidermist was unorganized with his paperwork and didn't have proper documentation for several of the animals which he had in his possession. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brian Lasanen, Doug Hermanson, Dave Miller, Cody Smith and PCO Byron Parks conducted a group patrol in South Range on Trail 3. The COs contacted snowmobilers and checked registrations, trail permits, equipment violations, and tested snowmobiles for noise level emissions. The COs had about 100 contacts, giving out 20 warnings for failure to display/attach trail permit and improper registration display. COs wrote eight citations: four registration and four exceed noise emission. CO Lasanen also assisted on a snowmobile that caught on fire a few miles north of the group patrol.

Sgt. Marc Pomroy, COs Brian Lasanen, Doug Hermanson, Dave Miller, Cody Smith and PCO Byron Parks conducted a group patrol in Keweenaw County, on Gratiot Lake Road, Trail 3. The COs contacted snowmobilers and checked registrations, trail permits, equipment violations, and tested snowmobiles for noise level emissions. The COs had about 250 contacts, giving out 30 warnings for failure to display/attach trail permit, improper display of registration. Citations were written for eight noise emissions, three failure to display trail permits, one suspended license, two careless operations, and one for no registration.

Sgt. Pomroy, COs Brian Lasanen, Dave Miller, Cody Smith, Jennifer Hanson and PCO Byron Parks conducted a group patrol near Bergland Bay in Ontonagon County. The COs contacted snowmobilers and checked registrations, trail permits, equipment violations, and tested snowmobiles for noise level emissions. The COs also contacted three separate groups coming off Lake Gogebic who had been ice fishing, all groups had legal possession limits. There were 100 contacts and ten warnings given for failure to display/attach trail permit, improper registration display. The COs wrote five registration violations, five failure to display/attach trail permit, two noise emission levels, and one careless operation.

COs Brian Lasanen, Zach Painter, Jennifer Hanson and PCO Byron Parks conducted a late-night snowmobile patrol on Lake Gogebic. The officers patrolled the lake for after dark ice anglers as well as OWI snowmobile operation.

CO Jennifer Hanson and Wisconsin Conservation Warden Tim Price interviewed a father and son involved in the illegal taking of a fisher and marten. The son, a Wisconsin resident, admitted to illegally trapping a fisher and marten in Michigan. He had asked his father to purchase the tags after the fact and lend them to him. Charges are pending through the Iron County Prosecutors office for take fisher/marten before season, take fisher/marten without a license, take fisher/marten by a Wisconsin resident, use another individual's tag for fisher/marten, and lend tag to another individual.

## **DISTRICT 2**

CO Mike Evink and PCO Todd Sumbera were on their way to conduct a patrol on Indian Lake when a call of a missing seven-year-old came over the radio. The two COs were on scene with Manistique public safety within minutes, and the girl was found within half an hour.

CO Mike Evink and PCO Todd Sumbera responded to a domestic disturbance call in Manistique, the COs were first on scene and kept the parties separated until Manistique Public Safety arrived. While still dealing with the domestic the COs were requested to respond to a vehicle rollover on M-94, 20 miles north.

CO Mike Evink and PCO Todd Sumbera were first on scene to back to back snowmobile accidents in northern Schoolcraft County. When approaching the intersection of Trail 88 and Trail 43, one subject crashed into the rear end of his riding partner causing a three-snowmobile pile up. The officers were able to provide first aid while waiting for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to arrive. One injury required EMS transport to Marquette General Hospital. The second accident occurred on snowmobile Trail 8, involving one sled. The subject was driving too fast for trail conditions before losing control and crashing his snowmobile. Injuries were suffered, but medical treatment was refused.

CO Mark Zitnik and US Forest Service (USFS) Officer Dave Tembruell were dispatched late Sunday evening to a remote lake in northern Alger County to assist three snowmobilers who sank their snowmobiles riding across a lake. The temperature was plummeting to -18 degrees, and the young men were soaked from sinking their machines, so the COs knew they had to find them very soon. CO Zitnik and USFS Officer Tembruell responded on snowmobiles to the location where the snowmobiler's cell phone was pinged. After locating the young men, the Officers, Alger County RS 21, and EMS treated the snowmobilers and got them back to their vehicle safely. The next day the three submerged snowmobiles were recovered from the lake.

CO Robert Freeborn, PCO Michael Olesen, CO Mike Evink and PCO Todd Sumbera performed a sound meter patrol in Alger County. During the sound patrol there were multiple riders contacted regarding careless operation of a snowmobile, failure to attach trail permits, failure to attach registration, and proper registration location on a snowmobile. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Freeborn, PCO Michael Olesen, and PCO Todd Sumbera attended a local snowmobile trail association meeting in Schoolcraft County.

COs Colton Gelinias, Justin Vinson, Chris Lynch, and Stephen Butzin participated in a two-day active shooter training held at Northern Michigan University. COs are certified police officers in Michigan and would respond to any active shooter event in their communities. The training provided the COs with numerous techniques that can be used in an active shooter event.

CO Colton Gelinias was on snowmobile patrol when a fatal snowmobile accident occurred in northern Luce County. CO Gelinias and Luce County Sheriff Deputy Tim Maskus assisted MSP troopers out of the Sault Ste. Marie Post in the investigation. Speed was determined to be a major factor in the crash.

CO Colton Gelinias was on patrol in Mackinac County checking ice anglers. CO Gelinias observed approximately 12 tip-ups on the ice with several flags up, but nobody was checking the tip-ups. After 30 minutes CO Gelinias located and contacted a group of anglers who stated they got cold and needed to warm up. CO Gelinias explained to the anglers that the lines needed to be attended at all times. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Calvin Smith and PCO Ariel Corr travelled to Hulbert to attend the Eastern Upper Peninsula Snowmobile Association meeting. Many local law enforcement teams were there to show support as well. Many things were discussed concerning the grooming of trails and statistics for the last year including contacts made, accidents, and citations issued.

CO Calvin Smith and PCO Ariel Corr assisted in an investigation of a possible illegally killed wolf, the investigation is ongoing.

CO Calvin Smith and PCO Ariel Corr were travelling back to Sault Ste. Marie when they came upon a group of four snowmobilers who were travelling on state highway M-123 on the plowed portion of the Right-of-Way. COs contacted the group who stated that they were very lost. COs educated the group on not being allowed to drive on the state highway and gave them directions to their destination. A verbal warning was issued to all riders for driving on a state highway.

