

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
11/20/2016 – 12/03/2016**

DISTRICT 1

CO Doug Hermanson responded to a complaint of a hunter who set up a blind 40 yards from a house. CO Hermanson contacted the hunter who was able to quote the law, but was not able to estimate distance very well. A rangefinder reading indicated he was 70 yards from the dwelling. CO Hermanson showed the hunter where the safety zone extended to, so he could move the blind.

CO Brian Lasanen and Sgt. Grant Emery responded to a RAP complaint where a shot was heard at 9:30 p.m. the previous night. Both COs arrived and made contact with the property owner and determined he did not shoot late. CO Lasanen observed blood in front of his garage door that led to an untagged deer hanging in the garage. The owner advised he must have forgotten to tag the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen observed a vehicle parked alongside the roadway. CO Lasanen observed a gun case and a few bags of corn inside of the vehicle. CO Lasanen walked the well-beaten path into the bush and located the hunter a few hundred yards in and performed a routine check. The hunter's bait pile contained: one bale of hay, one bag of apples and one bag of corn dumped at his bait site. CO Lasanen asked the hunter if he knew how much bait he is allowed to place on the ground and the hunter responded "about three gallons." CO Lasanen asked him if his bait was about three gallons and he replied "No, way more than that." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes conducted a processor inspection in Ontonagon County. CO Mapes found two suspicious deer that warranted a closer look. After follow-up interviews, both were found to be illegal. Enforcement action was taken for lending/using a kill tag of another person.

CO Ethen Mapes was delivering a donated deer to a processor when he discovered another deer that was shot before the hunter had purchased a license. The hunter stated that he bought all of his licenses at one time and thought for sure it included his deer tags. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes and Brian Lasanen responded to a report of a hunter who was in his stand when two subjects started shooting nearby. When the hunter yelled for the men to stop shooting, they shot more and allegedly shot in the direction of the hunter. When all of the responding units arrived, the shooters had left. COs are working with the US Forest Service officers in the continued investigation.

CO David Miller was working after dark when he noticed what he believed to be someone shining for deer. CO Miller was able to locate an ORV operator who was in possession of a spotlight and a loaded firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Miller was following up on a complaint received the night before by CO Brett DeLonge. CO Miller was able to locate three permanent ground blinds, all of which had huge bait piles on national forest property. All three hunters were contacted and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen and CO Ethen Mapes were the nearest officers in Ontonagon to respond to a complaint of a pit bull that was in the act of attacking livestock. CO Mapes was able to control the pit bull with his catch pole. Both COs stayed on scene until a sheriff's deputy arrived and they turned over the pit bull to him. The pit bull belonged to the owner of the livestock.

CO Brian Lasanen and CO Ethen Mapes were on patrol together when they noticed a person lying on side of the highway using a flashlight to try to flag down a vehicle to get help. Both COs made contact with the person and determined that he was intoxicated, homeless, and had neck pain and wanted to go the hospital for medical treatment. Both COs stabilized the patient at the scene until medical personal arrived and transported him to the nearby hospital.

CO Ethen Mapes responded to a one car fatal roll over in Rockland and assisted the Ontonagon County Sheriff's Office conducting traffic control while the crash was investigated.

CO Ethen Mapes was requested to assist the Ontonagon County Sheriff's Office as they attempted to arrest a combative suicidal subject in Ontonagon. The subject was sent for a mental evaluation and is facing domestic violence charges.

CO Jared Ferguson was patrolling northern Dickinson County when he came upon three individuals riding a side-by-side during quiet time. All three suspects stated they were cold and wanted to get back to camp. CO Ferguson quickly pointed out that the camp was in the opposite direction they were travelling. Enforcement was action taken.

CO Nathan Sink was on patrol when he came across a vehicle parked on the side of the road in Gogebic County. CO Sink sat on the vehicle to wait for the hunter to come out of the woods. The hunter came out of the woods operating his ORV with two people on it, both were not wearing helmets, and the ORV did not have an ORV permit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund and CO Nathan Sink set up the deer decoy to target road hunting complaints in Iron County. It did not take long for an individual to stop at attempt to shoot the decoy. The hunter was also found to not have hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shannon Kritz received a complaint from DEQ about a subject that was burning solid waste. CO Kritz quickly realized this residence received a warning from CO Wicklund a month ago for a similar violation. CO Kritz arrived on scene and observed a pile of debris. After digging through the debris, CO Kritz located roof shingles, metal and

plastic materials burning. Apparently the subject thought that if he only burned a little at a time nobody would notice. The subject was cited for the burning violation.

While conducting meat processor inspections, CO Shannon Kritz and CO Jason Wicklund observed an 8-point buck with a tag that was bought a half hour before the close of hunting hours. A check with the deer log revealed the deer was brought in the next morning. The COs interviewed the subject who stated he shot the deer around 4:00 in the afternoon. After telling him he bought his deer tags at 4:26 that afternoon, the subject changed his story. He insisted that he bought his tags, drove home, put on his hunting gear, went out to his blind and shot the deer all within 30 minutes. The next day the subject called and confessed to shooting the deer and then purchasing his tags. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson followed-up on a complaint where the property owner was having problems with trespassing and shooting on her property involving the adjacent property owners. In one incident, the owner was able to run out her front door and capture a photo of the vehicle driving away and its' vehicle plate. The investigation into the trespass complaint is ongoing.

CO Shannon Kritz received a complaint during the firearm season regarding a possible illegal deer being shot. The suspect had requested help from a nearby group of hunters to assist him in tracking the deer that he had shot. When the deer was found, it was discovered that the hunter had shot an antlerless deer in an area closed to taking antlerless deer. The helping party left the hunter at the scene and reported the incident to the RAP line two days later. CO Kritz checked the site, but the hunter had left the area. The hunter was tracked to a residence in Ottawa County and was interviewed by CO Ivan Perez. The hunter admitted to shooting the deer, and panicked when he saw it did not have antlers. Instead of contacting a local CO, the hunter opted to leave the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon responded to the complaint of an arrow stuck in the caller's yard, 20 feet from her residence. CO Bacon was able to track down a nearby suspect from a residence over 300 yards away. The subject stated he had shot at a porcupine recently that was high up in a tree. Satisfied this was the source of the arrow, CO Bacon informed the subject of where the arrow was found and reminded the subject of safety issues with shooting arrows into the air.

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy responded to the complaint of a possible hunting trespass. A subject was chased from a private property on the opening day of the firearm deer season and the vehicle was now parked in the same area. The COs were able to locate a subject in a blind on an adjacent property. Contact with the hunter found him to be the owner of the car in question, and the hunter was also found to be in violation of the hunter orange law and hunting over a large bait pile. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nathan Sink was working the Michigan/Wisconsin border on an assigned deer observation patrol. While contacting a vehicle leaving a wooded area, CO Sink discovered the driver had a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge and Sgt. Ryan Aho followed-up on an over-baiting and trespass complaint on property owned by the Huron Mountain Club in northwest Marquette County. The COs were met by Huron Mountain Club Patrol Officers and an investigation ensued. After an interview with the suspect at his residence, several citations were issued and an illegal deer case is pending.

CO Brett DeLonge and Sgt. Ryan Aho were patrolling an area of northern Marquette County when they observed large plumes of black smoke rising from a secluded area. The COs followed a set of vehicle tracks going towards the smoke and when they reached the large pile of burning carpet and tires. Multiple subjects were observed drinking alcohol watching the fire. While interviewing the subjects of the group, all explained that somebody had lit the fire then left and they were there just "watching the fire for safety purposes." After the COs pointed out the fresh drag marks of objects being pulled from the snow and thrown on the fire, one subject admitted to adding tires and carpet to the "already lit" fire. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge and Sgt. Ryan Aho observed a hunter walking on the shoulder of a county road. The COs contacted the hunter and noticed that he unlawfully possessed a magazine that was capable of holding over the legal limit of rounds for deer hunting. The subject claimed that the magazine only had five rounds, but after a quick check the COs found that was not the case. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge and CO Mark Leadman were finishing up an investigation of a hunter harassment complaint when they observed an ORV traveling on state land during the ORV quiet hours. The COs stopped the ORV and informed the hunter operating the ORV that it was quiet hours, and also addressed the fact that the ORV did not have a valid ORV registration. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge was patrolling a large area of state property in southern Marquette County when he observed a hunter walking on an old logging road. CO DeLonge made contact with the hunter and a license check determined that the hunter did not possess a valid hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Ryan Aho and CO Jeremy Sergey contacted a hunter with a 5-point buck hanging on his buck pole. The subject explained that he did not shoot the 5-point. He explained that a friend had shot it and had to leave camp at 3:30 am. Further investigation revealed that was not the case. A confession was obtained from the hunter for taking a deer without a license and for borrowing the kill tag of another. The deer was seized and donated to a local processor who participates in the Sportsman for Hunger program. Enforcement action was taken for taking the deer without a license.

CO Mark Leadman and CO Brett DeLonge contacted a subject that was operating his ORV on an illegal ORV trail on state land. The subject's trail also led to an illegal deer blind with freshly cut shooting lanes on state land. The subject's firearm was uncased and loaded on his ORV. He had no hunter orange and the ORV trail went through wetland areas. A license check showed that the hunter never purchased a deer hunting license for 2016. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeffrey Dell was patrolling Miscauno Creek Road when he came upon a truck pulled off to the side of the road. Near the truck was a trail where trees had been blazed with a knife. At the end of the trail was a permanent blind. The hunter wasn't wearing hunter orange and his blind was not labeled with his name/address. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeffrey Dell was patrolling state land when he observed an illegal ORV trail. CO Dell followed the illegal ORV trail to an ORV that was not licensed. A foot trail lead to a hunter hunting over an illegal bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeffrey Dell was patrolling Spalding Township when he came across a truck blocking a road / trail on state land. A short walk led to a hunter. When asked how much bait he had, the hunter stated he probably had more than he was supposed to have. This proved to be the case and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge worked in conjunction with several enforcement officers from state, county, and local agencies during the annual "Shop with a Cop" event in Marquette County. The daylong event included a several mile police escort to Walmart for kids to shop for family Christmas gifts with the officers. The large event included over 50 kids, over 20 enforcement officers, and many community volunteers.

CO Brett DeLonge received a complaint of a hunter cutting live trees down on state land in southern Marquette County. After meeting with the complainant and investigating the complaint area, CO DeLonge revisited the area and was able to locate the suspect hunter in his tree stand. Upon contact with the hunter, CO DeLonge addressed the tree cutting violation along with several other violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Sergey and CO Jeffrey Dell conducted a taxidermy inspection that resulted in numerous violations. During the inspection, the COs noticed an 11-point deer with an Iowa tag attached (Iowa is known to have CWD in its free ranging deer herd). The skull cap of the 11-point deer showed that it had recently been cut and there was brain matter still inside. After a few questions, the taxidermist stated that the deer head that the skull cap had been removed from was outside. The antlered skull cap and head were seized. A short interview with the hunter led to the confession that the deer had been taken in Iowa and was transported to the taxidermist in Michigan with the head intact. Both the taxidermist and the hunter claimed not to know that it was illegal to transport deer from CWD states without first cleaning the skull/deboning the meat. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Calvin Smith located a suspiciously tagged deer at a commercial processor and subsequently tracked down the individual who purchased the deer license. CO Smith asked the individual several questions about the deer, which the suspect could not answer. The suspect confessed to the CO that he did not shoot the deer and was asked to buy the license for his friend. The friend was then contacted by CO Smith and he confessed to having his buddy tag the deer for him so he could continue to hunt. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tom Oberg received information on an individual who reportedly took a 6-point buck on November 16th. It was found that the hunter did not purchase a license until November 21st. CO Oberg interviewed the subject and obtained a confession that she shot the deer with her brother's crossbow on November 13th, but did not have a license. The subject stated that her boyfriend came and tagged it with a tribal deer tag and took the deer. CO Oberg followed-up with the brother and confiscated the crossbow for evidence. CO Oberg and Tribal CO Sam Gardner followed-up with the boyfriend. Enforcement action was taken by Tribal CO Gardner for the subject attaching a tribal deer tag to a non-tribal member's deer. CO Oberg followed-up with the subject who shot the deer and searched the area where it was shot, but did not find any remains of the deer. A report will be submitted to the prosecutor's office.

