

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
11/22/15 - 12/5/15**

DISTRICT 1

CO Brian Lasanen received a complaint of an individual who had shot a doe during the firearm deer season without the proper license. CO Lasanen and CO Ethen Mapes arrived at the suspects' house and observed bloody boot prints in the snow leading to a shed out behind the residence. CO Lasanen and CO Mapes made contact with an individual butchering the deer. After a brief interview, the suspect advised he accidentally shot the doe when he thought he was shooting a 7-pointer. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen received a RAP complaint of some individuals who shot a doe and had found it on the complainants' property. The complainant advised he did not give permission to anyone to be on his property. CO Brian Lasanen and CO Shannon Kritz located the blood trail and followed it; along with the boot prints from where the individuals had crawled under a fence, disregarding the no trespassing signs, back to a house where the doe was shot. CO Lasanen and Kritz interviewed the suspects. It was determined the individuals never received permission to track the deer onto the complainants' property. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes and Sgt. Grant Emery were checking a suspicious trap line with several untagged traps. CO Mapes nearly collided with an oncoming vehicle as it attempted to navigate an icy corner. CO Mapes and Sgt. Emery checked the vehicle after it had come to a stop just past the patrol truck. Through the Conservation Officers' conversation with the vehicle driver, it turned out that the driver was the owner of the untagged traps. The suspect was carrying a pistol under his coat in a holster, without a valid CPL. An untagged bobcat was also hidden under a bag of corn on floor board of the truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen was working the last day of 2015 firearm deer season. Just after dark, CO Lasanen made contact with a road hunter and found an uncased shotgun in his vehicle. The driver told CO Lasanen he knew the firearm had to be cased and was surprised to see a Conservation Officer. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Eberly was on his way to a local taxidermist to do a routine inspection when he noticed a truck backing up in the roadway. CO Eberly followed the vehicle as it pulled into the taxidermy business parking area ahead of him and made contact with the driver. The driver had been road hunting and CO Eberly found a loaded firearm in the vehicle. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson was called to investigate an injured loon on a local inland lake. CO Jared Ferguson was able to capture the loon, and found that his right wing was wrapped in fishing line. CO Ferguson unwrapped the loon and watched it fly away safely.

CO Shannon Kritz was on foot patrol when she came across a hunter who stepped out from his blind. The hunter was not wearing hunter orange, and appeared to be under the age of 17, and unsupervised. Contact with the subject found him to be under the legal age to hunt unsupervised. It was determined that his dad was hunting with his brother a mile down the road. While walking with the young subject to locate his father, CO Kritz came across the father halfway down the trail. The father responded that he had a gut feeling that the CO would find his son hunting alone, after he saw the CO checking other hunters in the area.

While conducting a processor inspection in Iron County, CO Adam LeClerc and Sgt. Marc Pomroy discovered a spike buck tagged with a regular combo tag. This tag was in violation of the Antler Point Restrictions of three or better points on one side. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shannon Kritz followed up on a suspicious deer found during a processor inspection. A subject stopped at the processor to drop off two deer for a friend. One of the deer had started to spoil, and was not accepted. A check of the deer that was accepted found a sub-legal spike horn tagged with an antlerless tag for the wrong management unit. The second deer was found dumped on State land a mile from the processor. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge was patrolling an area of private land when he observed a hunter heading into the woods for an evening hunt. After talking with the hunter, CO DeLonge learned that the hunter was a non-resident, and had shot a buck on the previous day. The hunter provided CO DeLonge with his base license and sports card, after being asked to do a license check. After being asked about not having a kill tag in possession, the hunter explained that he used it on the buck he shot previously. He didn't need one now, because he was going to shoot a buck for another hunter in his party who had an unused tag. The hunter explained that he was "party" hunting and thought it was legal here in Michigan. CO DeLonge corrected the hunter, and law enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge was patrolling an area of State land in Menominee County when he observed a pick-up truck traveling towards him on a logging road. As the truck passed CO DeLonge's location, he observed a bucket of deer legs in the bed of the truck. After contacting and asking the driver about the deer parts in the bed of the truck, CO DeLonge learned that the driver and his wife both shot bucks earlier in the week. CO DeLonge went to the residence to verify that the deer were tagged legally and found that one buck was in fact not legally tagged. Violations observed included loan/borrow a kill tag to another and improperly tagging a buck with an antlerless deer tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and Sgt. Ryan Aho made contact with a subject camped on State land that told the COs his son shot a spike horn, and didn't know if he would have time to come back to hunt muzzleloader season. CO Mark Leadman and Sgt. Ryan Aho investigated the killing of the spike horn, and found that it was shot by a hunter that did not have a valid deer hunting license. The deer was seized, and appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and Sgt. Ryan Aho observed drag marks in the snow from where a deer was harvested. The COs had been by the truck earlier so they knew the deer was very recently harvested, and worth a check. The deer was loaded into the back of a truck, and CO Leadman and Sgt. Aho were able to track the vehicle to a camp. The vehicle traveled through several busy intersections and the COs were able to stay on the trail by observing small drops of blood in the road. Once CO Leadman and Sgt. Aho reached the camp, they observed an antlerless deer hanging from the camp buck pole. The deer was already skinned and would have been in coolers within the hour. This was an area where no antlerless deer harvest is allowed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and Sgt. Ryan Aho made contact with a subject driving a truck that was in possession of an improperly cased firearm. The firearm was also loaded. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Brett Gustafson and CO Jon Busken assisted the Luce County Sheriff's Department with a hunter who had suffered a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the abdomen. The hunter walked out the camp door, slipped on a ramp, and had his bolt-action shotgun discharge. The hunter suffered wounds to his left hand, abdomen and chest, with several pellets lodged in his chest cavity. Fortunately the round the hunter had chambered was #6 birdshot. The other two rounds in the magazine were slugs. It appears the subject had likely been using alcohol and marijuana prior to deciding to go deer hunting. Charges are pending through the Luce County Sheriff Department.

CO Brett Gustafson finally caught up with a hunter who he was trying to find at his deer blind for the last two years. The hunter was surprised to see CO Gustafson and understood the rules on baiting. He had just decided to not follow them and didn't think he would get caught. Enforcement action was taken.

While working on poached wolf complaint, CO Brett Gustafson and CO Kevin Postma located a very active deer trail and evidence that the area was being hunted, although there was no vehicle around. Suspecting that there may be a large bait pile at the end of the trail, the COs followed. Sure enough, there was approximately 75 gallons of sugar beets, and one very surprised hunter. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Wenzel was on patrol when he observed a vehicle without a license plate being driven by a subject known to have a suspended drivers' license. CO Wenzel attempted to stop the vehicle and the subject fled. A short pursuit followed and the subject turned down a dead end road. CO Wenzel, along with MSP Troopers and local Sheriff's Deputies, located the subject and took him in to custody for flee & elude and for driving on a suspended drivers' license.

CO Bobby Watson and CO Jon Busken, along with Sgt. Mike Hammill, were conducting a deer decoy patrol when an individual approached the deer decoy location on an ORV. The individual was observed exiting his ORV with a loaded firearm, and then fired three consecutive shots at the deer decoy, which was on private property, with no trespassing signs in front of it. Upon making contact, it was discovered the individual had a loaded firearm in an ORV, was not wearing any hunter orange, had failed to obtain permission to hunt the private property, and did not possess a valid deer kill tag. The suspect had been previously warned by the property owner to stay off his property. A report is being generated and presented to the court system for prosecution and reimbursement for the damaged deer decoy.

CO Kevin Postma was patrolling back roads when he came in contact with a UTV operated by an 8 year old and his adult passenger. CO Postma offered his congratulations to the youngster who had harvested a deer a couple of days prior. After briefly talking with the youth, CO Postma noticed an uncased firearm in the UTV. CO Postma repositioned his patrol vehicle and had the adult step out to discuss the uncased firearm. It was then that CO Postma noticed why the adult was being unusually quiet, as he was highly intoxicated at 10:45 in the morning. CO Postma made it clear to the adult how inappropriate the situation was.

CO Jon Busken made contact with the operator and passenger of a vehicle in Mackinac County. While talking to the occupants, CO Busken noticed that the passenger was attempting to discretely zip up a gun case. Unfortunately for him, the sling from his rifle had become stuck in the zipper and he couldn't get it closed. When he saw that he would not be able to zip the case, he tried to move the case to the backseat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken contacted two hunters at the conclusion of their hunt in Mackinac County. Both hunters were found to have warrants. One subject produced \$100 bond. The other subject was lodged in the Chippewa County Jail on a child support warrant.

CO Jon Busken assisted in a search and rescue operation for a 67 year old man who had become lost in Mackinac County after he began tracking a deer. CO Busken, and a

friend of the man, was able to locate the man. It then took nearly two hours to walk the subject out to the CO Busken's truck.

CO Jeff Panich was working with Forester Joshua Brinks in the Pickford area and was notified of an illegal blind being used on State land. The two drove to the location on ORVs and proceeded to follow an ORV trail through the Gogomain swamp. Approximately one mile through the swamp, CO Panich and Forester Brinks located a blind on State Land. Contact with a hunter was made and three large heavily over-baited piles were also located. The hunter stated he had permission from one of the foresters to leave the blind on State land, and continue to use an ORV through the swamp to gain access. CO Panich advised that it just so happens the forester he was with was the one he claimed gave him permission last winter, and that permission from him was definitely not given. Numerous violations including ORV closed area, no helmet, exceed deer bait, and fail to remove stand were all noted. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Freeborn, Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon and Commercial Fish Specialist Larry Deslover received a complaint of a commercial fisherman netting during the closed season in Lake Superior. The COs patrolled the area where the nets were supposed to be and was able to intercept the fisherman tending his illegal nets. A Bay Mills Tribal Conservation Officer responded to the scene and the incident was turned over to him for prosecution in Tribal court. Over 900 pounds of illegal whitefish and lake trout were seized.