CO Calvin Smith and PCO Ariel Corr braved the negative 40-degree weather and patrolled Drummond Island for the first annual Winter Jeep Jamboree. There were

around fifty jeeps participating in the jamboree. There were no issues on the island during the event.

CO Justin Vinson patrolled with Luce County Sheriff's Department for snowmobile activity. The officers were working an intersection when shortly after their arrival three snowmobilers failed to stop for the posted sign. CO Vinson caught up to the group that continued to ignore stops signs, and eventually stopped at a state highway. At the intersection an assault occurred involving two individuals. The officers separated the men, gained control of the scene, and assistance from MSP was requested. The assault charges were turned over to the MSP troopers and citations were issued for the snowmobile offenses.

CO Justin Vinson was on snowmobile patrol when he observed a group of snowmobilers jumping the snow banks of a plowed county road. CO Vinson contacted the group and advised them that while they could operate there, doing so with disregard for any cross traffic was dangerous. Law enforcement action was taken.

### **DISTRICT 3**

CO Ethen Mapes was patrolling Walloon Lake when he observed two individuals setting tip-ups. CO Mapes watched one subject drill five holes and set at least four lines. CO Mapes also observed one of the anglers driving carelessly on an ATV. Both individuals then rode the ATV right to CO Mapes's patrol truck at a nearby boat launch. Upon contact, one angler stated that he wasn't actually fishing, he was just hanging out. The licensed angler stated that he didn't know there was a limit on the number of fishing lines he could use. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes was on patrol near Thumb Lake when he was dispatched to a lost and stuck snowmobiler. With the subzero temperatures, CO Mapes hurried to find the individual. After a short search, CO Mapes located the individual who was worn out and advised CO Mapes that he wanted to just leave the snowmobile in the woods and come back when there was less snow. CO Mapes told the man that he wouldn't need to leave the sled as he would help him get it out. CO Mapes was able to free the subject's snowmobile and get him on his way. Later that day, the man called central dispatch to thank CO Mapes for his efforts in helping him get the sled out because he would have abandoned it for the season.

CO Ethen Mapes was patrolling a snowmobile trail in Emmet County when he stopped two snowmobiles for failing to stop at a stop sign. After stopping the subjects, their group caught up and waited while their friends were issued citations. While writing citations for careless operation, CO Mapes noticed that most of the sleds had cattails wrapped around the skis and stuck to their hoods. CO Mapes educated the group on where not to operate and how to avoid areas closed to snowmobiles. CO Mapes wrote two other citations at the same stop sign for careless operation of a snowmobile.

COs Chad Baldwin and Ethen Mapes responded to a call of a stranded deer near Horton Bay. The deer had wandered out onto the slick ice and could not make its way back to shore. The COs carefully checked the thickness of the ice as they made their way out to the deer. After reaching the deer, CO Baldwin was able to drag the deer to shore where it was released unharmed.

CO Chad Baldwin checked ice anglers on Lake Charlevoix during the first weekend of good ice on the lake. Anglers were anxious to get out and the activity level was high as most of the anglers were trying their luck at catching cisco in over 100' of water. Multiple snowmobile and ORV violations were witnessed, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Erratt received a call about a very weak injured deer with an arrow stuck in its shoulder. An Antrim County Sheriff's deputy dispatched the deer before CO Erratt arrived. The deer was extremely thin, and the bolt appeared to have been in the deer for a while. CO Erratt talked to some neighbors who said the deer had been hanging around for a long time. CO Erratt received a call from another neighbor who thought he may have shot the 7-point buck in early November. His bolt matched the one found in the deer.

CO Andrea Erratt received a complaint about a snowmobiler who had trespassed on posted property, even driving by a house and out a driveway. After getting fuel for his sled, the snowmobiler returned to trespass on a different part of the property on his way back to US 31. CO Erratt located the trespassing snowmobiler in a neighborhood nearby and he admitted seeing a no trespassing sign on a cabin. CO Erratt checked the snowmobile that did not have a trail permit and was missing one registration decal. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Adam LeClerc, Ethen Mapes, and PCO Anna Viau patrolled the Crash-Landing Relic Ride. Several verbal warnings were given for improper display of trail permits. While parked near a stop sign on snowmobile Trail 7, a snowmobiler failed to stop at the stop sign. When the stop was initiated, it was discovered that the man had a suspended operator's license. Enforcement action was taken.

All Area 1 COs, two PCOs, and Sgt. Bill Webster did a group snowmobile patrol in the Mancelona and Jordan Valley area. The temperature was very cold, but many contacts were made. Five citations were issued during the patrol. Two for registration violations and three for no trail stickers. Multiple warnings were given for improper display of the registration and trail permits.

CO Andrea Albert and PCO Andrea Dani were patrolling local lakes in Antrim County when they pulled up to Bass Lake in Elk Rapids and observed three anglers on the ice. The COs contacted the anglers who were in possession of five under-sized northern pike. The pike were seized, and citations issued for possession of under-sized pike. The anglers were also warned for not having their name and address on their tip-ups.

CO Eric Bottorff assisted a Cheboygan County Sheriff's deputy on a traffic stop where a distracted motorist went across the center line of the highway and nearly hit the deputy head-on. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff worked in the Pigeon River Country this weekend conducting surveillance at Inspiration Point for closed area snowmobile operation. No activity was found, however, there were tracks in there from last weekend.

CO Tim Rosochacki and PCO Jon Sheppard were patrolling Otsego County conducting a snowmobile patrol when they stopped the lead sled in a group of five for disobeying a stop sign. Upon making the stop, the last three snowmobiles in the group stayed back approximately 100 yards. PCO Sheppard left CO Rosochacki with the first group, contacted the second group and determined that they had expired trail permits and were trying not to be seen. Enforcement action was taken on both groups.