CO Tom Oberg was just pulling into his residence to end his shift when a call came out over the radio advising of a rollover accident just down the road from him. CO Oberg responded to the scene and was the first enforcement unit on scene along with local emergency response teams. CO Oberg discovered that the truck had driven off the roadway and flipped taking out several large trees and was lying on its side. The unresponsive individual in the vehicle could not be removed without hydraulic tools due to the amount of damage. Sheriff Deputies, the fire department and EMS arrived on scene shortly after. Jaws of Life were called to the scene to extract the individual. The nearest unit was 20 miles away. The individual was ultimately extracted and loaded into the ambulance and was pronounced deceased shortly after. Michigan State Police arrived on scene to do an accident reconstruction. CO Oberg continued to assist the agencies with traffic control and cleaning up debris.

CO Kevin Postma stopped a vehicle suspected of road hunting. It was determined that both of the occupants were in possession of marijuana and one of the individuals was a felon in possession of a firearm. A report will be sent to the prosecutor's office for review.

CO Kevin Postma issued a citation to an individual hunting over approximately 30 gallons of bait on public land.

CO Kevin Postma interviewed an individual who had his wife buy a deer kill tag so he could tag his deer in order to continue to hunt. A confession was obtained and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma interviewed a hunter who obtained a second Deer hunting license on November 17th. An interview of the individual revealed that the hunter had been successful, but still hadn't tagged his deer with either license. A citation for fail to immediately attach kill tag was issued.

CO Kevin Postma conducted a meat processor inspection. It was determined that the processor had in his possession a deer head from Minnesota. CO Postma contacted CO Brett Gustafson who was able to retrieve the deer head and secure it for CWD testing.

CO Brett Gustafson and CO Kevin Postma received an anonymous complaint of two untagged deer hanging in a barn in Mackinac County. After a short investigation to locate the suspect, the COs located a spoiled, untagged antlerless deer killed with a bow/arrow and a 9-pt buck killed by the suspect on November 19th. The problem was that he purchased the license on the 21st. Enforcement was action taken.

CO Jon Busken was on routine patrol when he contacted an individual who said he was openly carrying a pistol in his motor vehicle. The individual did not have a CPL and was found to be in violation of the felony CCW Statue. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken followed an illegal ORV trail in Mackinac County to a hunter. The hunter did not have a deer license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken was on routine patrol when he contacted an individual driving a motor vehicle. It was prime hunting hours and the individual was driving with a pair of binoculars on the center counsel and an uncased firearm in the passenger seat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch and Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon were on patrol when they received a RAP complaint. The complaint stated a subject shot an 8-point buck without a license and was currently out hunting. The COs went to the scene and located the 8-point buck head next to several other older deer heads in different stages of decay. Contact with the suspect was made after he came back from hunting on an ORV, with a loaded rifle slung over his back. A check of his license purchases revealed he had not purchased a deer tag since 2011. The suspect was issued a citation for the illegal deer.

CO Calvin Smith received information regarding a possible illegal deer in Delta County. CO Smith contacted CO Mark Zitnik and CO Chris Lynch to follow-up with the interview in Rapid River. The COs conducted the interview with the hunter, which yielded a full confession of hunting without a license and tagging the 7-point deer with her boyfriend's deer license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Freeborn and CO Michael Evink checked an area that has had several complaints of illegal ORV traffic and trespassing. The COs followed fresh ORV tracks on an illegal trail through the woods and located an ORV parked. After a brief walk, the

COs were able to locate the blind and hunter. He was not wearing hunter orange, did not have his hunting license in possession, did not bring a case for his rifle and did not wear a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Evink participated in the regional PBS "Ask the DNR" telecast. The show is a "live" call in style TV show that allows the public to have direct contact with members of the DNR.

CO Michael Evink and CO Robert Freeborn were doing follow-up on a complaint from earlier in deer season where a number of tickets had been issued. The COs walked in and located an ORV illegally driven onto public property. The COs made contact with a hunter who knew about the tickets issued the previous week, but still decided to drive his ORV in a closed area. He also decided that hunter orange was optional as well. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig and Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon contacted a group of hunters whose car was blocking access to state land. The hunters had shot some snowshoe hares and were enjoying their day. One of the hunters hid in the back of the group due to not wearing any hunter orange. When asked why, he stated he couldn't find any to wear and still wanted to go hunting. Another member in the group did not have a hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 3

CO Steve Speigl worked a decoy patrol in Antrim County. CO Speigl had 105th District State of Michigan Representative Triston Cole along for the patrol. Shortly into the decoy deployment, a truck stopped and the driver got out with a rifle in hand. The hunter was not wearing hunter orange, shot the decoy and waited for a reaction, shot twice more and reloaded his rifle. This happened, shooting and reloading multiple times. The hunter then put his rifle in his truck and tried to stalk the 'deer' with an extremely large bowie knife. CO Speigl made contact with the shooter before he could reach the decoy and asked if he had any more ammunition left, which the hunter produced one live round. It was explained to the hunter that he was in violation of not wearing hunter orange and having a loaded/uncased gun in or upon a motor vehicle. The decoy suffered extensive damage, rendering the electronics inoperable. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Albert received a complaint of a bald eagle in Antrim County that was caught in a trap and struggling. CO Albert and the complainant were able to hold the eagle down and release its foot from a foothold trap that was set for coyote. The eagle appeared to be unharmed and immediately flew off. The trapper had set eight foothold traps around a deer carcass in an open field. CO Albert contacted the trapper and explained the problem with his set and how it would catch raptors. The trapper was very apologetic and said this was his first year trapping for coyote. He removed all the traps and advised he would set them in a more covered area.

CO Andrea Albert received an early morning complaint of an overdue raccoon hunter from the previous night. Family members were searching the area and found the deceased hunter in a remote part of the woods. CO Albert assisted the Antrim County Sheriff Department with finding a drivable way in and out of the woods. CO Albert directed the Bellaire Fire Department ATV into his location and helped remove the hunter. It was apparent he died of natural causes.

CO Andrea Albert received a complaint of a car versus bear accident just north of Mancelona. The driver of the vehicle had minimal damage to his vehicle. The bear was found a short distance away deceased. CO Albert was able to give the bear to a local needy family.

CO Andrea Albert responded to a complaint in Antrim County of an intoxicated subject who had pointed a rifle at the complainant during a property line dispute. CO Albert requested CO Steve Speigl and CO Scott MacNeill respond for back-up. After a thorough investigation, CO Albert arrested the subject for possessing a firearm while intoxicated. Additional charges will be requested through the prosecutor's office for pointing a rifle at a person. The arrested subject's elderly father was left alone at the remote hunting camp that did not have any power to it. He had never been to the camp before and spoke Romanian, with very broken English. CO Albert returned to the camp to check on the subject's welfare. Through a very difficult language barrier, CO Albert helped him call his wife and make arrangements to get back downstate. He asked CO Albert to lead him out of the area so he could get to Gaylord as he did not know the way. CO Albert led him to the main highway and directed him to Gaylord.

While following up on a complaint of popup blinds being stolen in Charlevoix County, CO Andrea Erratt and CO Chad Baldwin made contact with a possible suspect. Upon interviewing the subject, it was learned that the suspect had shot a 6-point deer on October 8th, but did not purchase his hunting license until October 13th. Items were seized and enforcement action was taken.

Responding to a trespass complaint in Charlevoix County, CO Andrea Erratt encountered a hunter who was not wearing hunter orange and hunting over more than two gallons of bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Erratt, CO Chad Baldwin and Sgt. Michael Feagan responded to a complaint of a family of five being stuck on state land in Charlevoix County. Night was quickly coming and the wife and the three young children were worried about being stuck there overnight. The husband had walked further down the powerline looking for a way out. With the intimate knowledge of the state land area, the COs were able to locate the vehicle quickly, which was badly stuck in a mud hole on a powerline. While the COs were loading up the wife and children into their patrol vehicles to transport them home, the husband arrived back at the scene with a hunting rifle and not wearing any hunter orange. In talking with passengers on the ride back to their residence, it was learned that the husband had an untagged doe hanging in the garage at home. Upon arriving at the residence, the husband was confronted with the information about the

deer hanging in the garage. He stated he never tagged it because he thought no officer would ever check it in his garage. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau received a complaint in Emmet County of two trailer loads of construction materials being dumped on state land. In checking the piles, CO Budreau was able to track the loads back to a residence, since cedar shingles had blown out along the roadway. The suspect's house was located, but is only used seasonally. The investigation continues.

CO Nick Torsky received information in Otsego County reference several deer hanging at a camp in Charlton Township that may be untagged. The CO made contact with the camp finding the deer untagged. Enforcement action was taken.

After doing a processor inspection in Cheboygan, CO Tim Rosochacki and CO Eric Bottonoff contacted an individual who had improperly tagged a deer. Upon interviewing the individual, she confessed to not shooting the deer and in fact, buying tags for family members to shoot additional deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki made a traffic stop on a vehicle in Cheboygan County for careless driving. Upon contact with the operator, an uncased shotgun was located in the backseat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki made contact with a deer hunter in Cheboygan County who was observed walking to his vehicle not wearing hunter orange. Upon contact with the hunter, he stated simply that he forgot to wear it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark DePew made contact in Otsego County with an individual who was walking back to his vehicle after hunting on state land. Upon contact, CO DePew engaged in conversation with the individual and received a confession for an illegal deer, along with purchasing more deer licenses than allowed. As the conversation continued, several other violations were located including allowing an underage hunter to hunt on state land without an adult. Enforcement action was taken.

COs from Otsego and Cheboygan counties along with Michigan State Police Troopers conducted over 60 traffic stops on I-75 north of Gaylord. Three illegal deer were located in vehicles along with six citations issued for minor traffic related offenses. One subject was arrested for driving on a revoked license.

COs were dispatched to over nine illegal dumping cases on state land. All the dumping involved several deer carcasses. The DNR reminds hunters that processed deer must be disposed of properly and cannot be dumped on state lands.

CO Adam LeClerc located a base hunting license on a spike deer while doing a meet processor inspection in Alpena County. CO LeClerc followed-up with the base license holder and the hunter said she had put a tag on the deer. CO LeClerc asked her to pull out her tags. The hunter started laughing at herself and said she must have been a little

excited and placed the wrong purple license on the deer. CO LeClerc had her notch the correct tag and placed it on the Deer.

CO Adam LeClerc responded to the Devil's Lake ORV trail in Alpena County to address a deer carcass that had been illegally dumped on state land without a head. Evidence was collected, and a quick necropsy of the deer was performed on scene. It was determined that the deer was victim of a car/deer accident. After checking with Alpena County Central Dispatch, it was determined that an individual in the area had picked up a deer along US-23 the previous night. CO LeClerc met the suspect at their residence where a confession was obtained for dumping the deer on state land. A littering citation was issued for illegal disposal.