CO Mark Zitnik responded with a State Trooper to an accident on M-28. A logging truck had a tire blow-out which caused him to lose control and crash into a creek bank. After cutting down trees and limbs that were in the way, CO Zitnik along with EMS services was able to extract the driver and render first aid.

CO Calvin Smith backed up an MSP trooper on a domestic violence call in Traunik. The complaint turned out to be a simple argument with no enforcement action being taken.

DISTRICT 3

CO Stephen Speigl investigated a complaint of hunters that had trespassed and committed an assault on another property owner. CO Speigl obtained statements from the victim and has referred the case to the Antrim County Prosecutor's Office.

During a deer processor inspection, CO Andrea Albert found a 6-point and 8-point buck with combo tags that were purchased the same day the deer were shot. A follow up interview with the shooter found that he had shot both deer at almost the same time, while deer hunting without having purchased any deer tags. Both deer were seized and

tickets were issued for the violations. The restitution for both deer, for this violation, is \$8,000, and hunting license revocation is for five years, with the new enhanced penalties regarding the taking of antlered deer.

CO Andrea Albert found a spike horn deer tagged with an antlerless tag during a deer processor inspection. An interview with the shooter found that he believed a deer with less than three points on a side should be tagged as a doe. A ticket was issued and the illegal deer was seized.

CO Carl Vanderwall was following up on an illegal blind that also had an over-limit of bait, when he encountered the hunter inside the blind. Upon talking with the hunter, it was determined that he had been drinking while in possession of his firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Erratt and CO Chad Baldwin conducted a firearm deer season patrol on Beaver Island. While on patrol, CO Erratt and CO Baldwin came across a subject dressed in all camo, carrying a shotgun, and with his black Lab. The subject advised the COs that he was hunting grouse. At which point, CO Erratt and CO Baldwin explained that the grouse season was currently closed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Erratt came across an individual who was hunting without a deer license in possession. In addition, a check of the individual revealed they had never taken hunter safety. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Baldwin gave a presentation for career days at Charlevoix Public Schools. There were 80 students in attendance.

CO Mark DePew initially began questioning an individual to see if he had any information regarding an illegally killed elk that occurred several weeks earlier in Otsego County during deer season, CO Mark DePew didn't find the elk shooter, but received confessions regarding two illegally killed deer. Warrants are pending.

CO Mark DePew followed up on a complaint from opening day of deer season regarding a doe shot from a motor vehicle. Advising local law enforcement of the vehicle description, a Gaylord City PD officer made a traffic stop on a vehicle matching the description. CO DePew interviewed the driver and learned his brother had shot the doe. After interviewing the brother, a confession was obtained on the illegally killed deer from the motor vehicle and an additional deer shot illegally was also uncovered.

CO Mark DePew worked on a bait pile the complainant described as one "you could see from outer space" because it was so large. CO DePew was able to locate the hunter, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff and CO Chris Lynch patrolled an area in where they have received a number of complaints of excessive deer bait being used. An ORV was stopped in the area and CO Lynch noticed a bulge in the driver's jacket. A concealed pistol was found, without the benefit of a Concealed Pistol License. The driver also admitted the excessively large bait pile belonged to him. Enforcement action was taken.

During deer season, Sgt. Greg Drogowski deployed a trail camera behind a berm in an area closed to motor vehicles on State land. Last year at this same location a pop-up blind was stolen. Multiple photographs of an ORV driving over the berm with a large amount of bait were captured. Unfortunately, it was the complainant from last year whose pop-up blind was stolen and had an excessive amount of bait in front this year's new blind. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki and CO Bill Webster participated in Alpena's Blue Light Ceremony, honoring Police Officers and Firefighters who lost their lives in the line-of-duty.

CO Tim Rosochacki and CO Bill Webster participated with the Shop with a Hero program sponsored by Meijer's in Alpena, where they help local youth shop for Christmas.

CO Bill Webster received a complaint of trespass where the suspects had come onto the private property by the way of a boat. CO Webster contacted the hunters at the public boat launch. The hunters were found in a boat which had expired registration, no life jackets, the hunters had no hunter orange, no hunting license in their possession, and one of the hunters was using a shotgun during the muzzleloader season. Enforcement action was taken and the trespass complaint is still under investigation.

CO Bill Webster was on patrol late at night when he located a mobile home trailer blocking the roadway. While pulling partway into a driveway, the axels fell off the trailer, blocking the county road. After talking with an MSP Motor Carrier Officer, the trailer was found to be over length and width, and a permit had not been obtained to move the home. The person pulling the trailer admitted to knowing it was illegal to move the trailer, but did it late at night in an attempt to try to get away with it. A citation was issued by MSP for being over the legal length to haul without a permit.

CO Bill Webster located a 6-point buck at a deer processor, and contacted the individual who had tagged the deer. After talking with the license holder, it was determined she tagged the 6 point buck that her husband had shot, so he could continue hunting. A citation was issued for using the tag of another.

DISTRICT 4

CO Sean Kehoe and CO Rich Stowe received a complaint in Grand Traverse County from a hunter who was hunting on private property when a snowmobile took advantage

of the new fallen snow, and decided to ride on the private property without permission. While CO Stowe contacted the complainant, CO Kehoe followed the track (as it was the only one in the area) for several miles and finally located the snowmobiler. The snowmobiler had trespassed on private property, operated on State land during the morning closure in place during firearm deer season, was operating an unregistered snowmobile, and lacked a trail permit. Enforcement action was taken.

While inspecting a deer processor in the Antler Point Restricted area, CO Sean Kehoe located a spike rack, with a tag on it, from a local youth hunter. CO Kehoe contacted the hunter, and during the interview, discovered that the youth hunter had not taken a deer yet this season. Further investigation revealed that her dad had taken the deer outside of the APR area. Additional verification showed that the adult hunter had shot the deer and was unable to recover it. The hunter shot another deer the following day and found the original deer during the tracking of the second deer. The hunter decided to keep the original deer and tag it with his daughter's tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sean Kehoe received a complaint from a bow hunter in Grand Traverse County, that while he was scouting, he saw two guys digging a hole in an area of State land. CO Kehoe checked the area and found two individuals who had removed a large amount of sand from the bank of a gulley, and were filling a large flat-bed trailer with it. The individuals were planning on repairing their driveway. CO Kehoe explained the laws regarding taking sand from State land, as well as the hazards the two large holes presented since they were only 75 feet off the snowmobile trail. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sean Kehoe received a complaint in Grand Traverse County where two hunters had located three trail cameras set up over two pheasant carcasses on their private property. While CO Kehoe was investigating the scene and meeting with the complainants, another subject came along and advised the cameras belonged to him. The subject was a teacher from the neighboring school property who was trying to track wildlife movement for his students' project. The teacher did not realize he was off of school property and was very apologetic. The hunters decided that since it was a valid school project, he could leave his cameras out as long as they didn't check them during prime hunting hours.

CO Justin Vanderlinde and Sgt. Robert Torres responded to a complaint of a sub-legal buck being shot on private property on Thanksgiving Day. COs checked the area and discovered a sub-legal spike deer that was field dressed and hung in a tree. The complainant was able to talk with a possible suspect and recorded their License Plate. COs responded to the suspect residence and conducted an interview. Suspect admitted

to shooting the deer and knowing it was not legal. He was undecided on what to do, so he left it in the tree and went home to contemplate a decision. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Patrick McManus attended and spoke at a career and leadership event which was sponsored by Junior Achievement of NW Michigan. The event was held at the Career Tech Center in Traverse City and was attended by many high school students.

CO William Kinney received a complaint that a hunter found a dead bald eagle lying face down near the powerlines on State land. CO Kinney found the eagle and took it to the local wildlife biologist, where it was believed to show signs that it had come into contact with the powerlines. The biologist is having the eagle sent to Lansing where a necropsy will be performed to tell the exact cause of death. No illegal activity suspected at this time.

CO William Kinney and Sgt. Carla Soper were on a follow-up investigation from a tagging violation that was found at the deer processor. CO Kinney found that the individual had shot an antlerless deer during firearm deer season and had tagged it with his restricted deer combo tag. When the COs questioned the individual about the antlerless deer, he stated that he shot the deer with his crossbow and was unaware that he was restricted from using it for a doe during the firearm season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was working on Thanksgiving Day when he observed a newer sports car driving down a muddy road with the windows down while it was raining. CO Killingbeck followed the vehicle for a short distance before stopping the vehicle for a traffic violation. CO Killingbeck asked the driver what he was doing, to which the driver replied that he was looking to see where the deer are moving. CO Killingbeck then asked where his firearm was, and the driver indicated it was in the back seat. CO Killingbeck observed the firearm laying uncased in the back seat next to a case, and when it was checked, it was found loaded and completely wet. The subject told the CO that he was hunting and "got so cold and wet" that he was in a hurry to get warm, and he forgot to unload and case his gun. The subject ran out of excuses after CO Killingbeck pointed out that the hunting clothes in the vehicle were completely dry. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was following a slow moving vehicle on a remote road with occupants not wearing seatbelts. When the CO stopped the vehicle to address the traffic violation, two subjects inside indicated that they were looking for a spot to hunt for the evening. CO Killingbeck checked for firearms and found that there was a loaded gun

pointed at the passenger seat with the safety off. Further investigation revealed that the passenger had three felonies on his record and was not supposed to be in possession of a firearm. The subject was arrested and charged with having a loaded and uncased gun in a motor vehicle, and also for felon in possession of a firearm.

CO Josiah Killingbeck found a deer at a local processor that showed the tag had been purchased on November 15th after shooting hours and validated on that same date. Since the hunter was a downstate resident, CO Killingbeck recruited the assistance of CO Brad Brewer to interview the hunter about the apparent violation. CO Brewer was able to obtain a confession from the man for taking the deer without a license, and a warrant is being sought in Lake County.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was at a local processor in Lake County where he located a 4-point buck with an apparent tagging violation. CO Killingbeck contacted CO Matt Liestenfeltz to assist with interviewing the subject, who was a Missaukee County resident. CO Liestenfeltz interviewed the subject who was very uncooperative, but ultimately admitted to shooting the deer in Lake County. CO Killingbeck was able to find the residence where the subject had hunted, and it was confirmed that the 4-point was shot in the Antler Point Restricted County. Warrants are being requested for the illegal deer.