CO Tim Rosochacki and PCO Jon Sheppard were patrolling a busy snowmobile intersection in Cheboygan County when they observed a snowmobile pass their location displaying an expired registration and trail permit. A stop was made and when the operator was contacted, was found to have a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki and PCO Jon Sheppard investigated a head-on snowmobile accident in Cheboygan County. Two snowmobiles collided when two groups, one headed northbound and the other southbound passed each other creating a sudden whiteout. One of the operators was following too closely and veered into oncoming traffic to avoid hitting the snowmobile in front of him; however, he collided with a second snowmobile causing a crash. One operator was transported to the hospital with minor injuries, and the other did not require medical attention. Enforcement action was taken for the snowmobile operator who left his lane of travel.

COs Matt Theunick, Eric Bottorff, Tim Rosochacki, Kyle Cherry, Tom Oberg, and PCOs Cole VanOosten, Jon Sheppard along with Sgt. Mark DePew conducted a night patrol in the Gaylord area focusing on snowmobile operators who were possibly impaired by drugs or alcohol. Many snowmobile operators were contacted however, no impairments were observed. While the COs were checking for impairment, several other violations were observed including, improperly displayed and expired registrations, careless operation, and operating without trail permits. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kyle Cherry and Tom Oberg conducted multiple snowmobile patrols in Otsego County. Violations included careless operation, unregistered snowmobiles, and no trail permits. Most notably, the COs stopped a snowmobile with a green trail permit believing it to be expired by one year. Upon approaching the snowmobile, it was discovered the trail permit was tampered with using a black marker and was four years expired. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kyle Cherry and Tom Oberg responded along with MSP, Otsego County Sheriff's Department, as well as multiple Fire and EMS agencies to a report of a plane that would be attempting an emergency landing with no front landing gear at the Otsego County Airport. The COs arrived to help secure the scene and render aid if needed. The skilled pilot was able to land the plane without suffering extensive damage and there were no injuries sustained.

Sgt. Mark DePew and PCO Cole VanOosten testified at Otsego District Court involving a trial of an illegal sturgeon that was taken in violation of the law on Otsego Lake. During the trial, the 55" sturgeon was in the courtroom on display for the jury to view. After a two-hour deliberation, the jury found the subject guilty on one of the two counts.

CO Sidney Collins received a complaint of furniture and trash dumped on state land in Montmorency County. CO Collins was able to find a receipt identifying the owner of the trash and furniture. The information was turned over to the prosecutor's office.

CO Sidney Collins assisted the Montmorency County Sheriff's Department in a search for a suicidal subject. The subject initially threatened to jump out of a moving vehicle. The subject then left the vehicle and walked through the woods towards his home. Since the weather was so cold and the subject was suicidal, the CO and the deputies had to move fast. CO Collins was informed that the subject had previously hid his firearms behind his home in the woods. A K9 unit was called in to assist but was over an hour away. The CO and the officers were able to track down the subject in the woods following foot tracks in the snow. The subject was found without incident and taken to the hospital for evaluation.

CO Sidney Collins investigated a complaint of a local Montmorency elk guide who was guiding clients on state land without a commercial use permit. CO Collins interviewed the elk guide while he was lodged at the local jail on other charges. A confession was received, and charges are pending with the prosecutor's office.

CO Sidney Collins responded to a car-elk accident in Montmorency County. The elk was killed in the collision and donated to a local food bank.

COs Sidney Collins and Jessica Curtis responded to a fight in progress at a spectator viewing area during the Montmorency Sno Drift Rally. One of the spectators became angry when another spectator told him he could not cook his hot dog over the fire. The subjects were separated without incident.

CO Jonathan Sklba was patrolling in Presque Isle County when he was passed by a vehicle. CO Sklba could smell marijuana as the vehicle passed and was able to catch up and make a traffic stop on the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle admitted to having just finished smoking marijuana. He was also in possession of unsecured marijuana in the vehicle. The subject was asked to perform field sobrieties which he failed. The subject was arrested for operating a vehicle while under the influence of drugs.



CO Jon Sklba assisted CO Paul Fox with an investigation of a subject that had an untagged deer hanging in his garage. The deer was located, and the subject contacted. The information was turned over to the local prosecutor's office for charges.

CO Paul Fox and PCO Dan Liestenfeltz met with a high school student at the Gaylord Customer Service Center. The student was interested in having a career with the DNR and had special interest in becoming a conservation officer. The COs took the student around the office where he met employees from various divisions. By meeting with different DNR divisions, he was able to have a good understanding of how various divisions work together within the DNR. The COs then sat down with the student and talked more in depth about conservation officers, what their job entails as well as what it takes to become a conservation officer.

CO Paul Fox and PCO Dan Liestenfeltz patrolled the Sno Drift Rally weekend in Montmorency County. The COs worked both in their patrol truck as well as on snowmobiles. The COs were able to make many contacts over the course of the weekend. Everyone was being safe and there were no major events that occurred. The COs assisted with multiple stuck vehicles, due to the amount of snow around the rally areas. The extremely cold temperatures kept activity low.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

CO Rebecca Hubers was approaching a fishing shanty on an inland lake in Benzie County when she observed a man who appeared to be "racing" her toward the same shanty from another direction. CO Hubers met the man at the shanty at the same time and the man pushed his way into the shanty, ignoring CO Hubers' requested to stop, in order to break a fishing line. CO Hubers had to pull the man from the shanty when he continually failed to comply with her verbal demands, to stop the man from disposing of any other criminal evidence. The man was charged with fishing with more than three lines and was taken into custody for three outstanding misdemeanor warrants.

COs Troy Ludwig and Amanda McCurdy conducted a 100-mile snowmobile patrol through Grand Traverse and Wexford Counties. Hundreds of snowmobilers were checked for proper equipment and registration requirements. Numerous citations were issued for failure to obtain a trail permit, expired registration, and other violations. Their patrol covered areas such as Fife Lake, the Manistee River, and Scheck's Place State Forest Campground area.