CO Adam LeClerc was notified by Alpena County Central Dispatch that an individual attempted to take a deer within the city limits with a firearm. Once on scene, CO LeClerc observed two individuals exiting the nearby wooded area with flashlights. Upon contact with the suspects, they were very confrontational and assured they were only walking in the woods looking for nothing. Identification was obtained from both individuals and Alpena City Police arrived on scene. Interviews with the suspects and witnesses were conducted, as well as a search of the area. A .22 caliber rifle was recovered from the wooded area where an illegal bait pile was discovered. A confession was obtained from one of the suspects as the hunter. The hunter was found to not have a hunting license for the year, hunting without hunter orange, hunt over an illegal bait pile, attempt to take deer with .22 or smaller caliber rifle, and hunt within a safety zone. Enforcement action was taken. The firearm that was recovered at the scene was seized as evidence, and Alpena City Police were looking into additional charges for discharge a firearm within the city limits.

CO Adam LeClerc and CO Bill Webster participated in "Shop with a Hero" at the local Alpena Meijer store.

CO Adam LeClerc and CO Bill Webster participated in "Project Blue Light" in Alpena County in remembrance of the officers who paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving the people of this country.

CO Bill Webster and CO Adam LeClerc were doing follow-up on hunting camps that were marked by the pilot during the bait flight in Alpena County. Only one camp was able to be contacted, which resulted in a citation being issued for baiting in a closed county. Multiple other camps continue to be checked due to no one being around.

CO Bill Webster was working a case in southern Alpena County of a young man who was allegedly hunting with a .22 caliber firearm during bow season. CO Webster was unable to make contact with the suspect until the last day of firearm deer season. CO Webster went to contact the suspect at his residence multiple times, but no one ever answered the door. On this occasion, CO Webster noticed the suspect vehicle was in the driveway so he pulled up the road and waited for the suspect to leave. After about 20 minutes the suspect vehicle pulled from the driveway and sped down the road.

CO Webster was able to catch up and make a traffic stop on the vehicle. When he contacted the driver, the driver was very brief and not willing to talk. After some questioning and a phone call to the young man's father, the truth finally came out. The hunter was hunting with a .22 to shoot coyotes and he admitted to placing bait to entice the deer to his side of the fence to get them in bow range. The young man admitted he was wrong, but didn't want to own up to what he had done wrong. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kelly Ross was patrolling private property in Montmorency County just before daylight hours when he noticed a pop-up blind set up on a shooting lane. He contacted the hunter who did not have permission to be on the property and issued him a citation for trespassing.

CO Brad Bellville was called to a vehicle trespassing and stuck in the mud on private property in north western Montmorency County. When CO Bellville arrived, he made contact with five men in the stuck pickup truck. The CO noticed blood in the bed of the pickup and questioned the men about it. At first all the men denied any blood. CO Bellville separated the men and interviewed each of them separately. After a second round of interviews, the truth finally came out about a spike deer being taken but they did not tag it. With assistance from CO Nick Torsky, the spike was located and citations for failing to tag a deer and trespassing were issued.

CO Paul Fox was working an area near Loon Lake in Presque Isle County where he had issues with illegal tree stands and large bait piles last year. He located one of the tree stands he knew about from last year and found a hunter hunting in it. When he contacted the hunter, CO Fox remembered him from last year in the same area. CO Fox had given the hunter warnings last year for the violations, but this year the CO issued citations for the violations.

CO Jon Sklba was patrolling southwest Presque Isle County when he had a vehicle rolling toward him on a tight trail. CO Sklba pulled off to the side to let the other vehicle by and the truck pulled up next to CO Sklba and started talking to him. The driver was very excited to tell the CO about the two bucks he killed this year that he forgot about his passenger not having a cased rifle next to him. CO Sklba noticed the passenger fidgeting with a rifle that was partially cased. CO Sklba exited his truck and made contact with the passenger, who was unloading the rifle in the case. CO Sklba seized the rifle and ran the file of the passenger who has been issued a citation for uncased loaded firearm in the past. CO Sklba issued him another citation for uncased loaded firearm in motor vehicle.

DISTRICT 4

CO Colton Gelinis was conducting a processor inspection in Leelanau County. While at the processor, CO Gelinis observed a set of antlers with a total of three points (two points on right side and one point on the left.) Leelanau County is an antler point restriction (APR) county. CO Gelinis made contact with the license owner who admitted

to shooting the deer on November 15th. The suspect stated that he thought the APR counties meant that a buck had to have a total of three points, not three points on one side. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Colton Gelinis and CO Patrick McManus conducted a processor inspection at a deer processor in Leelanau County. At the processor, the COs observed a set of 8-point antlers with a tag that was purchased on November 18th at 9:00 am. The COs made contact with the license owner who admitted to shooting a deer without a license, then purchasing a license after the fact. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sean Kehoe investigated a complaint in Grand Traverse County of a subject posing on Facebook with four separate deer. During the investigation, CO Kehoe determined two of the deer were shot by someone else and the subject was just having fun with his friends. The subject claimed that of the remaining two deer, he shot one and his father had shot the other one earlier in October. The subject produced the antlers of the one he was claiming and CO Kehoe noticed that the subject had only purchased a single deer license and had not validated the tag. Upon interviewing the father, CO Kehoe documented the story provided by the man and then informed him that he had purchased the license the day after the deer was killed and posted on Facebook. When advised he would be facing an illegal deer charge, he had no choice but to inform CO Kehoe that his son had actually shot both deer and only had a license for one buck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sean Kehoe received a complaint during the 2015 deer season involving a baiting and tree-stand violation, however despite numerous checks, never found anyone using it. The subject was interviewed and claimed ownership to two stands and one tent blind from the last two years. CO Kehoe informed the subject that he had violated a few rules along the way which were 1) none of the stands/blind were marked with the hunter's identification; 2) he had baited prior to September 1st the previous year; 3) he had baited in excess of the two gallon limit on multiple occasions; 4) he had cut trees on state land; 5) he had left litter such as bait bags behind; 6) he had cultivated a small food plot on state land; and 7) had not removed his first stand by March 1st from the previous season. Other than that, everything looked in order! During the contact, his girlfriend informed CO Kehoe, if he gets ten tickets, you will know where to find him next year because he will be out living in his tree-stand! Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Vanderlinde and CO Rebecca Hopkins were contacting hunters during patrol of state land and came across a group of three standing by their vehicle. During a check of firearms and licenses, the COs smelled an odor of marijuana. An interview and search of the subjects and the vehicle, recovered over 100 grams of packaged marijuana. One subject was arrested and warrants were sought and issued for possession of marijuana and possession with intent to deliver.

Investigating a report of shots fired prior to hunting hours, CO Rebecca Hopkins observed two subjects walking around private property with flashlights. As daylight broke, it was clear the subjects had not found what they were looking for, which they claimed was a deer shot the previous night. CO Hopkins made contact with the subjects

at the roadway as they were leaving the property in a vehicle. The driver of the vehicle was suspended and had a DNR warrant. The passenger had his firearm uncased in the front seat. A ticket was issued to the passenger and the driver was lodged in the county jail.

CO William Kinney received a complaint from Wexford County 911 that a hunter wished to self-report for accidentally shooting an antlered deer. The hunter told the CO that he thought he was shooting an antlerless deer, but when they approached the deer they realized it was a spike. The hunter wanted to do the right thing and turn himself in for the accident that took place. CO Kinney and the hunter went out to retrieve the deer and investigate the incident. CO Kinney noticed the hunter had constructed a ground blind out of wood in which he had pounded nails into the tree on public land. The CO also noticed that the hunter had placed a giant piece of PVC pipe to a tree and established an illegal bait pile. The deer was seized from the hunter for being in violation of the APR regulations and enforcement action was taken for the other violations present in the woods.

While working a hunter orange violation complaint, CO William Kinney observed a vehicle in his rear view mirror pass by with deer legs sticking out of the truck. The vehicle was located at the local gas station and matched the description given by the complainant. CO Kinney made contact with the vehicle and discovered an untagged antlerless deer in the bed. The suspect told the CO he had shot the deer because it appeared wounded by another hunter when it ran in front of his vehicle. The suspect did not possess an antlerless tag, had trespassed to shoot the deer, admitted to not putting on hunter orange, and was transporting an untagged deer in his vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

While at the Cadillac DNR Office, CO Ryan Andrews and Sgt. Carla Soper investigated and interviewed a man who was in possession of an antlered deer head that had failed to meet the antler point restriction for the area where it was harvested. In addition, the kill tag that was attached to the antlers was a restricted tag. The man eventually confessed and advised that he did not kill the deer, but his buddy had. He said he was only bringing it in to get a 2016 successful hunter patch and that the hunter wanted the antlers back. The antlers were seized and enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Lake County, CO Ryan Andrews responded to a residence where they were illegally burning. Upon arrival to the scene, the fire department had the fire under control. An investigation of the remains from the fire and interviews with the suspects at the scene revealed that the contents of the fire were household demolition materials, as well as garbage, building materials, and automobile tires. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was on patrol when he observed an ORV parked in an area where ORV use is prohibited. CO Killingbeck followed the tracks to a deer blind on public land that had no name or address. The hunter was not wearing orange and had

more than two gallons of bait on the ground to attract deer. Numerous violations were addressed and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was on patrol in Lake County when he located an illegal deer blind on public land that consisted of cut live trees and an excessive amount of litter. CO Killingbeck revisited the site the following day and made contact with a hunter who had no hunter orange. The hunter told CO Killingbeck that he did not expect a CO to walk in "this far" and said the orange was affecting his deer hunt. When CO Killingbeck asked the hunter for his hunting license, the subject advised his tags were back at camp. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse was working Manistee County when he noticed a vehicle circling a section during firearm season. CO Converse tucked in to a two-track and sat stationary. Right at dusk, the same vehicle came back through, but this time stopped. CO Converse witnessed the driver pulling a loaded and uncased firearm from his vehicle and watched him shooting at a doe while using the vehicle hood for support. CO Converse stopped the hunter and found that although he had permission to take a deer from the parcel he shot in to, he was clearly road hunting with a firearm lying on his seat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse was on patrol when he came alongside another vehicle with a hunter in the driver's seat. CO Converse looked into the passenger compartment and saw an uncased rifle with the gun barrel pointing directly at him. When CO Converse questioned the hunter about the gun, he admittedly stated it was loaded and "you got me." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse stopped a vehicle in Manistee County for a minor traffic offense. During the conversation with the driver, he discovered that the man had a deer at his residence that was hanging untagged. CO Converse followed the man to his house where he located an untagged 6-point buck. The hunter offered no excuse for the tagging violation. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky got a complaint of a subject who was repeatedly taking deer and not tagging them. The COs responded to the suspect residence and saw an 8-point lying in the bed of a truck with a tag belonging to a male subject. A resident of that address greeted them and informed them that a female had shot the deer. The COs checked retail sales and found that the female hadn't purchased any licenses since 2015. They also found a social media posting with that same female posing with a deer that she claimed was hers. After talking to both the owner of the tag and the supposed owner of the deer, they were able to ascertain that she in fact shot the deer without a license and her boyfriend had tagged it with his unused kill tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky were on routine patrol in Mason County when they saw an ORV operating on wrong side of roadway without an ORV license. When the ORV operator realized they were law enforcement, he spun around and took off in

an attempt to flee from the COs. The operator ultimately went off-road onto private property and hit a ditch full of water which caused him to stop. The COs apprehended the subject for flee and elude and lodged at the Mason County Jail. The COs discovered the operator was suspended also had 14 prior ORV violations. This was the third time he had fled from police.

CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky were checking a deer processor in Mason County when they noticed a discrepancy with the tag affixed to a doe. The COs discovered there were actually two violations where they believed deer were taken illegally. The investigation revealed that one individual had purchased a license for a deer they had not killed, and that the other hunter had shot his deer and purchased a license two hours later. Both hunters admitted to the violations and enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively was on stationary patrol when he observed a car driving slowly and approaching his location. As the car approached, CO Shively observed a light begin to work the fields. As CO Shively followed the vehicle, it suddenly turned to the left to turn around in the middle of the road. CO Shively quickly conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle as it was pulled sideways in the roadway. As CO Shively contacted the occupants of the car and he saw the barrel of a rifle under the driver's right arm. CO Shively secured the loaded/uncased .308 rifle from the passenger compartment and an uncased 12 gauge shotgun from the backseat. The driver admitted to trying to fill his doe tag on the last day of the firearm deer season and that he was only after a doe and not bucks. The driver was cited for shining with a weapon in possession and loaded/uncased firearm in a motor vehicle. The backseat passenger was cited for shining with a weapon in possession and the spotlight was seized. The front seat passenger was placed under arrest for a warrant out of Newaygo County that had just been issued that day. All firearms and spotlight were seized and condemnation will be sought.

CO Brian Lebel concluded a lengthy investigation involving a subject who shot four large bucks this deer season in Mecosta. Follow-up at a deer processor revealed all of the bucks had been taken there to be processed under two different names. A follow-up interview led to the suspect confessing to shooting three large 8-points. The suspect stated that he had used two tags belonging to another person which matched what CO Lebel had found at the processor. When CO Lebel asked the subject to show him his unused portion of the combination license, the subjects chin went to his chest and stated he had used it on another 8-point he had shot with a crossbow. With the help of CO Ken Lowell, all four bucks were located and seized from a taxidermist in Montcalm County. The subject was charged with taking an over-limit of antlered deer.

CO Brian Lebel received a complaint that stemmed from a trespassing issue earlier in the season. CO Lebel was familiar the subjects as he had issued several citations, including trespassing, to the family. The complaint noted that the suspects from the earlier trespass complaint were now road hunting the area where the trespass took place, as well as stopping and revving the engine and scaring deer away. One evening

a deer was shot and left lay in the complainant's field. CO Lebel worked the area the following days and eventually found the suspects slowly driving the area. A traffic stop revealed three uncased rifles, including one on the drivers lap. All three rifles were seized and the two subjects were issued a second round of citations. Follow-up on the deer that was shot continues.

CO Brian Lebel received a complaint that a subject was going out on his tractor shooting deer and had purchased no licenses. Upon arrival at the suspect's house, CO Lebel noted a buck hanging in the barn. CO Lebel could hear a tractor in the distance and set out to find it. A stop was made on the tractor which had a rear platform covered in blood. When the investigation was completed, it was found that at least three deer had been shot. Two bucks were seized for not having a license and antler point restriction violations.

CO Brian Lebel was patrolling toward a trespassing complaint involving the taking of a deer to interview the suspect. A county sheriff deputy was in a pursuit. Upon making the stop, the deputy advised CO Lebel that the suspect was the same person CO Lebel was going to interview. The suspect had an uncased rifle in the vehicle. CO Lebel went to the jail to interview the suspect where he admitted to shooting the deer while trespassing and hunting that morning without a license, shortly before trying to evade the deputy. It was found that the suspect is also a convicted felon unable to possess a firearm. Several charges are pending.

CO Mike Wells conducted a taxidermist inspection. During this contact, CO Wells located two whitetail deer heads that had been dropped off a few days earlier. Inspection of the heads revealed that both deer were tagged by the same individual and from the state of Nebraska. Nebraska is listed in the current year hunting digest as a CWD positive state and both heads were whole. The deer heads were seized due to the violation of Importation regulations. The hunter was contacted and he advised that he was not aware of the importation violation. Citation was issued for the violation and both heads were destroyed.

CO Mike Wells was conducting an inspection of a deer processor during the November firearm season when he located an antlerless deer tagged with a combination restricted license. An RSS check of the tag owner revealed he had not obtained an antlerless permit. CO Wells made contact with the owner who advised that he had harvested the deer on November 20th with his crossbow. CO Wells explained to the subject that it is illegal to harvest an antlerless deer without an antlerless permit during the firearm season. CO Wells advised the subject that during the firearm season all hunters must abide by the firearm season regulations. Citation was issued for the over-limit of deer violation and the deer was seized and donated.

CO Casey Varriale responded to a complaint regarding an unlicensed hunter taking a deer illegally. Upon investigation, it was found that the hunter did not possess a valid hunting license, but used the license of a family member. The two were educated about

the rules and regulations regarding the tagging of deer in Michigan and enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Varriale was called to assist sheriff deputies on a traffic stop. Upon arrival to the scene, CO Varriale was notified of an untagged deer in the suspect's truck bed. CO Varriale noted that the suspect had a valid hunting license, but did not tag the deer he killed. After gaining consent to search the vehicle, CO Varriale located two crossbows and two shotguns. One of the crossbows was used in taking of the deer. CO Varriale cited the suspect with transporting an untagged deer.

CO Jeff Ginn was contacted by CO Mike Wells regarding information that he had received from an anonymous complainant. It was regarding a suspect who was a convicted felon who had been firearm deer hunting and had taken an 8-point buck. CO Jeff Ginn interviewed a couple additional subjects who had knowledge of the suspect hunting and taking the buck. CO Ginn later located and interviewed the suspect at his Newaygo County residence regarding the accusations. The suspect initially denied any involvement but later confessed to taking the 8-point with a 20 gauge shotgun without a license. The suspect admitted he did not purchase a license because he wasn't even supposed to possess a firearm so why bother buying a license. The suspect was cited for taking a deer without a license and turned over to his probation officer for follow-up.

CO Jeff Ginn was following up on a RAP complaint regarding a subject possibly hunting after hours. CO Ginn began his foot patrol in an attempt to locate the hunting location. While attempting to locate the suspect's location, CO Ginn discovered a separate elevated platform with a bait site well over the two gallon limit. The blind was empty at the time so CO Ginn continued to search for the original hunting location. CO Ginn located the original blind and was able to monitor both locations with the aid of binoculars. A short time later, CO Ginn observed a male hunter in full camo walking toward the large bait pile. He was armed with a long gun as he climbed into the blind. As the hunting hours came to a close, the original suspect never arrived so CO Ginn made an approach on the second hunter. CO Ginn determined the male suspect to be hunting after hours, without hunter orange and having placed bait exceeding the two gallon limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy VanGelderren was called to a complaint at 10 pm of a rifle shot and a truck leaving quickly on a rural road. CO VanGelderren and Sgt. Bosley from the Oceana County Sheriff Department went to the scene and started looking for evidence. They found tire tracks where a truck had pulled to the side of the road. They parked their patrol vehicles in an abandoned driveway and began to look for a dead deer. While they were looking, they heard a truck coming down the road. The Officers hid while the truck slowed down at the scene and then drove by. The truck reappeared minutes later. The suspects turned off their headlights and pulled into the same driveway that the COs were standing in. Two suspects got out with flashlights and started to walk into the woods. CO VanGelderren and Sgt. Bosley identified themselves and got confessions from the suspects. The deer was then found lying in the woods. The rifle was later retrieved from the driver's home, since they dropped it off before returning to the

scene. It was also discovered that the property they shot on was posted very well for no trespassing, neither subjects purchased a deer license, and the driver had a suspended license. The deer, rifle, and spotlight were taken, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy VanGelderren received a tip right before arriving at a deer processor of a suspect shooting a buck without a license. While doing the processor inspection, CO VanGelderren coincidentally found a buck with the suspects tag on it. CO VanGelderren took the deer and drove a county south to interview the suspect. The suspect admitted that he never thought he was going hunting this year, but a friend asked him to go, so he went hunting. When he shot a deer, he decided that he better buy a license. The suspect said that he had been feeling guilty, and he kind of suspected a CO to show up at his house. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Angela Greenway received a complaint of a subject shooting deer from his vehicle that was sitting in a cemetery by some state land and made contact with the suspect. He had two guys helping him drag two deer out of the state land. Upon talking with the suspect and checking his licenses, he had not immediately tagged either deer. He stated that he had shot the deer and then went to town for coffee. Then he came back to get them. The antlerless tag he had was purchased during the coffee run, after he shot the deer. He had also purchased a private land antlerless tag and not a public land tag. When further checking the suspect, CO Greenway found that he had purchased a second antlerless tag for private land and admitted to shooting an antlerless deer the day before in the same spot on public land. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

CO John Huspen was patrolling a parcel of private property where the owner has had numerous blinds vandalized and trail cameras stolen by trespassers. Upon checking the property, CO Huspen observed two subjects standing in the middle of a food plot. He watched as the two subjects worked together to set and bait a foot hold trap. When contacted by CO Huspen, the two subjects stated they did not have permission to be on the property and they were setting the trap as practice. Neither of the subjects had a fur harvester license, nor were any of the traps tagged. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier was patrolling Kalkaska County when he heard several shots fired in the distance. CO Schluckbier followed the noises into a swamp and found two individuals target shooting. The subjects were shooting at a paper plate attached to a tree from the hood of their truck. In the bed of the truck was an improperly tagged 6-point buck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz received a complaint of a hunter who posted pictures on Facebook of an untagged buck lying over an excessive bait pile. CO Liestenfeltz interviewed the subject who admitted to tagging the buck after the photos were taken. The suspect was cited for the untagged deer and excessive bait.

CO Chuck McPherson and CO John Huspen were patrolling state land in Crawford County when they found two subjects using an ORV during closed hours. As the COs headed to make contact with the individuals, one of the subjects decided to start up a chainsaw and cut down a Christmas tree on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chuck McPherson and CO John Huspen were patrolling state land and found two subjects parked in a motor vehicle. Further investigation found the subjects had an uncased firearm, open intoxicants in a motor vehicle and possession of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Bowen located a blind with numerous issues, as well as an excessive amount of bait, and illegal ORV use to access the blind. Follow-up with the blind found a juvenile hunting without supervision. CO Bowen was able to locate the father at a different blind. That blind also had excessive bait and illegal ORV use. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Hearn contacted a juvenile deer hunter on state land in Kalkaska County that was hunting with a rifle. The juvenile was in an illegal blind that was being checked for ownership. During the contact, the hunter commented on harvesting a deer the night before. CO Hearn noticed that the hunter was still in possession of all his 2016 deer tags. The juvenile was transported back to the cabin and contact was made with his father. Upon investigation, it was determined that the juvenile had illegally shot an antlerless deer, which he was not properly licensed to shoot. Knowing a mistake had been made, the deer skull and hide were burned in a wood burning stove to discard the evidence. CO Hearn seized the remaining evidence and a warrant request is being sought for the father regarding his negligence and involvement in attempting to cover-up the crime.