CO Steve Converse stopped an ORV operating illegally, and was issuing a citation, when three snowmobiles approached him during the closed hours for operation during firearm season. CO Converse stopped the sleds to discuss the violation and found that none of them had trail permits, two operators were suspended, and one had a FOC warrant with a \$15,000 bond. Citations were issued and the individual with warrant was lodged.

CO Steve Converse and CO Sam Koscinski watched a subject who was hunting a powerline, and approached the individual to check his license. As they got closer, it became apparent that the hunter was a juvenile. Upon contact with him, the youth advised that he was hunting with his 19 year old cousin, and indicated that he was on the other side of a large hill that separated them. The COs then located the 19 year old who was obviously out of visual and verbal contact, discovered that he didn't have a license, and hadn't taken hunter safety. The COs decidedly took both subjects home where they discussed the incident with the parents. Enforcement action was taken. CO Steve Converse stopped to talk with a local business owner in Manistee County about a pending case he was working during deer season. While he was there, he discovered some discrepancies with the individual's statements pertaining to the number of deer that he claimed were shot by family members. When CO Converse

continued to make small talk, the individual advised that his mother who normally hunts during firearm season hadn't hunted at all. CO Converse then asked about his wife taking a seven point that was seen hanging on a local buck pole, and the individual became nervous. CO Converse asked to see the deer hanging in the barn, noting the 7-point he had seen earlier in the season, and an 8-point with the mother's tag that was validated during the firearm season. When CO Converse confronted him about the earlier statement about the mother "not hunting", the man decided to tell the truth, and informed the CO that his wife shot both deer using his mother's tag for the 8-point. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski responded to a shots fired complaint where Conservation Officers had recently received information about sub-legal bucks being taken. When the CO got near the area, he located a hunter who claimed he had not shot. The CO moved further down the road to check a second hunter. When questioned about shooting, he advises that it was the first guy who CO Publiski had already checked that had shot. The CO decidedly brought the two subjects together, and realized they were sending out texts to advise their other friends that he was in the area. CO Publiski asked them again who had shot at a deer. They advised that a third friend had shot a doe and was still in the woods. CO Publiski told them to "text" their friend and tell him to get out to the road, with the deer. When the hunter finally emerged from the woods with an untagged doe, and a loaded firearm after hours, he was greeted by CO Publiski. The hunter didn't have a license, and LEIN revealed that the first hunter he had encountered had two warrants for his arrest, and was in violation of a PPO due to his possession of a firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky responded to a complaint of a buck wedged between two fence poles. The COs responded and found that the slightly overweight buck had overestimated the size of the opening he had tried to push his way through, and got caught up. The COs had to literally push at one end and pull at the other to squeeze the portly buck back out of the opening it was stuck in. The deer was released uninjured, but slightly shaken up.

CO Kyle Publiski was writing a subject in Mason County for an oversized bait pile when he heard shots on an adjacent property. CO Publiski completed his business, went down the road when he saw hunters with firearms standing by a woodlot. When the CO approached, one individual began to slowly walk away, but was stopped and asked to produce a license. CO Publiski then asked the hunter why he was leaving. The hunter stated that he didn't have a license, because he was a felon and wasn't supposed to possess a firearm. The firearm was seized and charges are being sought for hunting with no deer license and felon in possession of a firearm.

CO Kyle Publiski visited a processor in Mason County, and located a doe that had been dropped off without a tag. CO Publiski called the number associated with the deer, and spoke to a woman who advised that her husband shot the deer. CO Publiski ran the husband's name in the Retail Sales System, and found that the individual only had a combo tag and no doe tag. CO Publiski left the scene for a brief time, and when he returned, found the doe now had a tag on it with another individual's name. After a lengthy investigation, he discovered that another family member that hadn't killed the deer had stopped to put a doe tag on it, and that the family regularly "shares tags." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky followed up on a complaint of an untagged deer in Mason County. Upon arriving, the CO found an untagged deer that was shot by a sixteen year old hunter who wasn't currently living at that address. After investigating, CO Brosky found that the youth had been hunting in Mason County at his mother's house unsupervised, and only had unused tags for management units other than Mason County. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky received a complaint of trespassing where a caretaker for a large tract of land in Mason County kept seeing tracks heading in to the posted private property. The caretaker was able to sneak in and take photos of two individuals standing by a vehicle with rifles. CO Brosky was able to identify and track down both suspects, and both were written citations for recreational trespass.

CO Sam Koscinski assisted with a snowmobile safety class at the Manistee County Snowbirds Snowmobile Club with 40 attendees.

CO Sam Koscinski assisted with an auto accident where an individual had driven his vehicle off of the roadway, crashing into a large tree. CO Koscinski and MSP Troopers assisted on scene with medical personnel until the severely injured man was airlifted to the local hospital.

CO Ethan Gainforth was on patrol in Osceola County when he received a complaint from dispatch that a hunter had shot a deer off a back road and walked onto the landowners posted private property to look for the deer. CO Gainforth arrived at the scene and found the hunter waiting. CO Gainforth located where the hunter shot from the road and found the blood trail from the deer. After tracking for quite some time the deer was not located. Enforcement action was taken for the trespassing.

CO Ethan Gainforth waited for some hunters to come out of tract of State land in Osceola County. The first hunter came out and said that he had not seen any deer that night. The hunter mentioned that there was another vehicle parked back in the woods. CO Gainforth decided to wait for the other hunters to come out of the woods. When the vehicle came out to the road, CO Gainforth made contact with the hunters. CO Gainforth could smell burnt marijuana coming from the vehicle and CO Gainforth asked where the guns were in the vehicle. The driver responded that it was behind the seat. Upon inspection, it was found that the drivers gun was loaded, uncased, and his driver's license was expired. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethan Gainforth was on patrol checking a tract of State land in Osceola County when he located a vehicle pulled off of the two-track. Upon further inspection, CO Gainforth found an 8-point deer head in the back of the truck. CO Gainforth made contact with the hunter and checked his hunting license. Upon questioning the hunter, CO Gainforth was able to determine that the deer was shot without a license, and then the hunter purchased a license and tagged the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethan Gainforth and Acting Sgt. Ben Shively were patrolling Osceola County when they contacted a utility vehicle driving along the shoulder of US-10. The COs conducted a traffic stop on the ORV and found that not only was the ORV in violation of operating on a public highway; he also had not purchased an ORV sticker for the ORV since 2010. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethan Gainforth and Acting Sgt. Ben Shively were patrolling back roads in Osceola County when they encountered an ORV being operated without the driver wearing a helmet. A traffic stop was conducted and the driver was found to also be operating an ORV with a suspended license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Will Kinney contacted CO Brian Lebel regarding a deer he found while conducting a deer processor inspection in Lake County. The subject shot a deer in Mecosta County. The date on the tag was not validated, and the date he had dropped the deer off was the same day he had purchased a tag. CO Lebel and CO Angela Greenway interviewed the subject at his residence in Mecosta County where it was learned that he had shot the buck without a license, and purchased it before dropping the deer at the processor. It was also discovered, during the interview, that his daughter had shot a buck that same evening, and also purchased her tag afterwards. Both deer were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel followed up on a complaint in Mecosta County that subjects were shooting more than 20 minutes past shooting hours during the deer season. CO Lebel

conducted a follow up interview with the suspects who ultimately admitted to taking poor quality shots at deer they could not see very well. CO Lebel followed up by checking four deer they had shot in the previous days. One subject had shot an antlerless deer and a large 8-point buck, but only had purchased one antlerless license. The buck was tagged with the subject's son's tag. CO Lebel seized the buck and enforcement action was taken.

CO Angela Greenway and CO Brian Lebel responded to a safety zone complaint in Mecosta County. The suspects, who were waterfowl hunting, were contacted about the violation. Further checking revealed a large quantity of marijuana, and no PFD on board the canoe. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Angela Greenway was patrolling a State Game Area in Mecosta County when she saw a deer with no kill tag hanging off a porch at a nearby residence. CO Greenway made contact with a subject that produced an un-validated deer tag from his pocket. After inspection of the deer, it was discovered it was a button buck, and the subject did not possess an antlerless license. The subject told CO Greenway that his uncle wanted the deer culled from the herd because it was a two year old that couldn't grow antlers. Enforcement action was taken. Later CO Greenway had the deer aged and verified that the deer was a yearling, not a two year old.

CO Jeff Ginn of Newaygo County drove up on two subjects loading an antlerless deer into the trunk of their vehicle. Upon checking the deer for a valid kill permit, he discovered the deer was not tagged with a proper kill tag. The deer was seized, and the shooter was cited for taking an antlerless deer without a permit.

CO Jeff Ginn of Newaygo County responded to a RAP complaint of a subject who allegedly had taken too many bucks in the 2015 season. After interviewing the suspect, CO Ginn was able to obtain a confession from the suspect explaining he had been shooting deer for other people who had provided him with tags. The investigation resulted in the seizure of five illegal whitetail bucks. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Ginn of Newaygo County responded to a complaint regarding two subjects hunting in an illegal blind with an excessive amount of bait. Upon making contact with the suspects, CO Ginn realized he had cited the same two subjects hunting in the same blind over excessive bait during the 2014 deer season. Enforcement action was taken...again.