While patrolling the Wexford County snowmobile trail system, CO Troy Ludwig observed a snowmobile that did not have a current trail permit. The CO conducted a stop of the snowmobile and discovered the rider had purchased the sled a little less than a year ago and had forgotten to register the machine with the Secretary of State. State law requires the new owner of a snowmobile to register the machine with the Secretary of State within 15 days of purchase. It was also discovered that the registration affixed to the snowmobile did not belong to any snowmobile. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Amanda Lake and Troy Ludwig were patrolling the snowmobile trails in Grand Traverse County when they observed a rider without a valid snowmobile permit traveling in the opposite direction they were traveling. The COs turned around as fast as possible but were unable to locate the rider once they entered the City of Fife Lake. The COs stopped at a local restaurant with several snowmobiles in front of it and CO Ludwig was able to recognize one of the snowmobiler's fellow riders. The CO then searched the parking area and located a snowmobile with a pair of gloves covering its trail permit which turned out to be expired. The COs contacted the rider when he exited the restaurant and he admitted to knowing the permit had expired and that he had gone into the restaurant to find out where he could purchase a permit. The rider also admitted that he had placed his gloves over the permit to keep the COs from recognizing his machine. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Leelanau County, CO Patrick McManus noticed a snowmobile being operated on the shoulder of a public highway against the flow of traffic, and the sled was missing a current trail permit sticker. When CO McManus attempted to stop the snowmobile, it turned away from the CO and tried to flee the area and get away. After several minutes of searching for the rider, CO McManus was eventually able to find them at a nearby gas station. Due to the subject being a juvenile, CO McManus contacted the parents at their residence and discussed snowmobile laws, rules, and regulations.

CO William Kinney was patrolling Long Lake in Grand Traverse County for ice fishing activity. CO Kinney approached an ice shanty to check for fishing licenses. Before speaking to the anglers, CO Kinney observed two tip-ups in the water next to the shanty. Upon contact with the anglers, CO Kinney had noticed both anglers were fishing inside the shanty. This put a total of four lines in the water between the two anglers. When CO Kinney asked for fishing licenses, one angler was able to provide a license, however the other stated he was not fishing. CO Kinney informed the angler without a license that if his statement was true, then his friend would be issued a citation for possessing an over-limit of fishing lines. The individual soon owned up to his lie to keep his friend out of trouble. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, while on snowmobile patrol, observed four snowmobiles disregard a stop sign coming off a trail onto a county roadway. While attempting to catch up to the snowmobiles, CO Killingbeck observed one snowmobile operating on the wrong side of the road and another in the center of the roadway. CO Killingbeck contacted the operators and discovered that none of the snowmobiles were registered. The subjects told CO Killingbeck that they had been riding in the area for seven years and claimed they had no idea a snowmobile needed to be registered in Michigan. The subject riding on the wrong side of the road told CO Killingbeck that he was just trying to "keep up" with his friends. Numerous violations were address and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, while on patrol with a Lake County deputy, observed a group of snowmobiles with one displaying an expired 2017 registration. Contact was made with the group and it was discovered that another snowmobile displayed an expired 2016 registration. The subjects told the officers that they were here for a friend's bachelor party and that they knew it was illegal to operate unregistered snowmobiles. One subject told CO Killingbeck that he had gone to the Secretary of State, but there was a long line and he did not have time to wait, so he decided to risk riding without a registration. Enforcement action was taken.

With the recent heavy snow falls, snowmobile activity is in full swing. While patrolling Manistee County, CO Steven Converse received a complaint of snowmobiles operating at high rates of speed and traveling two to three sleds wide down the county road. CO Converse patrolled the area and observed all the violations that had been in the complaint. Some sleds contacted admitted to traveling nearly 90-mph down the road. Over the course of a few hours, CO Converse issued several tickets for careless operation, not operating on the far right of the shoulder, and registration violations.

CO Mike Wells responded to a complaint of anglers trespassing. CO Wells arrived in the area and observed five subjects fishing on the lake. CO Wells observed one subject tending three tip-ups and jigging with a fourth line. CO Wells contacted the subject and asked him if he knew the number of lines he was allowed by law. He responded, "Three." Inspection of his ice fishing sled revealed a 13.5 inch out of season largemouth bass. The subject admitted that he knew it wasn't bass season and stated that the fish swallowed the hook and was going to die anyway. A citation was issued to the subject for the out-of-season bass, with a warning issued for fish with more than three lines. The other four subjects were legal and had a 41-inch northern pike on the ice. The subjects thought to be trespassing had permission from a property owner to be on the lake.

CO Mike Wells was on patrol at a Newaygo County lake when he observed two snowmobiles operating on the frozen surface of the lake. CO Wells used binoculars to determine that one of the machines did not have a current trail permit. He observed the subjects for a short time and determined that they were recreational riding and not ice fishing. He made contact at a cabin on the lake and determined that both snowmobiles were lacking an updated trail permit and that one of the machines was displaying expired registration since 2017. A citation was issued for the failure to obtain the trail permit and warning was issued for the expired registration. One of the subjects was a juvenile without snowmobile safety. The juvenile was observed several times on the other side of the lake, a significant distance from the adult rider. CO Wells educated the adult rider on supervision of the juvenile.

CO Ben Shively testified at a Circuit Court trial in Oceana County on a subject charged with Felony Resisting and Opposing an Officer. On July 1<sup>st</sup> of last year, CO Shively attempted to stop a dirt bike that was operating on a public roadway without wearing a helmet and having an ORV sticker. The subject was found guilty at the conclusion of the two-day bench trial for Felony Resisting and Opposing an Officer.

CO Troy Van Gelderen and PCO Josh Reed were checking anglers on a rural lake when a vehicle with a loud exhaust and an expired license plate drove into the boat launch parking lot. The COs contacted the driver who stated that the car was borrowed from a friend. It was discovered that both the driver and the passenger had invalid driver's licenses. It was also discovered that there was no insurance on the vehicle. During a search of the vehicle, PCO Reed found marijuana that was improperly transported because it was not locked up. Tickets were issued for the violations and a warrant request was sent to the Oceana County Prosecutor's office.

CO Angela Greenway participated in the Hunting Expo at the Wex Civic Center in Cadillac. There was a couple hundred in attendance and CO Greenway reported being busy answering questions concerning the baiting ban and Chronic Wasting Disease as well as questions pertaining to predator hunting and Antler Point Restrictions.

CO Angela Greenway was on patrol of the Haymarsh State Game Area and contacted a group target practicing and shooting clays. CO Greenway observed freshly shot spray paint cans in the area and one individual admitted to shooting them. CO Greenway provided a warning on shooting spray paint cans as not being environmentally friendly and provided the group with options for targets in the future.