CO Bobbi Lively assisted the U.S. Forest Service execute a search warrant on a subject suspected of larceny. Surveillance showed that the subject was breaking into pay pipes and stealing money from U.S. Forest Service campgrounds. During the search warrant, there was also evidence recovered that tied the man to larcenies from state forest campgrounds as well. Charges will be sought through the Oscoda County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Bobbi Lively, CO Casey Pullum and Cpl. Steve Huff followed-up at a hunting camp where they received numerous baiting complaints. While checking multiple stands around the camp, CO Lively discovered an untagged antlered deer hidden behind the camp. It was apparent that the occupants of the camp were trying to hide the small buck. After further investigation, CO Lively obtained a confession from one of the hunters that he had shot the deer and didn't have a proper license for it. Enforcement action was taken.

During a shining patrol in Oscoda County, the DNR aircraft witnessed a vehicle traveling backroads shining the woods and fields. CO Casey Pullum, CO Kyle Bader and Sgt. Brandon Kieft were able to make contact with the subjects just east of Mio. The three occupants in the vehicle were interviewed and admitted to shining out both sides of the

vehicle in an attempt to locate deer. There were also three firearms located in the bed of the pick-up truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader responded to a complaint of a dead deer that was located on private property in Ogemaw County. The landowner suspected trespassing as no one had permission to hunt his property or the adjacent land. CO Bader followed foot prints in the snow along with a blood trail until he got to the property line. CO Bader located a subject cleaning out another untagged deer that he had just shot. The man denied shooting the first deer. However, CO Bader produced two shell casings that he had located in the man's blind. After further interviews, the suspect confessed to shooting both deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader investigated a hunter that used an antlerless license for private land in Alcona County on a deer killed in Ogemaw County. The man stated he was shooting at a buck, but missed and killed an antlerless deer. The hunter didn't have antlerless license, so he went to buy one. The clerk advised him they were out of tags for Ogemaw County, so he purchased one for Alcona County to put on the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Olsen followed-up on a bait complaint in Ogemaw County where truckloads of bait had been dumped in several locations. CO Olsen contacted two individuals in different blinds on the property. Both individuals were in full camouflage hunting over bait piles that exceeded the two gallon limit. After conversing with the two men, it was determined one of them had also shot an antlerless deer earlier in the year. The hunter who shot the antlerless deer handed his only antlerless license to CO Olsen. After a brief interview, a confession for failing to tag his deer was obtained. Enforcement action was taken for both hunters.

While working a joint patrol with the Michigan State Police in Ogemaw County, CO Kyle Cherry located a deer on a traffic stop that was buried under coats on the floorboard of a vehicle. Further investigation lead to a tagging violation. It was also determined that the driver of the vehicle was operating on a suspended license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jonathan Warner conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in Iosco County. During the stop, a small spike buck was located in the vehicle. The deer was tagged with a restricted combination license that can only be used on a deer with 4-points or more on one side. Enforcement action is being sought through the Iosco County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Ethan Gainforth was on patrol in Clare County when he noticed three deer hanging on a buck pole by the side of a residence. After examining the deer, CO Gainforth had reason to believe that something was awry. During his investigation, CO Gainforth interviewed a female at the residence and determined that she didn't hunt. Eventually, it was determined that she had loaned her hunting license to her boyfriend. CO Gainforth

interviewed the boyfriend and he admitted to borrowing the license. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Gladwin County, CO Steve Lockwood and CO Nick Atkin witnessed a subject hunting without wearing hunter orange. As soon as the hunter noticed the COs, he scrambled back to his vehicle. Contact was made with the subject at the vehicle. During the investigation, the COs found the hunter was also in possession of multiple loaded firearms in a motor vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

CO John Byars and Cpl. Brad Dohm observed a vehicle stopped in the roadway looking at deer in a nearby field. The vehicle drove fast once the deer started to run and ran a stop sign located at an intersection. As CO Byars conducted a stop, the vehicle slow rolled for a short period. Once stopped, CO Byars noticed an uncased weapon in the front seat which was discovered to be loaded. Enforcement action of taken.

CO John Byars and Cpl. Brad Dohm observed an ORV just off of the railroad tracks on private property. CO Byars and Cpl. Dohm observed a subject standing on the other side of the tracks without any hunter orange on and had a rifle rested on a branch pointed at does in the field. The suspect shot six times hitting one of the deer. The suspect was hunting on private property without permission. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Ron Kimmerly and CO Joe Myers watched a hunter in the woods after dark. The hunter had many flashlights and seemed to be searching around. Upon investigation, it was found that the hunter had shot a doe earlier in the night and was transporting the doe without a proper tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joe Myers was investigating a hunter that had shot and wounded a buck during opening day. Upon investigation, it was found that the hunter had been hunting without a license and had shot the buck in question. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joe Myers and CO Will Brickel were following up on possible illegal deer in Saginaw County when they made contact with the suspected hunter. The hunter had shot the deer in Iosco County and transported them to Saginaw County. With help from the COs assigned to Iosco County, the deer checked out to be legal. The hunter was advised of local hunting regulations.

CO Joe Myers received a complaint of subjects hunting from a moving corn combine. After arriving on the scene and interviewing suspects, it was found that a hunter on the ground had shot a deer. The suspect was found to be in possession of a kill tag of another and attempted to use the tag. Enforcement action was taken on both parties involved for loaning and borrowing the kill tags.

CO Joe Myers assisted CO Quincy Gowenlock regarding a baiting complaint near the Gratiot / Saginaw county lines. According to the complainant, there was “truck loads” of bait being dumped. Upon investigation the COs found massive amounts of bait. There were multiple tons of sugar beets and corn accessible to animals on the ground. The next day CO Myers made contact with the owner of the bait and property. After the investigation, it was found that the hunter had taken a deer illegally. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Lowell stopped in at a hunting camp to check a deer that was hanging. The CO made contact with a camper tending the fire and inquired about the deer hanging at the camp. The hunter stated that his buddy in the cabin had shot the doe. When contact was made with the buddy, he claimed that his daughter had shot the doe with a crossbow two days earlier. Upon inspection of the deer, it was determined that the deer was shot with a firearm. After a short interview, the hunter admitted that he shot the doe and used his daughter’s tag. It was also determined that the hunter did not have a doe tag of his own. The doe was seized and tickets were issued for taking a doe without a license and using a kill tag of another.

CO Ken Lowell received a complaint that a hunter shot and killed a buck on the neighbor’s property. The CO made contact with the complainant and was able to locate where the deer was harvested. The CO located a hunter later in the day at the blind where the deer was shot from the night before. The hunter admitted to shooting the buck on his own property, but retrieved it from the neighbor’s property. It was determined that the deer was shot legally, but the hunter trespassed to retrieve the deer. The deer was seized and a ticket was issued for recreational trespass.

CO Josh Russell organized a decoy operation in Montcalm County where he received complaints of poachers shooting and leaving deer in an alfalfa field. The operation produced a citation for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle and another for recreational trespass.

CO Josh Russell received a complaint from a local processor that a subject had dropped off a whole deer that was taken in Wisconsin. CO Russell had the deer seized immediately and taken to the local biologist headquarters. CO Russell then made contact with CO Jason Wicklund, who helped verify with Wisconsin DNR that the deer was indeed from Wisconsin. CO Russell and CO Justin Ulberg then made contact with the subject in Kent County. Enforcement action was taken for bringing an unprocessed deer into Michigan from a CWD state.

CO Josh Russell received a vehicle rollover complaint from Central Dispatch. CO Russell was second on scene and assisted Michigan State Police with securing the scene and attempting to free the trapped victim in the rolled vehicle. The victim was removed from the vehicle by the local fire department and taken to the hospital.

During the deer firearm season, CO Quincy Gowenlock was patrolling through the Gratiot Saginaw State Game Area toward the end of hunting hours. While on patrol, the

CO noticed a vehicle parked in a parking lot and stopped to check on it. The driver was out hunting and CO Gowenlock decided to wait until he returned to make contact. Approximately 30 minutes after hunting hours had closed, CO Gowenlock noticed a light emitting from the woods and the hunter came out into the parking lot holding a rifle. CO Gowenlock made contact with the hunter and asked if his weapon was unloaded. The hunter replied "yes" and then turned slightly to the right, pulled the magazine from the rifle, and placed it on the tail gate of his truck. CO Gowenlock noted it was full and the subject then opened the action on his rifle and locked the bolt to the rear. At the same time, a single live round ejected out of the rifle and landed on the tail gate. CO Gowenlock advised the subject that hunting hours had been over for half an hour and the suspect agreed, but said he didn't know he had to be unloaded. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Huron County, CO Kyle Bucholtz observed a deer hunter exit the woods with a firearm. The hunter was without hunter orange and did not have his hunting license on him. CO Bucholtz recognized him from the year prior when he was contacted in his vehicle with an uncased firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bucholtz made contact with a duck hunter at a local marina. CO Bucholtz observed a loaded shotgun in the boat. Upon checking further, CO Bucholtz noted the firearm was unplugged. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Hobkirk received a phone call from a lake shore resident who stated that there were individuals taking down a waterfowl blind and that they had thrown all of the natural camouflage debris into the lake. CO Hobkirk was nearby and was pulling a boat. Within 10 minutes, contact was made with the subjects taking down the blind. A citation was issued to the blind owner for littering.

CO Robert Hobkirk located a motorhome in the Verona State Game Area with no camp card posted identifying the owner. The vehicle had no plate and the VIN was covered. CO Hobkirk found a receipt with an individual's name in a coat that was lying next to the motorhome. An email address was located for the name and CO Hobkirk left an email for the person. Within a few hours, the person called CO Hobkirk and provided the name of the motorhomes owner. The owner was contacted and cited for leaving a camp unattended for greater than 24 hours. He was warned for the unregistered camp and given three days to get the camper out of the game area.

CO Robert Hobkirk and Sgt. Scott Brown conducted a waterfowl patrol to the center of Saginaw Bay to check long-tailed duck (oldsquaw) hunters in layout boats. Although no significant violations were found, the hunters were both surprised and pleased to see the COs out there at this time of year.

CO Seth Rhodea responded to a complaint in Sanilac County regarding trespassing and deer possibly being taken without a license. Upon making contact with the suspects, it was found that one of them was hunting without a license and the other only

had a license for antlered deer, but shot a doe. The deer was seized and citations were issued.

While on patrol in Sanilac County, CO Seth Rhodea contacted a subject after noticing a large amount of black smoke coming from his property. When the CO checked the fire, tires were observed being burned. The subject was cited for the violation.

While working in Sanilac County, CO Seth Rhodea contacted a hunter while investigating a safety zone complaint. The hunter was in his neighbor's safety zone, was hunting without hunter orange, and over an illegal bait pile. A citation was issued to address the violation.

While patrolling on state land in Sanilac County, CO Seth Rhodea set up to monitor a hunter towards the end of hunting hours. The CO observed the hunter hunt for fifteen minutes after shooting time. Contact was made and the hunter was cited for the violation.

CO Mark Siemen investigated a trespassing complaint in Sanilac County's Argyle Township. The complainant advised CO Siemen that he has been having trouble with some hunters that leased the property next to his. He stated that it started during bow season with them trespassing on his property. He stated he spoke with the hunters and advised them to stay off his property. During firearm season, he got multiple photos of them trespassing on his trail camera. A few days later, CO Siemen received a second call from a separate neighbor advising that he caught the same subjects trespassing on his property and also has photos of them hunting on his property. All information and photos were collected and contact was made with the suspects. This complaint is still under investigation.