During an inspection of a Newaygo County deer processor, CO Mike Wells located a five point buck that was tagged with a combination regular deer license by a subject

whom had purchased her license on November 21. The kill tagged was validated for the same date. Upon checking the license purchase history of the subject, it was discovered that this was the only license she had purchased. After several attempts to locate this tag owner, CO Wells made contact with her by telephone, and made arrangements to meet with her at a local business. When CO Wells approached the subject who was accompanied by her grandson, he realized she was crying and upset. When he asked why she was crying, she advised that she did not know she had done something wrong. The subject admitted that she had given her kill tag to her boyfriend's brother, who had shot the 5-point with the intention of giving the meat to her. Contact with the boyfriend's brother revealed that he had already taken a 6-point during the archery season. The subject admitted that he had shot the deer on the morning of November 21, and that he asked the tag owner to obtain the tag after the deer had already been taken. The subject was issued a citation for the over limit of deer violation.

CO Mike Wells received a complaint of trespass in regard to a private deer camp that was baiting on the wrong side of the property line in Newaygo County. An earlier check of the camp revealed an over limit of bait at another stand location along with the bait that was placed on the complainant's property. The camp was checked several times with no contact made. CO Wells checked the stands one morning, and located a 16 year old unsupervised juvenile hunting on the property. The juvenile advised that his father was hunting on public land a few miles away, and had dropped the juvenile off at the property earlier that morning. It was also discovered that this juvenile did not have his licenses in his possession at the time of contact. CO Wells located the father's vehicle on public land and a short time later, and made contact with him as he exited the woods from hunting. Interview of the father revealed that he had taken an 8-point buck earlier in the firearm season, and that he had used his son's deer license on this deer so that he would have a license left to continue hunting. The subject was educated on the violation of allowing his 16 year old son to hunt unsupervised, along with the over- limit bait violation, and a citation was issued for the violation of using another's kill tag on a deer he had taken.

CO Mike Wells received a complaint of illegal blinds on public land next to a private property line in Newaygo County. CO Wells located a tree stand and a ground blind with no name or address, and live foliage that had been illegally cut. Due to the close proximity of the stands to the private property, CO Wells made contact with one of the property owners in the nearby elevated deer blind. Upon contact, the female hunter advised that she was not hunting because she had already taken an 8-point on opening day and a 4-point the previous evening. CO Wells asked if she had a firearm in the blind and she advised she did. Upon inspection, it was determined that the firearm was loaded. The female hunter, whom was dressed in camouflage and hunter orange,

advised that she was only watching for deer, and that she possessed the loaded firearm due to bears in the area. CO Wells advised this female subject that due to the fact that it is the firearm deer season, she was in an elevated blind with a loaded firearm and wearing hunters orange, that she could explain to the court what her intentions are. A citation was issued for firearm hunt deer with no license. CO Wells contacted another hunter on the property who admitted to the illegal ground blind located on public land and warning was issued.

CO Mike Wells located a button buck at a local Newaygo County deer processor tagged with a private property antlerless permit valid for several counties east of Newaygo County. Inspection of the kill tag revealed that it was not validated and that it was purchased in the middle of the afternoon on November 23. CO Wells contacted the tag owner which revealed that he had taken the deer in the correct DMU during the morning hours of November 23, and that the subject purchased the license that afternoon. He went on to state that he had accidentally shot the deer believing it had antlers on it. Upon recovering the downed deer, he discovered that it was a button buck. He then purchased the over-the-counter antlerless permit, tagged the deer in the parking lot, and took the deer to the processor. CO Wells showed the head of the button buck to the tag owner, and pointed out that the buttons on the deer were still covered with hair. The subject still advised that he thought the deer had antlers on it when he shot it. CO Wells asked the subject that if this was an accidental taking of the deer, why he had not called and reported it. The subject advised that he did not believe it was that serious, and that by purchasing the license for the deer that he would be legal. Citations were issued for both the over-limit of deer, as well as failing to validate kill tag violations.

CO Mike Wells received a complaint from a local golf course of an over-limit of bait, as well as a malicious destruction of a fence that borders the course. The complainant advised that someone had placed a large pile of carrots just outside the fence next to a ground blind, and that a hole had been cut in the fence. CO Wells scouted the area and determined the residence that may be involved in the violations. CO Wells conducted a drive by at the residence one afternoon and observed a male subject in the back yard. CO Wells made contact with the subject, inquired as to his hunting activity, and the location of his blind which matched the location of the violation. CO Wells advised the subject of the complaint and the subject gave a full admission to placing three bags of carrots at the blind several days earlier. CO Wells asked this subject why he had cut the fence on the golf course property. The hunter readily admitted that the only deer he had been seeing were inside the fence, and that he cut a hole in the fence, and placed carrots next to the damaged fence with the intention to draw the deer out of the golf course. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Van Gelderen received a complaint of a subject posting a picture on Facebook of himself holding a Brown Trout that he said he caught with his hands. The complainant did not know where the incident took place. CO Van Gelderen saw the picture and recognized the area as a spot where brown trout spawn near the road in Oceana County. CO Van Gelderen drove to the location to search up and down the road until he was able to match the location in the photograph. He then found the suspect and received a confession that the suspect had grabbed the spawning Brown Trout out of the creek. The suspect still had the trout in his freezer, and he had planned to mount the fish because of its brilliant colors. The fish were seized, and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

CO Mark Papineau was contacted by the Michigan State Police for assistance with the execution of a search warrant related to numerous breaking & entering complaints in Gladwin County. During the search warrant, CO Papineau and State Troopers recovered numerous wildlife mounts and hunting equipment that had been reported stolen. In addition, the suspect had an aquarium containing a northern pike, largemouth bass, and a rock bass. During the interview with the suspect, CO Papineau was able to obtain a confession that the fish had actually been caught from Lake Lancelot and kept as a pet. After checking the suspect in the DNR License system, CO Papineau learned that not only did the suspect unlawfully keep undersized game fish; the suspect had never purchased a fishing license. Ultimately, citations were issued for possession of undersized fish and possessing fish without a license. The subject was also lodged in the Gladwin County Jail, pending numerous felony charges.

CO Steve Lockwood and CO Josh Wright responded to an after-hours complaint of shining and shooting. CO Lockwood was first to respond, and walked out in the field with the farmer to finish off the injured buck. While in the field, CO Lockwood noticed a vehicle driving slowly down the road. CO Lockwood met the vehicle at the road and was able to make contact with the two occupants. There was a spotlight sitting on the seat in between the two subjects. A cased rifle, with an empty casing, was found in the back seat. In addition, there was a steaming, untagged antlerless deer in the bed of the truck. The ensuing investigation led to a confession for shining and shooting two deer after dark. Both deer, along with the firearm, were seized. Enforcement action is pending through the prosecutor's office.

CO Nick Atkin stopped to check a couple deer hanging in a tree. During the conversation, the young hunter bragged about shooting the deer. Upon checking, it was discovered that the antlerless deer was tagged with a combo tag. If that is not bad

enough, it seems the improper tag belonged to the subject's father. Enforcement action was taken for loaning a deer license.

CO Josh Wright received a complaint of recreational trespass at a private 200 acre parcel. The complainant informed CO Wright that the trespasser was not wearing hunter orange as well. CO Wright located the hunter's vehicle, and was able to track him to where he left the field and went into the woods. After losing the tracks, CO Wright decided to take another route, drive his truck along the perimeter trying to find him, and scare him out. It worked. CO Wright almost immediately saw the trespasser walking briskly back to his vehicle trying to elude CO Wright. The CO met him at the vehicle and took the appropriate enforcement action.

CO Steve Lockwood and CO Josh Wright responded to a complaint of two shots during the black powder season. Worth checking, CO Lockwood and CO Wright responded to the area behind a gated drive and began to search for the hunter(s). After a short time, they were able to locate two hunters in the woods. The good news is that the shots did indeed come from muzzleloaders. The bad news was that the deer were already field dressed, skinned and partially quartered, without being tagged. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Papineau received a complaint regarding several subjects that had shot a deer from the roadway, and trespassed on private property in rural Gladwin County. Witnesses advised CO Papineau that the suspects had been "road hunting" and shot a deer with a handgun, and quickly loaded the deer, and fled the area. CO Papineau was able to make contact with the subjects at the Gladwin Sheriff's Office while they were attempting to file a report for a car/deer accident. An examination of the deer showed no signs of gun trauma and only evidence consistent with collision from a car. Not buying the subjects story, CO Papineau returned to the scene and was able to recover a handgun shell casing from the road. However, no signs of a gun-shot deer were located. Nevertheless, after a re-interview of witnesses, it appears the driver of the vehicle was different than what was reported to the Sheriff. Arrest warrants are being sought for operating a vehicle without a license and filing a false police report. The road hunting incident remains under investigation.

In October, CO Mark Papineau received a complaint regarding a trespasser on private land being caught on several trail cameras. CO Papineau canvassed the neighboring properties attempting to identify the trespasser. He was unable to identify the subject. However, after scanning social media accounts for area residents, CO Papineau was able to locate a Facebook account bearing photographs of the suspected trespasser. CO Papineau was able to interview the trespasser and obtain a confession. After over a month of investigating, appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Lockwood was checking a camp on State land where he discovered one deer hanging. During the course of the conversation, it was discovered that a second deer had been shot and for some reason had been taken out of camp and hauled back to the subject's garage downstate. CO Lockwood was able to locate the deer and it all made sense. The deer that was smuggled out of deer camp was an antlerless buck deer with a combo tag attached. The story was that both antlers broke off while dragging it out of the woods. Further investigation revealed differently and the hunter was cited for the violation.

A routine check of a woodcutter on State land led CO Lockwood back to his residence. It seems that woodcutter revealed he had a successful deer season. Further discussion led the CO Lockwood to discover that the hunter still had all of his deer tags in his pocket, none of which had been on a deer. Charges are being sought.

CO Nick Atkin contacted a hunter on the last day of season as he was driving out of the woods. The subject bragged about the nice 8-point he shot during the archery season in October. However, a quick check of the subject's deer tags revealed that he still had his unused combo tags in his pocket. When asked what he used to tag the buck, the hunter stated "I must have forgot to tag it." If that was not bad enough, CO Atkin located a loaded uncased firearm inside the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Huspen and CO Chuck McPherson were patrolling State land and observed a passenger in a vehicle attempting to case his firearm. After numerous attempts to case the firearm, CO Huspen and CO McPherson stopped the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken for an uncased firearm in a motor vehicle.