## **DISTRICT 5**

District 5 COs worked both weekends of Houghton Lake's annual Tip Up Town winter festival. Temperatures were brutally cold with windchills in the double-digit negatives. Despite the environmental challenges, numerous contacts, arrests, and warnings were made for fishing and snowmobiling violations.

During a recent snowmobile patrol, CO Mike Hearn and PCO Jesse Grzechowski worked a problem area for snowmobiles in a residential area of Kalkaska County. The 25-mph road has had numerous complaints of snowmobiles speeding through the area. Using radar, multiple stops were made for speeding violations. Two citations were issued for snowmobiles operating 35-mph over the posted speed limit.

While on patrol near Snowmobile Trail 6/7 during the first weekend of Tip Up Town, COs Mike Hearn, Jeremy Cantrell and PCO Jesse Grzechowski were monitoring a busy trail intersection in Roscommon County. A pair of snowmobiles came through the intersection at a high rate of speed without a trail permit or valid registration. CO Hearn and PCO Grzechowski followed the snowmobiles and after five miles, finally caught up and initiated a stop. After showing signs of possible intoxication, one of the operators was put through field sobriety tests and showed a minimal level of impairment. He was subsequently issued a citation for the expired registration and bond was secured for his court appearance, due to him being an out of state resident.

While working the Tip Up Town event in Roscommon County, COs John Huspen, Steve Lockwood, and Sgt. Jon Wood observed a tip-up with the flag up, indicating that a fish

was on the line. The COs watched the line for approximately one hour before the angler returned to check on it. When the angler returned, CO Huspen took enforcement action for leaving out unattended fishing lines.

While patrolling Houghton Lake in Roscommon County, COs John Huspen, James Garrett, and Micah Hintze observed an individual operating a motocross bike in a careless manner. CO Huspen contacted the individual as he was doing donuts around pedestrians attempting to shower them with snow from the tires. The man was also operating without a helmet and did not have an ORV license for the machine. Enforcement action was taken.

COs John Huspen and James Garrett were advised by Sgt. Jon Wood that a snowmobile went through the ice near the mouth of the Muskegon River on Houghton Lake. When in the area, the COs were flagged down by the owners of the snowmobile. After determining there were no injuries and no one in the water, the COs assisted in removal of the snowmobile. A nearby homeowner wearing a pair of chest waders offered to help. The helpful citizen stood in three-foot deep water and lifted the back of the snowmobile as the COs pulled it out of the water by the skis and back onto the ice. The helpful citizen was assisted out of the water and back on solid ice. The COs thanked the man for his help and pointed the snowmobilers back in the direction of the nearby snowmobile trails.

While patrolling Roscommon County for the Tip Up Town event, CO Jeremy Cantrell noticed three snowmobiles traveling on the side of the roadway. After checking the snowmobiles closely, CO Cantrell noticed that they did not have current trail permits or registrations. CO Cantrell attempted to make a traffic stop on the group. When the group noticed the CO, the lead snowmobile operator turned around and attempted to flee. CO Cantrell caught up with the lead snowmobile miles away and conducted a stop. With the assistance from other COs in the area, the remaining two snowmobiles were eventually located. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Iosco County, CO Tyler Sabuda located a couple of individuals ice fishing in an area all alone. CO Sabuda contacted the anglers and determined they were in possession of multiple undersized northern pike. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, COs Ethan Gainforth and Joshua Wright noticed some unattended tip-ups on the ice outside of a cabin on a rural Clare County lake. The COs stopped at the cabin and were soon greeted by two men. An undersized northern pike was observed by the cabin door. The men explained to the COs that the pike had "swallowed the hook" and they "did not want the fish to go to waste." The men also explained to the COs that they had intentions of 'pickling' the pike. The COs explained the importance of releasing the undersized pike for the overall management of the species. A citation was issued for the undersized fish.

CO Phil Hudson received information that a subject was in possession of two freshly killed deer hanging in a barn. CO Hudson, along with CO Craig Neal, responded to the

subject's address. The COs were met at the door by the man. After a short interview, he admitted to shooting the deer with a rifle during the closed season. Both deer were seized, and further enforcement action is being sought through the Arenac County Prosecutor's office.

## **DISTRICT 6**

CO John Byars followed up on a hunter harassment complaint that happened during firearm deer season. CO Byars met with the complainant to review video evidence and interviewed other complainants. The CO made contact with the suspect who stated that he did not harass anyone. The statement from the suspect did not match the video evidence. A warrant request was submitted to the prosecutor.

CO John Byars received a RAP complaint about a deer hanging in someone's backyard. The caller thought that the deer may have been poached. CO Byars went to the address and noticed the deer was not tagged. CO Byars made contact with the suspect and he confessed that the deer was shot during deer season last year and he did not tag it and left it to rot. The CO issued a citation for possessing the deer without a validated tag.

CO John Byars received a trespassing complaint on Rainbow Lake in Gratiot County. CO Byars arrived on location and followed the sled tracks to an ice shanty. When CO Byars made contact with the anglers and asked to check their fishing licenses, one angler could not produce a license. A license history check revealed the angler had not purchased a current fishing license. The CO issued a citation for fishing without a license and educated them about private property rights and gave them a verbal warning for trespassing.

COs Josh Russell and Mike Haas received a complaint that a side by side went through the ice on a local lake. The COs went to the scene and located the ORV and spoke to the owner. The ORV was removed from the ice without incident.

CO Quincy Gowenlock received a call from CO Jason King regarding a Saginaw Township police officer who had been shot earlier that morning with the suspect still at large. Both COs checked into service and began searching the county checking state land and other areas familiar to them for the suspect. As information came in it was determined the suspect had stolen another vehicle near the Saint Charles area. The COs continued searching along with other local law enforcement for most of the day. At approximately 1400hrs, central dispatch broadcasted the suspect had been located and taken into custody in Shiawassee County.

While on patrol, CO Jill Miller was checking anglers at the road ends for the Saginaw Bay. While patrolling to the next spot she noticed an ORV coming down the road toward her with no helmet. CO Miller conducted a stop and the ORV did not have an ORV license either. The rider said he knew he needed a helmet but just didn't put it on today. Education and enforcement action were taken.