CO Mark Siemen, while conducting a processor inspection in Marion Township of Sanilac County, came across a deer that was tagged with a 2013 deer tag. The subject's information was obtained from the processor and contact was made with the subject. He stated he must have used the wrong tag for the deer. CO Siemen advised him that he did not purchase a 2016 deer license. After a short conversation, the subject confessed to shooting the deer without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen and CO Seth Rhodea worked night time fishermen patrol in the Lexington Harbor due to complaints received by residents in Lexington about subjects fishing illegally. Fishermen were present, but no violations occurred.

CO Joshua Wright was patrolling in Tuscola County when he noticed a deer hanging in a garage. As CO Wright was turning around to investigate further, he noticed a person running back to the house and shutting the door on the garage. CO Wright was eventually able to get someone to answer the door and questioned them about the deer. They allowed CO Wright to look at the deer and all the tags were proper on it, but CO Wright could smell the order of marijuana. When he questioned the person about the marijuana, they admitted that there was some in the garage and produced a milk

crate with several packaged bags of marijuana. With the assistance of the Tuscola County Sheriff Department, the rest of the residence was searched and nearly a pound of marijuana was discovered. Charges are being sought.

While patrolling in Tuscola County, CO Josh Wright received a carcass complaint. After a short investigation, the owner of the carcass was located. After talking with the young man responsible for dumping it, he met with the officer at the site with barrels and bags to clean up the whole parking lot.

CO Chad Foerster and CO Jill Miller investigated a complaint reference a hunter taking an over-limit of antlered deer. After numerous lies and misleading information, the subjects finally decided to tell the COs the truth. Numerous violations were confessed from taking too many antlered deer, using another's kill tags, and taking the deer over illegal bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Haas and CO Dan Robinson were checking anglers along the Saginaw River when they encountered two individuals fishing that had not purchased their 2016 fishing license. Further investigation revealed warrants between them and enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Haas and CO Dan Robinson responded to a complaint in western Isabella County where hunters were seen going out to their deer blind with firearms the day after rifle season closed. The COs concealed themselves in the woods and waited for the hunters to leave their hunting blinds and return to their vehicle. After dark and upon returning to their vehicle, the COs made contact with them. Numerous violations were encountered from hunting with muzzleloaders during the closed season, no hunter orange, hunting without a license, and taking a deer out of season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Haas contacted a hunter on state land in Midland County who was preparing to head out for an afternoon hunt. When asked to see his deer license, he could not produce one, but reassured the CO that he did have a valid doe tag. Further investigation revealed that the hunter did in fact buy a doe tag, but only for private land in the adjoining county. He was educated on his actions and released.

CO Dan Robinson was traveling the back roads of Isabella County when he came across a truck with the rear cargo light on. The light caught the COs attention, and after following the vehicle for a few more miles, he observed it drive into the on-coming lane of traffic. CO Robinson initiated a traffic stop and ultimately arrested the subject for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence.

CO Dan Robinson was called to assist an Isabella County Deputy with a traffic stop on a 3-wheeler. The operator was too young to operate the 3-wheeler, was not wearing a helmet, did not have working lights, and had a passenger on a machine designed for one person. After getting the juvenile's name, it was determined that COs and Deputies had given the same juvenile and his parents several warnings about operating an ORV

unsupervised and without first taking an ORV safety course. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Haas and CO Dan Robinson were working an area where there had been after hours shining and shooting activity. After observing a vehicle driving the area at a very slow speed, CO Robinson began to follow and ultimately stopped the vehicle for disregarding a stop sign. Further investigation revealed that the driver did not have a valid driver's license and had a felony warrant for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken and the subject was taken into custody.

DISTRICT 7

CO Richard Cardenas received an in-progress trespassing complaint from RAP dispatchers in Barry County. When CO Cardenas arrived on scene, the subject was still out hunting. CO Cardenas walked out to inspect property lines and he discovered a large bait pile being used by the suspect. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Mshar responded to a RAP complaint in the Allegan State Game Area in reference to a group of hunters who were afield when they heard bullets going past them in the trees. The complainants located several subjects who were target shooting at cans hanging from trees. The complainants stated that they spoke with the shooters about the issue, but that the shooters continued. When CO Mshar arrived in the area, he heard the subjects firing. CO Mshar made contact with three subjects, who were shooting high capacity semi-automatic handguns. CO Mshar observed numerous paint cans hanging over head high in the surrounding trees. CO Mshar pointed out the safety issues involved, as well as the game area rule violations. CO Mshar had the subjects clean up the trash and enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Holmes discovered that a trespassing deer hunter had used a friend's license to tag a buck taken during the archery season. The antlers were seized and multiple charges are being sought.

CO Brad Brewer and CO Zach Bauer made contact with a subject leaving the field after an evening hunt. Upon contact, a loaded uncased rifle was found on the back seat of the pick-up truck. The subject claimed to be coyote hunting. CO Brewer explained that he could not legally be afield with the type of rifle he had in his possession during the firearm deer season. CO Bauer ticketed the subject for possessing a prohibited caliber rifle in the limited firearm deer zone.

While on patrol, CO Tyler Cole received a call from a wildlife biologist concerning an individual who came to the deer check station with an untagged 6-point buck. The individual wanted to turn himself in for the violation. Upon arriving to the complaint, CO Cole found an untagged 6-point buck in the bed of a truck. Upon questioning, the individual admitted to killing the buck and then attempting to use his friend's license to tag the deer. He stated that he and his friends had been doing this license/tag swapping for the past few years and that the guilt had finally gotten the better of him. The deer

was seized and enforcement action was taken on numerous individuals involved in the incident.

CO Zach Bauer and CO Andy Bauer were on patrol when they received a complaint of an untagged deer in a garage. Upon arriving on scene, the COs noticed the deer in fact did not have a tag. A citation was issued for possessing an untagged deer.

CO Zach Bauer and CO Andy Bauer were on patrol when they witnessed a vehicle in a field and the operator entering the vehicle in camouflage clothing. Contact was made with the operator. Further investigation revealed a loaded shotgun in the vehicle, as well as possessing the firearm without a valid hunting license. Both citations were issued.

CO Zach Bauer and Sgt. Zach Doss were on patrol when they witnessed a hunter coming out of the woods. The COs observed that the hunter was not wearing proper hunter orange, but had an orange hooded sweatshirt under his camo clothing, with only the hood showing. The hunter did not even have his hood up. After explaining the hunter orange requirements, the hunter was issued a citation for improper hunter orange.

CO Andy Bauer received a complaint of a deer carcass that had been dumped on someone's property. Upon examining the carcass, a kill tag was found attached. CO Bauer tracked down the kill tag owner and subsequently issued him a litter citation.

CO Jeff Robinette received a RAP complaint from a subject that had been hunting. While the complainant was hunting, he investigated a gunshot that he heard and then observed two subjects standing on the neighboring property with a deer. The complainant overheard the subjects talking about how the one who shot the deer did not have a license. The complainant observed the untagged deer get loaded into a truck, which left the property. CO Robinette investigated and found out who was hunting the property and went to the residence of the hunter. Upon arrival, he was met by the hunter who drove the truck, and the second hunter who had shot the buck. CO Robinette subsequently examined the deer, which was now tagged. After examining the tag, it was obvious that the license had been purchased after the deer was shot. CO Robinette obtained a confession from the subject who shot the deer that he had been hunting without a license when he shot the deer. The deer and the firearm used were seized and the subject was issued a citation for taking the deer without a valid license.

CO Matt Page responded to a trespass complaint. A Michigan State Police Trooper was first on scene and made contact with both the complainant and suspects. Once CO Page arrived on scene, it was determined that while tracking a gunshot deer, two subjects entered posted private property without permission, and eventually stole a tree stand. The suspects were then confronted by the landowner who was out hunting. After confronting the suspects, who were carrying the landowner's tree stand around, the landowner was able to have a family member box the suspect's vehicle in and call dispatch. Multiple violations were found including recreational trespass, loaded uncased firearm in a motor vehicle, possession of stolen property, afield with a firearm and no kill

tags in possession. Additional violations included over-limit of bait, hunting on state land when posted against, and driving a motor vehicle on state land when posted against. The subjects were cited for loaded firearms in a motor vehicle, taking a deer illegally, no license and recreational trespass. MSP is seeking a warrant for the larceny of a tree stand.

CO Ivan Perez responded to a RAP complaint stating a subject in Zeeland had posted pictures on a social media site of a buck he had taken. Further investigation showed that the subject had purchased a deer license at a time later than the time stamp on the posting. A further check of his social media site also showed he had, earlier in the season, taken an antlerless deer and a grey fox. When confronted with this information, he confessed to not purchasing any licenses before taking the buck. When CO Perez asked him why he had not purchased any licenses, he stated that funds were tight. He then became visibly upset and began to rant that, "He didn't need a license to go to Afghanistan and kill someone! Why would he need a license to kill something here?" He further added, "God put these animals here for us to take!" Officer Perez calmly thanked the individual for his service and then explained to him how license money goes back to the resource in a variety of ways. The subject settled down and stated that he was just frustrated and apologized. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ivan Perez received a request from CO Shannon Kritz from the U.P. to interview a subject in Holland, who had shot an antlerless deer in Iron County where an antlerless deer cannot be taken. She stated that an eye witness assisted the subject in locating the deer and when they noticed it was an antlerless deer, had left the scene and reported it. CO Perez went to the suspect residence and made contact with a 71 year old subject. The subject stated that he had seen a group of five deer come in, one being a buck and took the shot. When he saw that he had shot an antlerless, he stated, "I just got sick to my stomach and had to go". CO Perez asked what happened to the deer. He stated that he just left it there, returned to his hotel where his wife was, checked out, and left. The subject gave CO Perez the exact location of where he had left the deer. CO Perez asked his wife if she knew of what transpired and she said he never mentioned it. The subject stated that he was too embarrassed to tell her. The information was turned over to CO Kritz for enforcement action.

While on patrol for hunting activity in northern Ottawa County, CO Ivan Perez encountered a subject operating an ORV on the road and without a helmet. CO Perez stopped the subject and noticed a gun carrier attached to the ORV. CO Perez asked if he could look at his firearm. The subject opened the case and removed a shotgun stating, "It's unloaded, except for the four rounds in the magazine." CO Perez unloaded the shotgun and informed the subject that firearms have to be completely unloaded when on an ORV or in motor vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

District 7, District 4, and the Wildlife Resource Protection Unit COs conducted undercover surveillance patrols targeting illegal whitefish activity along the Lake Michigan piers in Whitehall, Muskegon, and Grand Haven. Sixteen arrests were made for snagging and two arrests were made for taking over the legal limit of fish.

While checking airport property in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg observed an ORV being driven on the posted property. Upon further investigation, CO Ulberg observed a subject loading a deer on the back of the ORV. Contact was made with the subject and he was questioned about hunting on the well-fenced and posted property. The subject claimed that his family had received permission from the airport to hunt the property. CO Ulberg contacted the airport police and they advised that no one had permission to hunt on the property. The subject also did not have his deer license with him to tag the deer. Enforcement action was taken for the violations.

CO Justin Ulberg followed up on a complaint from CO Jon Busken of Mackinac County. A picture of a subject posing with a deer shot in Mackinac County was located on a social media site. A check in the licensing system revealed that the subject had not purchased any deer licenses for 2016. CO Ulberg made contact with the subject's father, and after a short interview the father stated that his son did not have a license and that he tagged the deer with his deer license. The information obtained was forwarded to CO Busken and charges will be sought out of Mackinac County for the violation.