CO John Huspen did two presentations for the Crawford/Au Sable Elementary School. The presentations focused on what it takes to become a Conservation Officer, as well as the education requirements, the equipment and responsibilities of being a Conservation Officer.

CO Ben McAteer found a subject hunting within the Grayling City limits. Upon making contact the individual stated that he has not had a successful deer hunting year and had not taken any deer. CO McAteer observed blood in the subject's truck bed. After a lengthy interview, the subject admitted to taking a spike buck days prior. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz received an anonymous complaint of a subject tagging a sub-legal buck in the Antler Point Restricted Missaukee County. CO Liestenfeltz conducted an interview, and received a confession for two untagged bucks hanging in a pole barn. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Craig Neal and CO Matt Liestenfeltz were dispatched to a broken down motorist on State land with very vague directions. The Conservation Officers searched the area

relentlessly. CO John Huspen and CO James McAteer joined the effort to locate the motorist. After a few hours, the COs were able to locate the motorist and help him out.

CO Brian Olsen noticed ORV tracks heading onto State land in an area closed to ORV operation. While following the tracks, CO Olsen located a side-by-side ORV and conducted a stop on the vehicle. The operator claimed to be “test driving” the ORV, but CO Olsen also located a tailgate full of untagged traps. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking State land in the middle of the day, CO Brian Olsen came across a vehicle parked along the roadway. Assuming the owner was still out hunting, he conducted a foot patrol to check on the man. CO Olsen located the subject hunting with a rifle, drinking whiskey, and smoking marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader met a Michigan State Police Trooper and a hunter at the West Branch Field Office. The hunter was walking in from a morning hunt when he came face-to-face with a large Rottweiler growling and bearing its’ teeth. The dog lunged at the hunter who fired his rifle from the hip, hitting the dog in the chest. After he fired, three other large Rottweilers charged him. As he was being knocked to the ground, the hunter fired one more time into the air, scaring the dogs off. CO Bader went into the woods with additional law enforcement officers to locate the injured dog. While following the blood trail, a large dog jumped up from under a tree and barked at the officers. The large Rottweiler was standing guard over the dog that had been shot. Animal control was called and was able to load the injured dog into his truck where it could receive medical attention.

During a shining patrol, CO Warren Macneill responded to a subject who was suspected of “headlighting” deer while traveling Forest Service trails in southwest Alcona County. After conducting a stop on the vehicle, CO Macneill located a .22 caliber rifle in the backseat. CO Casey Pullum and Sgt. Brandon Kieft responded to the scene to assist with the stop. A search of the driver located live .22 rounds in the front pocket of his jeans. Although he initially denied any involvement of using his headlights to shine deer, he eventually confessed when CO Macneill informed him that a DNR airplane had witnessed his activities. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Russell received a complaint of a blood trail leading off the complainant’s property and into the neighbor’s back yard. The neighbor did not have permission to hunt on the complainant’s property. CO Russell located the blood trail and followed it into the back yard of the neighboring residence. After finding a gut pile and deer hide on the fence line, he approached the house and saw an untagged deer hanging in the garage. No one was home at the time, but CO Russell eventually made contact with the hunter later in the day. The subject showed CO Russell the deer, confessed to shooting it from behind the house, and dragging it from the neighbor’s property. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Russell received information from CO Jason McCullough about subjects who were illegally tagging deer while hunting in Iosco County at a private hunt camp. CO Russell made contact with one subject, received a confession and additional information implicating the other party down in Calhoun County. Additional violations were found, and law enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Pullum received a RAP complaint of a subject shooting deer, butchering them himself, and not tagging them. The complainant gave information that the suspect had a 3-point buck hanging in his barn a few days prior to the complaint. CO Pullum and CO Josh Russell made contact with the subject at his home. He was out in his barn preparing to hang a deer he shot a few minutes prior to the COs arriving. While talking with the hunter, CO Pullum was able to see a second deer that was skinned, hanging further back in the barn. Both deer were untagged. Further investigation revealed a third deer already packaged in his freezer that he admitted to killing this summer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Pullum received information that a local trapper has taken an over-limit of bobcat for the past few years, and already had two bobcats this year, prior to the season starting. CO Pullum interviewed the suspect and his wife, and obtained a confession of the previous year bobcats. He was also able to obtain a confession for the two bobcats taken this year. While seizing the bobcats and searching the rest of the property, CO Pullum located an untagged deer in the pole barn. The suspect admitted to shooting the 4-point buck without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling a rural portion of Alcona County, CO Casey Pullum came to a gate on US Forest Service land prohibiting motorized vehicles past that point. After getting out of his patrol truck, he could hear an ORV approaching the gate from the opposite side. CO Pullum noticed two ORVs, with two operators, and neither of them was wearing a helmet. The first ORV was towing the second since the engine had stopped working. The operator on the lead ORV stated he was not aware the area behind the gate was closed to ORV operation. Further investigation showed the ORVs did not have proper licensing and empty bags of deer bait. Alcona County is closed to baiting for deer. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

CO Chad Foerster was on patrol when he noticed a vehicle driving down a wood line on private property. The vehicle remained on the property for some time driving very slow, starting and stopping. CO Foerster was able to make contact with the two occupants as they came to the residence. An uncased rifle was found on the back seat of the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

While on a recent road hunting complaint, CO Kyle Bucholtz stopped two separate vehicles locating a loaded firearm in each vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bucholtz made contact with a subject who was dragging a deer out of State land. The subject had taken the time to attach a tag using zip ties, but had not validated the tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bucholtz spoke with a subject 35 minutes after shooting hours had ended. The subject had just walked off of State land and was in possession of a loaded firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason A. Smith watched a couple hunters go into a field about 10 minutes before the end of shooting hours. About five minutes later, he heard multiple shots. A few minutes later he checked the group coming out of the field with a couple of does and several uncased guns in the truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason A. Smith observed a couple of hunters in a field about 100 yards off the road. Once the hunters saw CO Smith, they seemed to try to hunker down in the tall grass. Contact was made and the hunters were found without hunter orange and hunting licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason A. Smith contacted a subject coming off of Edison property, riding an ORV without a helmet, without an ORV sticker, and operating against the flow of traffic. Contact was made and the hunter was also without any deer hunting licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joshua Wright received a complaint of shots being fired late one night. When CO Wright arrived in the area he could see a large fire in an old gravel pit. When he went to investigate, he noticed that a bunch of household garbage and construction material were being burnt. Once the fire department was able to get the illegal burn out, CO Wright followed tracks that led to a residence, and made contact with the owner. The owner said that they were cleaning out an old house, and thought that burning it would be cheaper than getting a waste container. Charges are being sought for illegal disposal of solid waste.

CO Joshua Wright was checking hunters on the last day of firearm deer season when he made contact with a hunter that was using a rifle in the limited firearm zone. Further investigation revealed that the hunter did not have hunter orange on and was over on his limit of bait. The hunter said that he has not had any luck getting the deer in close, so he gave it a shot with the rifle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea responded to Tuscola County to assist MSP with a 67 year old hunter who was lost after trying to walk out of the woods without a flashlight. Upon arrival, CO Rhodea was able to use GPS coordinates from the lost hunter's cell phone to locate him, and escort him back to the rest of his hunting party.

CO Seth Rhodea received a complaint of a person hunting without wearing any hunter orange. CO Rhodea responded to the area and observed the hunter in a tree without visible orange. Upon walking out into the field to contact the hunter, it was also discovered that he had not purchased a deer license. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling after dark, CO Seth Rhodea was contacted by a Trooper that had stopped a vehicle with an untagged deer in it. CO Rhodea responded to the location, met with the Trooper, and took enforcement action for the untagged deer.

While patrolling on foot on State land in Sanilac County, CO Seth Rhodea contacted several hunters after shooting hours. When asked if the hunters' firearms were unloaded, two of the three hunters were found to still have loaded firearms. When checking hunting licenses, one of the hunters was found to be hunting without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen responded to a residence in Forester Township to speak with a subject about dumping deer carcasses and large plastic bags in a creek. While at the residence, CO Siemen saw two deer hanging in the yard. CO Siemen checked the deer and found that a 7- point buck had been tagged with a 2012 antlerless tag. Further investigation led to the subject confessing about tagging the deer with the 2012 tag. CO Siemen also obtained a confession from the subject's son about dumping the deer carcasses in the creek. Both subjects were cited for the offenses, and the deer was seized as evidence.

CO Mark Siemen received a trespass complaint from Station 20 involving multiple subjects on four wheelers with guns, and shooting at deer on private property. CO Siemen was familiar with the subjects from a prior contact the day before and was able to locate the subjects. Two of the subjects confessed to the trespassing while shooting at a deer. CO Siemen issued citations to both subjects before they left for Florida, where they reside.

CO Mark Siemen and CO Bob Hobkirk stopped a vehicle for having an untagged deer on the tailgate. Further investigation by the COs during the stop uncovered two more 6-point deer heads in the rear of the truck. The subject stated he did not have a tag for the

deer which was a spike on the tailgate because he had given his tag to his friend to tag the one 6-point in the truck. The subject was issued a citation for the untagged deer and for loaning his tag to his friend. The subject's friend was cited for borrowing a tag to tag a deer. The spike and the 6-point deer head were seized as evidence.

CO Chad Foerster was on patrol in the evening when he located a vehicle parked in the lot of one of the local game areas. CO Foerster waited with the vehicle for some time until the hunter came walking out of the wooded area. The hunter was bow hunting during the rifle season and was not wearing hunter orange. The hunter pleaded his case as he stated the duck hunters did not have to wear hunter orange, and the game area did not allow rifles in the area. CO Foerster advised him of the safety reasons to wear hunter orange, and stated that the game area was no exception. Enforcement action was taken.