While patrolling central Isabella County, COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson witnessed a truck speeding through a gas station parking lot. The truck pulled onto the roadway without yielding and slid sideways through both lanes. The COs caught up to the truck and noted it was speeding and failing to use turn signals. A traffic stop was initiated and while speaking with the driver, it was also determined that the man did not have a valid driver's license in his possession and didn't have insurance on his truck. Citations were issued to address the numerous driving violations.

CO Mike Haas was checking a popular fishing location in western Isabella County when he noticed a group of anglers walking through posted, private property. CO Haas parked his patrol truck near the suspect's vehicles and followed their tracks through the snow. The footprints lead through a hole that had been cut in a chain-link fence, through private property and onto the lake. CO Haas contacted the anglers who immediately admitted their wrong doing. While CO Haas was speaking with the anglers, CO Josh Russell was patrolling nearby when he heard radio traffic concerning the complaint and assisted at the scene. Citations were issued to the men for recreational trespassing.

CO Joe Myers assisted Beaverton Police Department on a snowmobile accident where the driver fled the scene of the accident. CO Myers followed the tracks in the snow to the location where the PD had taken the driver into custody. Charges are pending through Beaverton PD for leaving the scene of a snowmobile accident.

COs Joe Myers and Steve Lockwood were on a designated snowmobile patrol in Gladwin County when they discovered an abandoned vehicle. The vehicle was backed in to a dark dead-end road and had no plate on it. CO Myers ran the VIN through LEIN and it was determined that the vehicle had been reported as stolen. CO Myers secured the vehicle per Rockwell PD and turned the investigation over to them to continue their already ongoing investigation.

## **DISTRICT 7**

CO Carter Woodwyk was patrolling Allegan County when he observed a vehicle on the shoulder of the road with hazard lights on and a subject looking under the hood. The CO pulled up to check on the occupants and help. During the contact, the CO discovered one of the subjects had a valid warrant out of Ottawa County. The subject was taken into custody and lodged at the Allegan County jail.

CO Sam Schluckbier responded to a snowmobile personal injury accident in Allegan County. The accident occurred when a female driver hit a frozen mound adjacent to the designated trail. The driver rolled the snowmobile and collided with a small tree. The driver was taken to a local hospital and treated for back pain. While directing snowmobile traffic at the scene, CO Schluckbier observed an unregistered snowmobile pass by his location. Contact was made and enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier checked ice anglers on an inland lake in Allegan County. During the patrol he contacted multiple citizens who were eager to start the 2019 ice fishing season. During one of the checks he watched as two anglers quickly packed up their gear and ice shanty. While walking back to the launch, CO Schluckbier requested to see their fishing licenses. The two subjects stated that they were not fishing and were only drinking beer on the ice. CO Schluckbier found this claim to be false, pointing out that they were carrying baited fishing rods, live bait, drilled holes in the ice, and were sitting there for over two hours in single digit temperatures. After further discussion, the two reluctantly admitted to fishing without licenses. They claimed the ice was not good enough, so they didn't feel like buying a license. Both individuals were cited for the violation.

While patrolling snowmobile trails, COs Tyler Cole and Travis Dragomer observed a vehicle spin out on the icy roads, doing several "donuts" and proceed to correct itself and continue down the road. At the very next intersection, the same car proceeded to spin out for a second time, and then drove down the road in reverse for approximately one-half mile. A traffic stop was conducted, and the driver erroneously claimed to have been unable to maintain control of his vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Robinette and PCO Jackie Miskovich were on patrol in Cass County when PCO Miskovich checked two individuals on Juno Lake for fishing licenses. One did not have a valid fishing license, and the other came back with a Personal Protection Order (PPO), not served. PCO Miskovich issued a citation to the individual without a license and served the PPO to the other individual.

CO Kyle McQueer was assisting St. Joseph County Sherriff's Department with multiple slide-offs when he observed a snowmobile traveling down the roadway without a trail permit and expired registration. CO McQueer waited at the nearby intersection for the snowmobile to travel back to the residence it came from. CO McQueer contacted the operator of the snowmobile at their residence. Enforcement action was taken for the violations.

CO Justin Ulberg followed up on a complaint where a deer carcass was dumped on state land in Kent County. CO Ulberg located the carcass and discovered the successful hunter had left his tag attached to the carcass. CO Ulberg interviewed the subject who the kill-tag belonged to and the subject stated that he did not shoot the deer in question. The subject stated that a friend shot a doe on family property during the muzzleloader season. Unfortunately, the hunter who shot the deer did not have a proper antlerless deer license for the area where the deer was shot, so the subject went to the store and purchased the proper license and gave it to the successful hunter. CO Ulberg followed up with the subject who shot the deer. The subject confessed to dumping the carcass on state land and stated that he forgot to remove the deer kill-tag. CO Ulberg also addressed the violations of using a license of another and not having the proper deer license for the deer that was harvested. Enforcement action was taken.



While checking ice anglers on the Eastmanville Bayou in Ottawa County, CO Ivan Perez came across a large pop-up fishing shanty with two subjects within. One subject immediately told CO Perez he did not have a license. The 2nd subject had a license but no Identification. CO Perez file checked both subjects and the subject without identification had several warrant hits out of Kent County. The subject was also recovering from a recent car accident and had medical boots that he was supposed to be wearing on both of his feet. He did not have them with him and asked if before being taken to jail, his girlfriend who lived a couple minutes away could bring them to him. CO Perez said he could call her and if she made it to their location prior to getting back to the patrol vehicle he would allow him to change out his footwear. CO Perez assisted the subject in securing his gear, as his friend was not familiar with how to take down the shanty. The gear was gathered, and they walked back to CO Perez's patrol vehicle. The subject's girlfriend made it in time, and he put on his medical boots. The other subject who had no license stated that he had not fished for over 14 years and was just along for companionship but admitted he had been fishing. The subject was given a warning and allowed to purchase a 24-hour license using his cell phone. CO Perez lodged the other subject at the Ottawa County jail.

## **DISTRICT 8**

CO Jason McCullough concluded a trespass investigation where the suspect was spotted by a neighbor hunting on another adjoining neighbor's property. The complainant confronted the trespasser and immediately recognized him as the same hunter who was trespassing on the same property almost exactly one year ago. The last time the trespasser had shot a deer while trespassing. When the trespassing hunter realized he had been recognized, he just hung his head and went home. Warrants are being sought for second offense trespassing through the local prosecutor's office.