While at a deer processor, CO Justin Ulberg located a tag on a 6-point buck that appeared suspicious based on the date and time it was purchased. CO Ulberg was unable to interview the subject because he was not home. After speaking with one of the subject's family members, it appeared that the subject had shot the deer and then purchased the license. After leaving the subject's residence, CO Ulberg was contacted by the subject's father. According to the father, he was the one that shot the 6-point buck. The father stated that he had shot a 4-point earlier in the year and he thought the second buck met the requirements for the restricted tag. The father advised that he was worried about getting in trouble, so he had his son purchase a deer license for him and then tagged the deer with his son's license. CO Ulberg explained to the father that mistakes happen and it would have been better to contact the DNR next time rather than using someone else's license. Enforcement action was taken for the violations.

During a recent patrol, CO Jeremy Beavers received a complaint that a subject shot a deer with a firearm within the safety zone. CO Beavers made contact with the complainant and was shown his property, which included a chicken coop, large dog kennel, and house. CO Beavers located the blind where the subject of the complaint was likely hunting. CO Beavers also located two bait sites near the blind, one consisting of corn and the other sugar beets. Baiting is currently prohibited in Ionia County due to the presence of CWD in neighboring counties. CO Beavers checked the distance to the dwellings on the complainant's property and two were inside of the safety zone. The blind was also within the safety zones of neighboring houses as well. CO Beavers made contact with the subject and informed him why he was there. The subject seemed to be unaware of the safety zone regulations concerning hunting with firearms. CO Beavers then asked the subject about the bait to which he admitted to placing near his blind. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Greg Patten responded to a complaint of shots fired after legal hunting hours and was able to locate the subject. A confession was obtained for taking a spike buck without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 8

CO Andrew Monnich was on patrol when he spotted what appeared to be traps in a woodlot next to the road. CO Monnich inspected a number of dog-proof raccoon traps and found none of them to have trapper ID tags on them. While checking the traps, CO Monnich noticed a man walking through the woods. Contact was made with the individual who stated that those were his traps. Enforcement action was taken for not having proper ID tags on the traps.

CO Andrew Monnich saw a hunter driving across a field on an ORV and observed what appeared to be a shotgun in the operator's lap. Contact was made with the individual who did have a loaded shotgun on his lap. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy checked the Lake Chemung boat launch and observed a vehicle spinning its tires and doing doughnuts. CO Purdy made contact with the driver whose license was suspended and had thirteen warrants for his arrest. In addition, he and his passenger were in possession of open intoxicants. The vehicle was also unregistered and uninsured. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Prince responded to an internet RAP complaint about a hunter that shot an antlerless deer from his back porch over an illegal bait pile. The complainant reported that the hunter did not have an antlerless deer license. CO Prince made contact with the hunter who admitted to shooting the antlerless deer, but thought he had the correct kill tag. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting over an excess amount of bait and the deer was donated to the Family Impact Center in Fowlerville.

CO Mike Drexler received a complaint where two gunshots were heard from a roadway around six in the morning. A witness then observed two subjects loading a deer into the back of a pickup. The witness was able to photograph the license plate of the suspect vehicle. Follow-up is still being conducted, but the investigation points to a car/deer collision where the operator took improper measures by dispatching the wounded deer. CO Mike Drexler assisted a Northfield Township Police Officer on a complaint of recreational trespass involving two hunters. When CO Drexler arrived, he determined the subjects were hunting deer with a shotgun four days after the close of the firearm deer season and both were hunting without a license. Further investigation revealed both subjects had outstanding DNR warrants for hunting related charges and felony possession of controlled substances. One of the subjects was also a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. CO Drexler arrested and lodged both subjects for their warrants, as well as new charges of hunting without a license, hunting deer with a firearm during the closed season, and felon in possession of a firearm.

CO Eric Smither assisted the Clinton Police Department on a mentally unstable individual at a gas station. CO Smither helped the Clinton officer identify the individual and assisted medical personnel when they arrived.

CO Chris Reynolds received a call on a group of hunters trespassing on a farmer's land. When contact was made, all of the hunters stated they had permission to be on the property. A quick phone call and meeting with the farmer showed that none of the individuals had permission to be on the property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough responded to a trespassing complaint in the City of Battle Creek. Local officers caught the suspect who was tracking a deer around a nursing facility in full camouflage. CO McCullough went to the suspect's residence to retrieve his ID and discovered an untagged doe that was shot during bow season on state land in Washtenaw County. Further investigation revealed the suspect had also cut several trees down around his tree stand and was hunting over a very large bait pile. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough observed a truck parked in a field two hours after hunting hours. CO McCullough circled the block and determined the suspects were tracking a deer. After waiting a while, the suspects came out to the road. The hunters had indeed been successful and an untagged doe was in the bed of the truck. Only one hunter had an antlerless deer tag, but could not find it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss received a tip from CO Shane Webster that a man may have killed a deer without a license. The suspect posted a picture on an outdoor page bragging about a big buck he shot. A search of his license history showed that he didn't purchase a deer license this year. CO Goss located a family member of the suspect who coincidentally purchased a tag the same day the suspect's deer was killed. It was discovered that CO Jason McCullough had arrested the same man for taking deer without a license last year. Upon interviewing the suspect, it was discovered that he shot a deer and then had his daughter purchase a tag for it. He also admitted to shooting a deer during archery season without a license. The suspect admitted that the only reason he had his daughter get a tag for the big buck was because he wanted to get it scored and have the deer mounted.

CO Jeff Goss completed three illegal deer investigations involving three different suspects. All confessed to shooting deer before purchasing their licenses. All three of the bucks were 8-points; one had a 22 inch inside spread and another had a 21 inch spread. All three bucks were confiscated and the meat was processed by a local processor and donated to needy families. Charges are being sought in all three cases.

CO Joshua Jackson received multiple complaints of a new fence being constructed in Branch County. The callers stated the fence was too high and there are deer blinds within the enclosure. CO Jackson investigated and determined that the enclosure had multiple violations and was not permitted. The landowner told CO Jackson that he had gotten the OK from the township supervisor, but did not know state law regarding

passageways and height requirements. The CO is working with the landowner to address the issues.

CO Isaac Tyson investigated an anonymous tip that a hunter had shot two deer and not tagged them. CO Tyson went to the suspect's residence and no one was home. Two deer carcasses were located in the suspect's yard. CO Tyson looked up the suspect's hunting license purchases and discovered that the subject had purchased a combination license and an antlerless deer license. Later that day, CO Tyson drove by and noticed that the suspect was home. CO Tyson contacted the suspect and asked to see his hunting licenses. The suspect produced all three of his licenses, indicating that he had not tagged either deer. The suspect then admitted to shooting both deer and not tagging them. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy Ludwig was dispatched to a hunter harassment complaint and located a suspect. While discussing hunter harassment regulations with the suspect, a second hunter approached them. The hunter, who was not wearing hunter orange, was a friend of the suspect and was told he did not need hunter orange because he was on private property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy Ludwig investigated a complaint of a hunter taking a deer without a license and her husband posting about it on Facebook. The suspect denied shooting the deer and stated the posting was a hoax. While discussing the posting with her husband, CO Ludwig pointed out that it was odd that the comments below the posting were of the suspect accepting congratulations for shooting the deer. The husband agreed this was odd. Further questioning of the suspect's husband revealed that she had actually shot the deer and used his kill tag to tag the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Eaton County, CO Troy Ludwig observed a group of hunters standing beside a truck on the edge of a field. One hunter had a senior license and a kill tag, which did not have matching driver's license numbers. The hunter also did not appear to be over the age of 65. When checked in the retail sales system, it showed that the licenses belonged to his parents and he had not made a purchase this year. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn received a complaint from a hunter of an over-limit of bucks being taken by an individual in northeastern Ingham County. While on the way to the suspect's residence, CO Thorn passed the suspect vehicle and was able to conduct a traffic stop. CO Thorn found the driver to be intoxicated and his driver's license suspended. Further investigation revealed an open can of beer behind the passenger seat and an 8-point buck inside the vehicle with a tag attached that belonged to the subject's girlfriend. The suspect was lodged on the OWI charge. CO Thorn and CO King continued investigating. They were able to retrieve three antlered deer and gain confessions that all were shot during the current firearm deer season by the same man. Two of the deer were tagged with his girlfriend's tags. Enforcement action is pending for the hunting violations.

While on routine patrol with a ride along, CO Todd Thorn stopped near some vehicles parked in a field well after dark. CO Thorn and the ride along waited by the vehicles until an ORV arrived at their location. Upon contact, CO Thorn found three persons riding on an ORV built for two people. One of the passengers was holding a loaded, uncased shotgun in his lap. CO Thorn then found that the same person did not have a valid hunting license. The man stated that he had already shot two deer, which is why he didn't currently have a license. CO Thorn investigated further and found that the man only purchased one deer license for the season. It was discovered that the man had used his father's license to tag the second deer he had shot. The deer was located and seized and confessions were obtained. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn was patrolling HAP property in southern Ingham County and found a minivan parked in one of the HAP fields. CO Thorn looked up the hunter's information in the HAP log at the landowner's house and found that the man who signed his name in the log had multiple warrants for his arrest. Further investigation, revealed that the same man had recently been convicted of felony arson. CO Thorn located the individual in a popup blind in the HAP field and found that he was hunting with a firearm. The man was arrested and lodged in the Jackson County jail on a charge of felon in possession of a firearm.

CO Shane Webster responded to a trespass complaint. The suspect had left the area, but not before the landowner had confronted him and managed to obtain a 7mm shell from the firearm he was carrying. The landowner had also located a spent shell casing from a 7mm rifle in a blind on his property. The suspect was identified and interviewed and confessed to taking a spike antlered whitetail with the 7mm rifle in the limited firearm zone. Charges are being sought through the prosecutor's office.

CO Chris Maher investigated two illegally taken deer by individuals living at the same residence. After a lengthy interview, CO Maher obtained a written confession and seized an 8-point and a 9-point deer. Charges are being sought through the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Chris Maher heard a call from Jackson Central Dispatch regarding suspects of a recent armed robbery running from police through the woods. CO Maher was in the area and responded to the location within minutes of the call. CO Maher assisted local enforcement in the apprehension of all suspects involved in the robbery.

CO Robert Slick was inspecting deer at a processor in Shiawassee County when he came across a 6-point buck tagged with a restricted tag. CO Slick interviewed the hunter who stated it was his first deer in 37 years and he wasn't aware that there was a difference between the tags. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Neterer and CO Jason McCullough received a complaint of five hunters with firearms entering the archery-only area of the Windsor Township State Game Area. Upon arrival, the COs located the group waterfowl hunting along the edge of a pond. The COs waited until the end of shooting hours to contact the hunters. Several minutes

after the close of legal shooting hours, the hunters continued to shoot at passing waterfowl. Enforcement action was taken for firearm hunting in a closed area and hunting after the close of legal shooting hours.