Responding to a RAP complaint of a possible over-limit of crappie on Sanford Lake, CO Jay Person made contact with the suspect's at the launch where they had parked. Upon initial contact, one of the subjects stated that they had very good luck for the day. While heading to check the boat, which was still in the water, the subject stopped and stated, "Sir, I'm not going to lie, we are over our limit." Inspection of the boat revealed the two fishermen were in possession of 152 crappie (limit is 25 per person). Fish were seized, and enforcement action was taken.

While conducting a processor inspection, CO Dan Robinson found two antlerless deer that were possibly taken prior to the hunter purchasing the tags. An interview with the subject confirmed the CO Robinson's suspicion. The hunter admitted to first planning to use the tags of another person, and when that didn't work out, he went and purchased his own tags for the deer. The deer were seized, and enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Dan Robinson was called to a hunter harassment complaint in Gratiot County. Upon arrival, CO Robinson found two individuals who had permission from the owner of an abandoned railroad bed to hunt the five mile strip of land. Their complaint was that a landowner in the area was blocking the shooting lanes by parking his car on the road near the track crossings. The CO talked to the complainants and the subject who was parking on the road watching the hunters, reminding both parties about hunter harassment and recreational trespass issues.

While on patrol in Isabella County, CO Dan Robinson was contacted by Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police regarding a farmer that was burning next to the road. CO Robinson investigated the complaint and interviewed the farmer about what he was burning. There were some items in the fire that were not allowed to be disposed of by burning. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling an area where a previous complaint had occurred, CO Dan Robinson was dispatched to that same area for a complaint of recreational trespass. While interviewing the complainant at his residence, CO Robinson could see headlights of

several vehicles at the house where the alleged suspects lived. The CO made contact with the individuals at that residence and found two antlerless deer that did not have tags attached. The subjects claimed they had not gotten around to attaching the tags yet. The CO followed the two hunters to the location where each deer was shot and found that they did trespass while tracking one of the deer. A third subject at the residence was also found to have a warrant. Enforcement action was taken for all three individuals.

CO Dan Robinson was called to a trespass complaint in Montcalm County. The complainant stated that for the past few years they have seen the same individual walking their property during the firearm season. They had trail cam pictures and video of the individual on different dates, with the same gun, jacket, and hat on. The complainants watched the subject go into a house and told CO Robinson where that was located. The CO made contact with the individual who was wearing the same jacket and hat in the pictures, and was carrying the same side-by-side shotgun. The firearm turned out to be an antique Damascus steel shotgun and the subject did not have any shells to go with it. The subject did have proper hunter orange and licenses. After the interview, CO Robinson informed the subject that he was not welcome on that property and that the case would be presented to the prosecutor's office for review.

While on patrol in Montcalm County, CO Dan Robinson and CO Michael Haas were called to an intersection where four to five deer had been dumped. Additional trash and a mailing were also found by the complainant near the deer. The COs made contact with the individual whose name was on the mailing. He claimed that another individual from Florida dumped the carcasses before he left for the season. The COs could not contact the other hunter at the time and gave the original subject time to clean up the dump site or a ticket would be issued. The complaint is ongoing.

CO Will Brickel made contact with an individual suspected of shooting multiple deer throughout the deer season and not tagging them. The suspect was also thought to have been hunting for most of the archery season without a license. After a short interview, it was determined that he had shot two deer during the archery season, and failed to tag them. An additional four deer heads were also found on the property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Will Brickel was on patrol in Saginaw County and noticed a light back in a field well after dark. The CO sat in the area until he was able to make contact with the hunter as he came out to the road. The hunter was intoxicated and produced a tag that had been used earlier in the season to tag a deer. The hunter failed to validate the tag and was attempting to use it for a second deer. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Michael Haas observed a large over the legal limit bait pile from the road. Inspection of the bait suggested that a deer had been recently shot. At a later time, the CO was able to make contact with the suspect hunter as he was hunting over the illegal bait. During the conversation, the hunter stated that he had shot a nice deer on the back side of his property earlier in the season. CO Haas had to remind the hunter that he may have possibly shot a second deer over the bait. The hunter did

remember the second deer and admitted to tagging it with someone else's tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jill Berry and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly were on patrol when they made contact with two hunters. It was a half hour after legal hunting hours and one of the hunters gun was still loaded. When CO Berry asked to check his hunting license, he stated he did not have them on him. CO Berry informed him that he was in violation with the loaded gun after hunting hours and not having his hunting license. Education and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jill Berry received a complaint about a subject shooting deer on private property and not tagging them. CO Berry and Cpl. Brad Dohm did an interview with the property owner and he admitted to shooting a doe. CO Berry asked to see his hunting license and he still had his antlerless tag. The subject showed them the doe that was hanging in the barn with no tag. The doe was seized and enforcement action was taken. The second subject was contacted by Cpl. Dohm and an interview was done. The second subject also admitted to shooting a deer and buying his license after. The processed meat was seized, and enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Jill Berry and Cpl. Brad Dohm made contact with a subject that was parked at a State land parking lot. Upon contact, a distinct odor of marijuana came from the car. The subject admitted to having marijuana in the car. The subject had six warrants out for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken and the subject was lodged in the Gratiot County Jail.

While CO Quincy Gowenlock was on his way home, he overheard a call from the Tittabawassee Township Police Chief of a suspect who had placed a suspicious package alongside of a busy roadway. The Chief was in an unmarked unit and was requesting additional units to respond to assist with a traffic stop. All units were out of position, except CO Gowenlock. CO Gowenlock initiated an enforcement stop on the suspect, and during questioning, it was determined that the object was laying in the middle of the roadway, and the subject stopped to move it to the side so no one would hit it.

DISTRICT 7

District 7 and District 4 Conservation Officers responded to numerous complaints from the public of Whitefish being taken illegally by snagging along the Whitehall, Muskegon, and Grand Haven Piers of Lake Michigan. With the use of undercover officers, numerous arrests were made for possessing foul hooked fish and snagging. All gear used in the illegal activity was confiscated, and requests will be made to the Muskegon

County Judge for its forfeiture and condemnation, along with reimbursement for the illegally taken fish.

CO Greg Patten and CO Ivan Perez responded to a complaint from Muskegon County Central Dispatch of a subject in the city of Montague with a loaded rifle and a crossbow, with no hunter orange. The investigation revealed that the subject had shot a deer earlier with his crossbow, over an excessive pile of bait, without wearing the required hunter orange clothing. The deer was not located. Enforcement action was taken for the excessive bait and hunter orange violation.

CO Greg Patten responded to a call from a Muskegon County Deputy about a deer violation, where a subject had two deer down without any kill tags. When CO Patten arrived on scene the subject had found his tag. A female relative was also on scene with a tag claiming that she shot one of the deer. After a short interview, they both confessed that the male subject shot both deer. The male suspect was cited for taking a deer without a license and also an over limit of bait. The suspect claimed that the property owner put the bait out. The property owner, who confirmed that, was also cited for over-limit of bait.

CO BJ Goulette and CO Ivan Perez conducted a foot patrol on State land in Ottawa County in response to unmarked tree stands located by the COs prior to the firearm season. Four illegal stands and the hunters using them were located. Enforcement action was taken.

CO BJ Goulette and CO Ivan Perez made contact with nine different hunting groups, leaving the Bass River State Game Area, well after legal hunting hours. Only one group had their firearms unloaded. Enforcement action was taken.

CO BJ Goulette and CO Ivan Perez responded to a shots fired complaint and located two skinned out deer hanging in a nearby residence. The investigation revealed that the deer were shot with centerfire rifles in the limited firearm zone and that the kill tags were not validated as required by law. A confession was obtained from the two subjects, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Ivan Perez responded to a complaint of an antlerless deer taken without a license. When contact was made with the subject at his residence, he claimed that he had not taken any deer this year. A spot of blood located on the subject's garage floor indicated otherwise, as well as the venison that was located in the subject's freezer. The subject's story changed from the blood coming from last year's hunting season, to taking a road

killed deer. After the situation was discussed further, the subject's hunting licenses were seized and he was cited for having an untagged deer in his possession.

CO Ivan Perez was checking county property for hunting activity when he made contact with a subject who had hunting violations in the past. A check of his firearms resulted in locating a loaded .44 caliber handgun in the subject's backpack in the front seat of his car. The subject did not have a CPL license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ivan Perez conducted surveillance along the Grand Haven Pier and observed a subject snagging whitefish. The subject was hiding the illegally taken whitefish in the rocks along the pier. The fish were seized and a ticket was issued for snagging fish.

CO Justin Ulberg followed up with a deer hunter regarding a picture CO Ulberg found on a social media website. The picture showed the hunter with a deer that was taken in early October, but no tag was visible on the deer. CO Ulberg checked licensing records and discovered the hunter had not purchased a deer license until mid-November. CO Ulberg contacted the subject who admitted that he did not have a tag when the deer was taken, and that he tagged the deer with his father's tag. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Kent County during firearm deer season, CO Justin Ulberg observed a subject walking across a field carrying a gun not wearing hunter orange. CO Ulberg contacted the subject who stated that he was not hunting, but simply checking a farmer's fence. CO Ulberg questioned the individual about the firearm he was carrying. The subject advised that he was carrying the firearm to shoot any nuisance woodchucks in the field. CO Ulberg checked the subject's firearm and discovered that the gun was loaded with three rounds of buck shot and the hunter did not have any valid hunting license for 2015. CO Ulberg informed the subject that he could not be afield during firearm deer season with buckshot unless he had a deer license. CO Ulberg also informed the hunter that he needed to have hunter orange on if he was doing any type of hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tyler Cole made contact with two hunters just as they were pulling out of their parking spot at the end of the day. Upon checking the hunters, it was discovered that one of the hunters had no deer license and tried to pass off his girlfriend's license as his own. In addition, two uncased firearms were discovered in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer responded to a RAP complaint of possible shining and shooting from an anonymous complainant. The complainant had named a possible suspect. CO

Brewer investigated and discovered an antlerless deer that had been shot by the suspect and tagged with his father's tag. Enforcement action was taken for the tagging violation.