CO Jason McCullough and PCO Edward Rice completed an investigation where a complainant called about the neighbor shooting at his dogs. CO McCullough responded to the area and located the "suspects" who informed CO McCullough they had been having problems with the neighbor's dogs running loose and harassing their cattle. The original complainant was nowhere to be found. The original complainant was eventually contacted by phone and stated he wasn't coming back home and was moving out. CO McCullough explained to the original complainant he needed to meet him at the scene to investigate the original complaint. Further investigation revealed the original complainant had multiple outstanding arrest warrants and a freshly killed untagged deer hanging in his yard. The original complainant was found to not have purchased a deer hunting license for the 2018 season. PCO Rice and CO McCullough attempted to contact the complainant over the course of several weeks but were unsuccessful. Warrants are being sought through the local county prosecutor's office.

CO Nick Wellman was assisted by COs Chris Reynolds, Jeff Goss and PCO Nathan Beelman in conducting interviews for a deer case from earlier in the season when someone had reported a possible over limit of deer in the youth season. After a full day

of interviews, a full confession was received from the father who admitted to shooting a big 9-point buck during the youth hunt and his son killing another big 9-point the next night using fraudulent tags. In all, the interviews yielded five illegal deer and several other violations spanning the last two deer seasons. The antlers of the deer from this year were seized and a report will be sent to the Branch County Prosecutor's office seeking charges.

CO Chris Reynolds while on patrol in Hillsdale County observed a vehicle stuck in a large snow drift. The officer patrolled to the vehicle and found an elderly handicapped individual who was unable to free the vehicle. With the recent storm, all tow trucks were extremely busy and running hours behind. The officer used his issued equipment and assisted the motorist to get them back on the roadway. The motorist was extremely grateful for the officer's assistance.

CO Matthew Neterer and PCO Luke Robare investigated a complaint where the reporting party heard a gunshot in the early morning hours behind his neighbor's residence. The complainant thought that his neighbor poached a deer. CO Neterer and PCO Robare patrolled the area on foot and located fresh blood and boot tracks in the snow. Further investigation revealed photos of the suspect posing with a coyote on social media. The coyote was killed and recovered on a neighboring property that the suspect did not have permission to hunt. The coyote was also shot within 150 yards of an occupied dwelling without permission. Charges are being sought for both violations through the Clinton County Prosecutor's office.

CO Shannon Kritz was checking ice anglers in Eaton County when she heard about a subject who had fallen through the ice earlier in the day and self-rescued. The subject left behind his fishing sled, ice shanty, and all his fishing gear. He told people he would come back to get them once the ice was thicker. The next morning, CO Kritz walked out to where the subject had fallen through and retrieved the gear he had left behind. The subject left his name on his poles and CO Kritz was able to track down an address for him. She arrived at his residence and gave him back his fishing gear. The subject told her how traumatizing falling through the ice was since it was so early in the morning and he was by himself. However, he was very thankful to get his gear back and was planning on going back out the next day but take a safer route to get to his favorite fishing spot.

CO Katie Stawara was on patrol when a Shiawassee unit radioed that he was following the suspect vehicle involved in the recent Saginaw County officer shooting. The detective was traveling west bound on I 69 when he requested backup to conduct a traffic stop. CO Stawara responded to assist. While en route to meet the detective, the suspect began fleeing. He exited I 69 at the Woodbury Road exit where he proceeded to run multiple stop signs before stopping and exchanging gunfire with the Shiawassee County detective. CO Stawara arrived second on scene with a Bath Township unit where she and responding officers held the wounded suspect until the MSP emergency support team arrived with shields. Together, CO Stawara and the officers on scene

moved in to detain the suspect and secure the vehicle he was driving. The suspect was transported to the hospital with no further officer injuries sustained.

## **DISTRICT 9**

While on snowmobile patrol in Macomb County, COs Kris Kiel and Joseph Deppen noticed three snowmobiles operating in the center of the roadway. COs contacted the snowmobilers and one of the snowmobiles had no registration or trail permit. Another rider also had warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

While on ice angler patrol in Macomb County, CO Joseph Deppen noticed two anglers trespassing on private property to access a marina. CO Deppen contacted the anglers as they were exiting the marina. Both anglers were cited for recreational trespassing and one angler had a warrant for his arrest for fishing without a license in 2016. Bond was taken from one angler and enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers along lake St. Clair, CO Joseph Deppen encountered a group of anglers that had multiple tip-ups out on the ice. None of the tip-ups were labeled. Further checks revealed that three anglers did not have fishing licenses and they were smoking marijuana on public waters of the state. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel met with the prosecutor and received a five-count warrant for a subject that took an over limit of antlered deer in 2015, 2016, and 2017, using deer tags of another, and over baiting for deer. The case was the result of an investigation conducted by COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey, stemming from a large bait pile found by CO Joseph Deppen.

CO Robert Watson was patrolling after a heavy snowfall when a snowmobile was seen traveling in the lane of travel for motor vehicles. The passenger on the sled also was lacking a helmet. The snowmobile did not have current registration nor a trail permit. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Robert Watson and Ben Lasher were contacted by two trappers claiming to have had traps stolen. The men stated the suspect was homeless and was currently in the area. COs Watson and Lasher contacted the subject and CO Lasher was able to obtain a confession. The homeless man stated he wanted to sell the traps for money. COs Watson and Lasher returned the traps to the trappers. Later that night, the homeless man contacted CO Watson and notified him that his bike and other belongings were missing from his tent. The following day, CO Watson continued the investigation, eventually leading to a confession from one of the trappers. The trapper stated he went home and thought about it until he got mad, then stole the bike and belongings so the homeless man would know what it was like to be without his possessions. A report is being submitted to the prosecutor's office on the offenses committed.

CO Pat Hartsig and PCO Tom Peterson were checking ice anglers near the Raft Bar in St. Clair County, when they contacted an angler that could not produce a fishing

license. When asked for his license, the individual could only produce a Michigan Identification Card. The COs ran a fishing license check, a file, and driving status on the individual. The subject did purchase a fishing license, however, the file and driving status check produced a suspended driver's license along with three misdemeanor warrants, one of which was out of Clay Township PD. The warrants were confirmed, and the individual was arrested and turned over to Clay Township PD.