DISTRICT 9

CO Jason Becker responded to Highland Recreation Area for a RAP complaint of a subject target shooting. CO Becker arrived at the area described and heard gun fire. CO Becker walked into the woods to find a subject shooting at a target taped to a sapling. The subject was target shooting with two different rifles and a pistol. CO Becker informed the subject that it was not legal to target shoot in a state recreation area. CO Becker also reminded the hunter that firearm deer season was open and that the camo clothing he was wearing would not make him visible to other hunters. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Becker responded to Holly Recreation Area for a RAP complaint that a subject was carrying a firearm through the woods dressed in all camouflage. CO Becker met a group of four hunters as they came out of the woods, one of which was not wearing orange. As the hunters were putting their firearms into cases, CO Becker learned that two of the subjects' firearms were still loaded 40 minutes past legal shooting hours. CO Becker explained the safety concerns with walking out of the woods in the dark with loaded firearms. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Becker responded to a RAP complaint of a safety zone violation in Oakland County. CO Becker determined that the blind in question was within the safety zone of the neighboring house, but the subject had permission to do so. While investigating the blind, CO Becker noticed that the subject had more than the two gallon limit of bait. CO Becker addressed the violation and the subject stated that it would be cleaned up the same day and invited CO Becker to come back and check. Several days later, CO Griffin noticed the bait pile from the road and stopped to address the violation. The subject stated that he had spoken with CO Becker earlier and that the bait was never mentioned. CO Griffin advised the subject to clean up the bait and the two gallon limit. CO Becker came back out to the subject's house to check if the bait was within the two gallon limit to find two blinds with over 100 gallons each in front of them. CO Becker learned that the subject had taken the bait that was cleaned up from CO Griffin's visit and moved to the bait pile in the back yard. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joseph Deppen and CO Brad Silorey were on marine patrol on Lake St. Clair checking waterfowl hunters, when they observed one group of hunters from a distance shoot and cripple several ducks. After several minutes of observation, CO Silorey and CO Deppen watched the hunters start their boat and drive in range of the crippled birds and shoot at them while under power. The COs made contact with the subjects and conducted a check on their hunting equipment and licenses. Enforcement action was taken for having loaded firearms in a motorboat while under way.

In an attempt to monitor early shooting on Lake St. Clair for the last day of regular waterfowl season, CO Joseph Deppen and Sgt. Todd Szyska launched a patrol vessel in the early morning darkness. While underway in the pitch dark conditions, the COs observed a dark silhouette coming towards them. The COs lit up the dark object with flashlights and found it to be an unregistered, non-lighted vessel with no navigation lights of any kind being operated and occupied by two subjects. The subjects were muskellunge anglers and stated that they had been having engine problems and were trying to get back into the launch. Not only was the vessel unregistered, it also had no navigation lights, the life jackets were in poor condition, both subjects did not possess the free muskellunge fishing tags as required by law, and one subject did not have a fishing license. After several lies by the unlicensed angler, it was confirmed via Station 20 and RSS that the subject did not possess a valid fishing license. The COs made sure the subjects made it safely to the launch. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Travis Dragomer received a complaint of an antlerless deer shot by a hunter who did not have an antlerless deer license. CO Dragomer made contact with the suspect and located the untagged antlerless deer. The suspect stated that he thought that the deer he shot had antlers. The suspect only had a combination tag and did not have a valid license to take the antlerless deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin was on patrol in Oakland County when he received a complaint that one hunter stole another hunter's deer. CO Griffin responded to the complaint with CO Jason Becker to investigate. The COs had the hunter show them the details of his hunt including where the deer was standing, when it was shot and where it was found. Both COs then interviewed the party suspected of taking the deer. The hunter admitted to taking the deer, tagging it, and not shooting it. Completing their investigation, the two COs discovered that the deer was shot over an over-limit of bait, the hunter who shot the deer trespassed while attempting to retrieve the deer. The landowner transported the deer without a tag, and then tagged the deer as his own. Both individuals were informed of multiple violations they both committed, the deer was seized, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel worked a waterfowl patrol along the shoreline of Lake St. Clair. He made multiple waterfowl checks and found two subjects hunting with unsigned/unattached federal waterfowl stamps. Enforcement action was taken. While checking one group of waterfowl hunters, CO Kiel observed a couple anglers actively casting farther down the shoreline. After completing the waterfowl check, the CO walked down to check the anglers. One angler had broken down his rod and stuck it the bottom of a bucket and was playing with his smart phone. When asked for his fishing license, the subject stated that he was not fishing. CO Kiel said that he understood, but that a license would have been required five minutes prior when he was observed fishing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and CO Brad Silorey were on patrol checking waterfowl hunters in Macomb County when they observed several hunters returning to shore. The COs made contact with the hunters who launched at a private marina. CO Silorey asked how

the hunters did that day, and they stated that they had gotten eight ducks. While checking the hunter's boat and equipment, CO Silorey and CO Kiel only counted seven ducks. When questioned about the eighth duck, the subject reached down into a side compartment and pulled out a blood-stained jacket. Under the jacket was a live duck that the subject stated he did not want to kill at the time because he was going to take it to the taxidermist. CO Kiel advised the subject that he could not possess a live duck. Along with possessing the live duck, one of the hunters had failed to purchase a Michigan waterfowl license, and was using a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, and also had an unsigned federal duck stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling a problem area for road hunting in St. Clair County, CO Ken Kovach encountered a suspicious vehicle. CO Kovach observed a traffic violation, and a traffic stop was conducted. As CO Kovach approached the vehicle, both occupants had uncased firearms, and were frantically trying to unload their shotguns. Along with the firearm violations, the driver also had several warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

While working shining activity, CO Ken Kovach observed an ORV travelling on a rural roadway in St. Clair County. The occupant was not wearing a helmet and the ORV did not have a working tail light. CO Kovach attempted to initiate a traffic stop, but the driver fled in the opposite direction. A short pursuit ensued, before CO Kovach was able to get the operator to stop as his machine stalled. The driver had a suspended driver's license, failed to stop for an officer, and had five ORV violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach received a tip of a subject shooting an over-limit of bucks in the St. Clair County Area. CO Kovach interviewed the subject at the subject's residence. After some discussion, the subject admitted to shooting two 8-point bucks and then a 3-point buck. The subject had his wife buy a license and tag one of the 8-point bucks. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach set up surveillance on a group of anglers in southern Lake Huron. CO Kovach watched the anglers for several hours as they caught numerous walleye, with one boat suspected to be over their limit. The anglers were checked as they came off the water, and one angler said to CO Kovach, "You are going to write me a ticket." CO Kovach laughed and said, "Only if you're over your limit." The angler then laughed and said, "You might as well get out your pen then." The subject was several fish over his limit and enforcement action was taken.

On the last weekend of the waterfowl season, CO Ken Kovach focused on late hunters hunting in St. Johns marsh. CO Kovach set up on one particular hunter as the end of hours came and went. The hunter kept actively calling twenty minutes after the end of hours. CO Kovach contacted the hunter and addressed the violation. After completing the contact, CO Kovach walked back further into the marsh trying to find another hunter. CO Kovach observed decoys set up and watched as another hunter was still actively hunting. To the hunter's surprise, as he called and looked to the darkening sky

for flying birds, he saw CO Kovach standing. The hunter stopped calling, said a few expletives, and then said "you got me." The hunter was hunting waterfowl 45 minutes after hours. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Muehlhauser had been monitoring activity at an excessive bait site that contained approximately a yard of carrots. However, when the CO would check the location, nobody was ever there. Finally, the CO received a call claiming that a vehicle matching the description of the hunter's vehicle had arrived at the site. CO Muehlhauser made contact with the subject who stated that he didn't know about the two gallon limit and that he was just baiting the site for a friend that hunts at the location. The subject claimed that he had not hunted yet this year. The CO explained the purpose of the bait restrictions and the man agreed that the bait was at excessive levels. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher assisted the U.S. Coast Guard Port Huron Station with multiple safety zone complaints. One charter boat was very close to being in violation, but did not shoot at the ducks coming into their spread. The second vessel came very close to the Station's basin to shoot a crippled duck shot from a layout boat. After further inspection of the hunters, lead shot was also found. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher contacted a suspected felon in possession of a firearm. The subject had been drinking in the blind, in addition to being in possession of a long gun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger assisted Huron Township PD with an in progress trespassing complaint. When CO Schaumburger arrived, the suspects were nowhere to be found, but while they were searching the property, a neighbor walked over to see what was going on. It was over an hour after legal hunting hours and the neighbor was in possession of a loaded muzzleloader and not wearing any hunter orange. He stated to the CO, "How can you unload a muzzleloader?" The CO demonstrated it to him by removing the primer. The hunter was not very cooperative, as he stated he was just walking over to see all the commotion. The CO explained he should have unloaded his firearm a long time ago, to which the subject replied, "I was hunting coyotes." The CO stated that was another violation, because you cannot hunt coyote at night with a muzzleloader. Enforcement action was taken.

Working a waterfowl patrol on the Detroit River, CO David Schaumburger and CO Dan Walzak contacted three hunters on the north end of Celeron Island, part of a state game area with rules governing its' occupancy and use. Two of the subjects were hunting waterfowl and the third was hunting deer on the island. The deer hunter was gathering his gear to leave and loading his boat when the COs observed him carrying a sleeping bag. When the COs asked the subject what the sleeping bag was for, the subject said that he had spent the night out on the island. When asked if he was aware of the rule prohibiting camping, one subject stated that he was and he was just trying to save the spot so that nobody else would get it in the morning before they did. The other two subjects stated that they had also spent the night, but they were unaware of the rule.

Checking the subjects, and in addition to the camping on the island, the COs found a number of other violations. One of the waterfowl hunters was found to be in possession of lead shot, the other waterfowl hunter had an unsigned (and unattached) federal migratory bird stamp, two of the subjects were in possession of various kinds of alcohol (not allowed on the island), and a ground fire was built while the group spent the night (also not allowed on the island). Moreover, the boat belonging to the deer hunter was missing a fire extinguisher, as required, and one of the subjects was in possession of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken

CO Brad Silorey was on patrol when he was contacted by Macomb County dispatch in regards to several lost hunters on state land. The call came into dispatch just after dark and was from an elderly male who was hunting with his grandson. With rainy conditions and temperatures dropping to near freezing, time was of the essence. CO Silorey arrived to the location of the hunter's vehicle and obtained a general area of the hunters from the dispatchers who pinged their cell phone. CO Silorey set out on foot to begin the search for the hunters. After searching for quite some time, CO Silorey could hear the hunters in distress yelling for help. After navigating through some very thick brush, CO Silorey located the hunters. The elderly hunter was in poor condition lying on the ground with cuts and scrapes. He stated that his legs were not working very well due to having Parkinson's disease. He also stated that they had forgotten to bring a flashlight. CO Silorey advised dispatch to have medical staged at the road and began the walk back to the road. The hunters were escorted out of the woods by CO Silorey and immediately turned over to the fire department for a medical check.

CO Matthew Zultak witnessed two hunters walking in the Lapeer State Game Area. This is a normal occurrence during deer season; however one subject did not meet the blaze orange requirements. CO Zultak observed the two subjects go to their vehicle. One subject loaded his firearm into the backseat of the vehicle without casing it. Upon seeing these violations, CO Zultak contacted the hunters. After asking for hunting licenses, CO Zultak found that both subjects were hunting without the proper licenses. To make matters worse, CO Zultak also located a concealed firearm. The owner of the concealed firearm never explained he had the weapon, and was found to not possess a CPL and the pistol was not registered when the LEIN work came back from Station 20 Dispatch. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak responded to an untagged deer complaint from Lapeer County's Central Dispatch. Upon arrival, CO Zultak located a whitetail buck that had obviously had the antlers cut off. CO Zultak also noted that the buck was tagged with an antlerless license. Upon searching the area, CO Zultak located the sawed off antlers in the woods near the barn. Enforcement action was taken.