CO Andy Bauer and Sgt. Zach Doss were called by an off-duty VanBuren County Sheriff Deputy who had observed a subject trespassing on the power line right-of-way next to his parent's house. The deputy had made contact with the subject and discovered that he had a prior felony conviction for armed robbery. The firearm was seized, and enforcement action taken.

CO Tyler Cole and Sgt. Zach Doss waited for some hunters to return to their vehicles at the end of shooting time on some CFA property. When two of the subjects returned, it was discovered that neither subject had valid deer hunting licenses. One of the subjects tried to pass off his grandfather's tag to Sgt. Doss as his own, but was unsuccessful. The second subject, after hearing a coyote howl, stated he was hunting coyotes, even though he did not have anything to call coyotes, was carrying a muzzle loader and had been discussing how poor the deer hunting had been. Another subject from their party walked out of the woods and a quick interview by Sgt. Doss confirmed that the subject who claimed to be hunting coyotes in fact had been hunting deer. An admission was quickly obtained from the subject. Lastly, a fourth member of their party was located and was a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. He had been arrested by the DNR eight prior times, four of them for loaning/borrowing deer tags. Enforcement action was taken for the hunting license violations and felon in possession of a firearm. In addition, CO Cole will be following up with the grandfather for loaning the deer tag to his grandson.

DISTRICT 8

CO Daniel Prince checked two field goose hunters who were hunting south of Howell in Livingston County. One of the waterfowl hunters did not have his hunting license on his person and also did not have his shotgun plugged. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling northern Livingston County, CO Daniel Prince observed a deer hunter hunting without hunter orange. CO Prince and CO Pete Purdy were able to make contact with the deer hunter. The hunter also did not have her kill tags afield. CO Prince and CO Purdy explained the laws to the hunter and enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy made contact with three hunters in a pick-up on a dead end road. It was discovered that one of the hunters had an uncased shotgun and a loaded uncased handgun in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy received a complaint of excessive deer bait and a hunter not wearing hunter orange at a residence. CO Purdy contacted two hunters at that location. They denied the accusation of not wearing orange. One hunter didn't purchase a 2015 deer

license and the second was found to be hunting over more than two gallons of shelled corn. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben and a Washtenaw County Sheriff's Deputy responded to a complaint of hunters trespassing on private property in Scio Township. Three hunters were located on the complainant's property along with a 5-point white-tailed deer that they had shot early that morning. The subjects were escorted off of the property, and the deer was seized.

CO Andrew Monnich was on his way back from a Belle Isle Shift when an individual passed his patrol truck at a high rate of speed. After pacing the vehicle at over 20 mph over the basic speed law, the individual was stopped. Upon contacting the driver, he stated that he was heading back from a third shift and just wanted to get home. The driver was found to have a warrant from a neighboring county. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich received a complaint that a trespass in progress was taking place. CO Monnich and two Deputies responded to the complaint, and after a few minutes the individual was located on the private ground. Many violations were observed before contacting the individual. Upon contacting the hunter, he stated he was out just walking around. The violations of recreational trespassing, hunting with a rifle in the limited firearm zone, no hunter orange, and no hunting license in possession were addressed and enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy observed a vehicle slowly driving on a dirt road that ran past several farm fields. The vehicle occasionally would stop, then began moving forward slowly again. CO Purdy followed and observed the vehicle for a few miles. A traffic stop was conducted when the vehicle failed to signal a turn. Upon contact with the driver, CO Purdy observed an uncased shotgun lying inside an open gun case with several loose shotgun shells lying next to the gun. The driver advised he was unsuccessful hunting earlier that day and was just driving around to see if he could see any deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy completed an investigation of a RAP complaint of a subject shooting a deer and not observed tagging it before loading it into a vehicle. Surveillance of the area, along with witness and resident contact in the area, lead to the identification of the suspect. Once positive identification was made, CO Purdy checked RSS and discovered the suspect purchased a deer tag shortly after the witness observed the suspect shoot the deer. CO Purdy made contact with the suspect at his residence and obtained a full confession of him shooting the deer then purchasing a tag. A report will be submitted to the Livingston County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Pete Purdy and CO Jeremy Beavers checked private property that adjoined Shiawassee Lake that has had on-going trespass issues. The COs observed a parked and unoccupied vehicle on the side of the road in front of the property. The COs located tire marks and foot prints where the subjects unloaded a boat and carried it across the

posted private property to the lake. The COs made contact with the two anglers in the vessel that was floating close to shore. In addition to trespassing, the subjects had no PFD on board and the boat was unregistered. Enforcement action was taken. The property owner contacted the COs and was very appreciative for their service.

CO Chris Reynolds, while on patrol, noticed a hunter hunting down a field edge. When the hunter noticed CO Reynolds approaching, he scurried to get into his pocket to get a hunter orange vest. He said he didn't think you had to wear hunter orange while on private property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Reynolds while on patrol noticed a hunter tucked into a small weed patch in the edge of a corn field wearing a brown suit. CO Reynolds walked out into the field to make contact with the hunter, who was a little confused as to why CO Reynolds had walked out to contact him. CO Reynolds explained that he did not see any hunter orange. The hunter replied, "I looked at it before going hunting and just decided I didn't need to wear it." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Reynolds conducted an inspection on a local deer processor with CO Andy Monnich assisting. The COs found a deer that was cool to the touch, but the tag was purchased and validated for that day. The COs decided to interview the subject who was initially very agitated that the COs were there asking questions about the deer. Ultimately, the subject told the COs the story of hunting in the morning and taking the deer. When the subject was confronted with his license history showing the tag was purchased in the afternoon several hours after the subject stated he had taken the deer, the subject became increasingly agitated. CO Reynolds and CO Monnich advised the subject that a report would be submitted for the illegally taken deer and that the deer would be donated to a local food bank.

CO Jason McCullough and CO Jeff Goss located a buck and a doe at a local processor. The hunter had never bought deer tags before and was from out-of-town. CO McCullough contacted CO Russell, who was able to contact the hunter at her residence up north. CO Russell determined the two deer were shot by another individual who did not have kill tags and lived downstate. CO McCullough and CO Goss contacted the actual shooter and obtained a full confession. The shooter claimed he was too drunk to go and buy kill tags so he had his friend purchase tags for him. Charges are pending.

CO Jason McCullough found several bags of trash dumped on the side of the road. CO McCullough was able to dig through the bags and located a prescription pill bottle with a name and address on it. CO McCullough contacted the subject at his residence. The subject, who was under 21, stated he had a party the night before Thanksgiving. He woke up late and was in a hurry to clean his house before his parents returned home. The subject also stated on his way to Thanksgiving dinner, one of the bags started leaking so he stopped on the side of the road and threw the trash out. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss responded to a complaint of a hunter taking advantage of a snowy landscape and a full moon to extend his hunting hours. Upon arrival, CO Goss located a suspect who was still in his stand approximately forty five minutes after legal hours. After making contact with the suspect, it was discovered that he was hunting over bait. CO Goss noticed that it was an obvious over-limit and asked the suspect how much bait he had put out. The suspect said two buckets. After more discussion, it was determined that he had used two five gallon pails of corn. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Reynolds, while on patrol, noticed an ORV (side-by-side) coming out of a woodlot. CO Reynolds conducted a stop on the ORV, on the roadway, as it had no ORV sticker on the back of the vehicle. When contact was made, the passenger kept leaning over something. When CO Reynolds approached, he noticed a firearm. CO Reynolds quickly took the firearm, which was loaded. The subject said that he didn't know that firearms needed to be unloaded and cased while on an ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Reynolds concluded an interview on a suspected illegal deer. Eventually, the suspect confessed to taking the deer without a license, stating that "it is just too far to drive into town to pick up a license". The subject was advised that the deer would be seized and a report will be submitted seeking charges for the violation.

CO Jeff Goss and CO Jason McCullough contacted a hunter who shot a 125" deer. The hunter stated it was the biggest buck he's ever killed. During the conversation, the hunter showed the COs the pictures of the deer after he killed it. After looking at the pictures, CO GOSS and CO McCullough were able to determine the buck was killed without a license. The hunter admitted to killing the deer without a license because he had been too busy to buy kill tags. Enforcement action was taken and the deer was seized.

CO Jeff Goss and CO Jason McCullough conducted a processor inspection and located a large buck with a suspicious tag attached. Upon interviewing the suspect, it was obvious that he was not telling the whole truth so the COs decided to do some fact checking. After checking with the suspect's friend, they were getting the same story which was obviously rehearsed. CO Goss and CO McCullough kept digging and eventually received a confession that the deer had been shot prior to the tag being purchased. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Jackson received a complaint of a neighbor shooting within a safety zone. CO Jackson made contact with the complainant who stated their neighbor had just shot a deer right behind his house, well within 150 yards of the complainant's house. CO Jackson and CO Tyson responded to the suspect's house where they located an 8-point antlered deer hanging from a tree. As they asked the suspect about the hunt, they discovered he had shot the deer well within the safety zone of the complainant, as well as four other neighboring houses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Jackson responded to a safety zone complaint regarding a neighbor shooting a deer from his driveway. Upon making contact with the complainant, he showed CO Jackson video surveillance of the suspect shooting well within the safety zone. The deer was properly tagged, and enforcement action was taken.