CO Pat Hartsig and PCO Tom Peterson followed up on two waterfowl blinds left standing for over two seasons in St. Johns Marsh. The officers retrieved the information off the blinds and contacted the owner and informed him of the importance of removing blinds from the state refuges. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey and PCO Jaime Salisbury worked on conducting interviews on subjects whose deer were discovered at a local taxidermist to be in violation of law. PCO Salisbury and CO Silorey were able to interview one subject and obtain a confession that the subject had shot a deer in early October and purchased his deer tag when he found out the processor would not accept it without a tag. With photographic evidence, and a written confession, charges are being sought through the local prosecutor's office.

CO Brad Silorey and PCO Jaime Salisbury followed up on a suspicious set of antlers found during a taxidermy inspection. CO Silorey and PCO Salisbury suspected the antlers came from a deer that had been shot before the kill-tag was purchased. PCO Salisbury interviewed the suspect asking about their hunting success this past deer season. After a thorough interview, the suspect confessed to shooting the deer before purchasing a kill-tag. The remaining meat from the deer was taken as evidence and later donated to the needy. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey and PCO Jaime Salisbury were checking ice anglers on Lake St. Clair. While conducting a license check on a small group of anglers PCO Salisbury noticed another angler a short distance away dump their bucket of perch on the ice and begin to count frantically. PCO Salisbury ran over and contacted the angler to assist them in counting the fish dumped on the ice. CO Silorey then counted the fish one by one placing the fish on the ice back into the bucket. Once CO Silorey reached the limit of 50 perch in the bucket, 11 perch remained on the ice. CO Silorey informed the angler that he was in possession of 61 yellow perch. PCO Salisbury asked the angler if they lost count and the angler admitted to never counting the fish because the bite was so good, but that they were only going to be keeping 50 perch after they sorted through them when he was done. CO Silorey informed the angler that he could not possess more than 50 perch at one time, and that they should have sorted them as they were caught. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey and PCO Jaime Salisbury were on patrol in St. Clair County when they came across three snowmobiles operating in a wildlife refuge. PCO Salisbury ran from the truck and flagged down the riders to stop. PCO Salisbury asked the riders what they were doing riding in the refuge and if they had seen the signs that say no motor

vehicles when they entered the refuge. The riders were escorted out of the refuge and back to the patrol truck. Several violations including operating inside a wildlife refuge, operating without a trail permit, operating with a suspended driver's license, and possession of illegal substances were found. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin and PCO Brandon Vacek were patrolling several lakes in Oakland County for fishing activity. The COs noticed a shanty with multiple tip-ups possibly putting the anglers over the legal limit of lines. CO Griffin and PCO Vacek contacted the subjects in the ice shanty and discovered the subjects were using the legal amount of fishing lines, but one subject did not have a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin and PCO Brandon Vacek were checking ice anglers in Oakland County when they spotted a snowmobile operating across the lake entering the DNR access site to enter the roadway. The COs finished checking anglers on the lake and walked back to the access site when the snowmobile attempted to enter the frozen lake. The COs stopped the snowmobile when they discovered the operator and the passenger were not wearing helmets. Additionally, the snowmobile did not have the proper trail permit. The COs educated the subjects on snowmobile laws and enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll focused on snowmobile activity around Monroe County during Winter Storm Harper. CO Ingersoll encountered multiple snowmobiles and ORVs operating along the roadways of Monroe County. Monroe County is closed to such operation and CO Ingersoll encountered several snowmobiles and ORV riders who were in violation of not having proper registration, no trail permits, operating against the flow of traffic, operating on the roadway, no helmets, trespassing, and failing to transfer registration within the 15 days. CO Ingersoll issued several citations and several warnings to the snowmobilers and ORV riders who were in violation.

CO David Schaumburger was at Sterling State Park observing three anglers fishing through the ice when one of the anglers began to walk back to the truck. The CO met him half way and asked for a fishing license. The young angler stated he was just testing the depth and was not fishing. The angler further stated he has never bought a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger contacted two hunters who were trespassing. One of the hunters stated that he bought this property and he was the rightful owner. The CO told him he had been to the city assessor's office and he was not the listed owner. The hunter then stated he did not actually own it but was in the process of buying it. Later in the conversation, the hunter stated he was not in the process of buying it, but that he has wanted to buy it for a long time. The hunters were issued citations for recreational trespass.

CO David Schaumburger received a complaint of anglers parking and trespassing at Silver Shores Marina in Wyandotte. The anglers parked in the parking lot and the CO

was able to follow their footprints from the vehicles right past a “No fishing, No trespassing” sign on the docks and then onto the ice. While it is not illegal to fish on the ice, the anglers need to have permission to access the parking lot and the property. Citations were issued for recreational trespass.

## **BELLE ISLE**

Sgt. Dan Bigger received a call that there were vehicles drag racing and doing donuts near the Scott Fountain. Sgt. Bigger was able to respond in time to locate both vehicles. Sgt. Bigger conducted a traffic stop on the lead vehicle and Sgt. Chuck Towns arrived in time to conduct a traffic stop on the second vehicle. Both drivers indicated that they were videotaping their racing and donuts and were more than happy to share the video they had just taken. Citations were issued and upon following up the next day, it was found that the individuals do this quite often in various locations around Michigan and post it to YouTube and ask for requests from followers to provide what they would like them to do next as pranks.

Sgt. Dan Bigger conducted a stop on a vehicle that was missing its rear brake light. Sgt. Bigger quickly noted that both the driver and passenger seemed nervous and further indicated neither had identification. Files were run, and it was found that the driver had a suspended license in addition to a warrant out of the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court on narcotics related charges. The subject was taken into custody and lodged, and the passenger was allowed to park the vehicle and get a ride from a family member, as the vehicle had no insurance. Following-up on the vehicle, Sgt Bigger noted that the owner had the vehicle towed as opposed to getting it insured.

While patrolling, COs Ben Lasher and Ivan Perez were dispatched to a vehicle accident off Central in the woods. The driver lost control of his vehicle in the snow and contacted the tree line causing damages. COs Lasher and Perez completed a UD10 crash report for the driver; no injuries were reported.