While doing an inspection at a local processor, CO Isaac Tyson located an 8-point buck with a suspicious kill tag. After an investigation, the suspect was located and interviewed. At first the suspect denied any violation, but later admitted that he shot the deer and had his wife buy a tag to put on it. The deer was seized, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster was checking tags at a local processor when he noted a carcass belonging to an 8-point buck that was turning green. The processor advised that he had just called the customer to tell him to come get the antlers and cape from the deer because they would not be processing the meat. CO Webster looked over the carcass and noted it was devoid of any bullet or arrow wounds. The deer did have a broken rear leg. A tag was located on the deer and CO Webster noted that it did not belong to the customer. Once the customer arrived, he admitted that he had found the deer dead near the roadway on his property, but didn't want to use his last tag on it so he had his girlfriend put her tag on it. CO Webster explained the proper procedure for obtaining whitetail deer to the man, but also asked how his actual hunting had been going. The man stated he had taken a 6-point and an 8-point. CO Webster asked how the man still had a buck tag if he had taken two bucks. The man admitted that the 8-point that he had shot had his girlfriend's other tag on it and was located at a local taxidermist. CO Webster followed the man over to the taxidermist and seized the 8-point buck. The man stated he simply did not want to be done hunting for bucks. A report will be submitted to the prosecutor's office for charges.

CO Shane Webster noted a man cutting the hide off a deer behind a pickup truck that was backed into a garage. CO Webster made contact with the subject who stated he had taken the small antlerless deer early that morning. When asked where the tag for the deer was located, the subject stated that he had forgotten to tag the deer, and that it was still in his wallet up at the house. CO Webster pointed out that a deer must be immediately tagged. Enforcement action was taken.

On Monday morning, at approximately 8:30am, CO Todd Thorn checked hunting activity at Lake Interstate and observed a truck parked in the public access site. An empty gun case was seen in the bed of the pickup truck, and with activity being fairly slow that morning, CO Thorn decided to attempt to locate the person. After tracking the man for nearly 20 minutes in fresh snow, CO Thorn found a man walking through the woods with a shotgun. CO Thorn contacted the man and noticed that the person seemed disoriented. CO Thorn then smelled a strong odor of intoxicants on his breath. Further investigation revealed that the man was highly intoxicated. CO Thorn put the man through field sobriety tests and a PBT, which gave a reading of .20 BAC. The hunter was arrested and lodged on a charge of hunting while intoxicated and possessing a firearm while intoxicated. Charges are being sought through the Eaton County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Todd Thorn received a complaint of hunters trespassing and a possible deer taken on the complainant's property. Soon after the complaint was received, CO Thorn arrived at the location to find blood, drag marks, and deer hair, along with tire tracks, coming off the field onto the roadway. CO Thorn saw a man at the neighboring house getting into a pickup truck that had snow caked into the wheel wells. Upon contact, CO Thorn observed blood in the bed of the pickup truck. CO Thorn continued to investigate the incident and found two antlerless deer with tags for a different DMU, in the bed of another pickup truck. It was found that both deer were shot with a .30-06 rifle and one of the tags belonged to the wife of the person who shot both of the deer. CO Thorn performed a necropsy of both deer and found bullet fragments, which were submitted to the MSP Forensics Lab for ballistic testing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Neterer received a RAP complaint about a man in camo seen carrying a bag of carrots into the woods. CO Neterer checked the blind and finally made contact with the hunter. The hunter stated that he was not from the area and wasn't aware of the baiting ban. A citation was issued for hunting over bait in the CWD core area.

Following up on a tip about a subject taking two bucks, neither with four or more points on one side, CO Chris Maher conducted an investigation and questioned the suspect. After a short interview, the suspect admitted to taking both deer while claiming she thought it only needed a total of four points. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Bahlau and CO Chris Maher set up on a late hunter and found him with a firearm loaded 19 minutes after hunting hours. The hunter stated he didn't know what time hunting hours got over, but was always taught to hunt until you can't see your sights. Enforcement action was taken and the COs educated the hunter on how to use the hunting time table in the guide.

CO Jason King and CO Robert Slick conducted a follow-up baiting complaint in Shiawassee County. The COs located a bait pile on the property where the suspect was hunting. CO King and CO Slick made contact with the suspect in his deer blind who just didn't think he would get caught. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols was conducting follow-up on a deer carcass complaint where someone was driving across private property to dump carcasses in the back of a field. CO Nickols and the property owner walked to the location and found freshly dumped carcasses. Also in the pile were two antlerless kill tags. CO Nickols was able to use the tags to locate a possible suspect in the area. CO Nickols went to the suspect's residence but the suspect was not home. Just as CO Nickols was leaving, the suspect arrived on an ORV with an untagged deer in the back. CO Nickols interviewed the suspect and was able to obtain information about a subject processing deer a couple of houses down. CO Nickols interviewed the subject who had been processing deer for the past few years without following proper rules and regulations. Enforcement action was taken for all parties involved.

CO Shane Webster assisted CO Chris Maher with following up on a trespass incident. CO Maher had identified a suspect but had been unable to immediately make contact. CO Webster located the subject and confirmed that he had taken an antlerless whitetail deer on the neighboring property. The subject confessed that he and his brother-in-law had seen several deer on the neighbors' land on the last day of the firearm deer season and devised a plan to sneak onto the property and shoot one of them. The deer and the firearm were seized. Warrant requests will be filed with the prosecutor's office.

While travelling the highway, CO Shane Webster was passed by a vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed. CO Webster paced the vehicle at over 85 miles per hour and made a traffic stop. The subject stated he was late for work. CO Webster explained his speed was not only a danger to himself but to the others around him. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Neterer took a complaint of a trapper who was trespassing and setting muskrat traps on the neighbor's property. CO Neterer arrived and checked several traps which were not properly tagged with the trapper's name or license number. CO Neterer was able to track down the trapper. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Neterer gave a winter safety brief to a Marine Corps Reserve Unit in Lansing. There were approximately 130 Marines in attendance. CO Neterer covered a wide range of winter recreational safety tips and fielded questions relating to hiring, snowmobile safety, ORV safety, and hunter safety.

While checking a public access site on Michigan Center Lake, CO Chris Maher noticed a tent set up which looked like it was used for camping. After scouring the area, CO Maher did not find any suspects on site. CO Maher continued to investigate, questioning locals and gathering information. Suspects were eventually located and forced to take the tent down. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking deer blinds in Hanover Township, CO Chris Maher noticed an ORV driving down the road. After making a stop, CO Maher recognized the individual as someone he had previous encounters with. CO Maher explained the laws and the importance of not operating ORVs on the road. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Slick was on patrol and noticed an individual not wearing hunter orange walking through a corn field that had been half harvested. He was walking slowly looking down the rows, carrying a shotgun. CO Slick made contact with the individual and asked where his orange was. The individual stated that he had a hat in his vehicle. CO Slick escorted him back to the vehicle to get the hat and issued him a ticket for failure to wear hunter orange.

While on Interstate 94 Eastbound, Sgt. Troy Bahlau observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed, weaving in and out of traffic, and passing from both lanes. The speeding vehicle passed Sgt. Bahlau's marked patrol vehicle without giving it a second look. Sgt. Bahlau paced the vehicle at 90 mph and made a traffic stop. The young driver

explained he was not in a hurry, but just has a hard time driving the speed limit. The driver did not have a proof of insurance certificate in his vehicle, but did pull it up on his smart phone. He showed it to Sgt. Bahlau saying; "Here it is, you can look, but I don't want you touching my phone. It's my private property and you don't have a right to touch my property". Sgt. Bahlau agreed, and then issued him a citation for his reckless operation of a motor vehicle.

DISTRICT 9

While on patrol in Macomb County, CO Brad Silorey was observing several evening waterfowl hunters. During the surveillance CO Silorey watched both hunters walk out into the water with their firearms just after hunting hours. After several minutes, the hunters fired numerous shots at multiple ducks flying by. Once the suspects returned to shore, CO Silorey made contact with them. CO Silorey questioned the hunters if they knew what time hunting hours ended. The hunters were unsure of when waterfowl hunting hours ended. In addition to the late shooting, the hunters also had several other violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was observing layout waterfowl hunters on Lake St. Clair when he noticed one group displaying some interesting activity. Upon further investigation, CO Silorey noticed the tender boat of the particular group, rallying large groups of waterfowl on the lake, and driving them in closer to the layout hunters. After the difficult task of finding where the hunters had launched their boat, CO Silorey found the hunters packing up their rig at a nearby boat launch. CO Silorey addressed the violation, and enforcement action was taken.

While on waterfowl patrol in Macomb County, CO Brad Silorey was checking waterfowl hunters returning from their evening hunts out on Lake St. Clair. While checking one group of hunters, CO Silorey found one of the hunters was hunting waterfowl with an unplugged shotgun. CO Silorey questioned the hunter and inspected his license. In addition to the unplugged shotgun, the suspect also was hunting waterfowl without a Michigan waterfowl hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Northern Macomb County, CO Brad Silorey was checking a known area for trespassing. CO Silorey noticed a vehicle on the property and decided to investigate it further. Upon inspection of the property, CO Silorey found a subject hunting in a popup blind on private farm land without permission. Additionally, the hunter was not wearing any hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher received some information about a large buck (160 class) that may have been taken without a license in St. Clair County. CO Lasher found the rack at a

taxidermist and after interviews with the suspect and his wife, a written confession was given for taking the deer without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher found a waterfowl hunter who had taken more than the permitted amount of shells into the Harsens Island Management Unit. The shell limit, 18 shells per hunter, is to limit the amount of "sky busting" at ducks that are too high and flaring them from coming into and/or working the decoys. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher received a trespass complaint from an area land owner who has had trespass issues in the past. CO Lasher was able to get to the property where the suspects were hunting and waited for them to come back to the vehicle. One suspect had a loaded firearm 20 minutes past legal hunting hours and also did not have a deer hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling for waterfowl hunters on Harsens Island, CO Lasher found a hunter with lead shot. Enforcement was taken.

CO Ken Kovach was dispatched to a recreational trespass complaint in progress where the hunter had shot a deer. CO Kovach was able to contact the complainant a short time later, and while showing the location of the incident to the CO, the suspect was found hiding in a nearby hunting blind, still on the trespassed property. CO Kovach interviewed the subject and was able to obtain a full confession from the subject to hunting on the property and shooting a deer while trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach received an early morning call from a complainant who witnessed a subject shoot and kill a nice buck and then a short time later had a woman pull up on the road. The woman ran out into the field where the hunter was beginning to gut the buck and hand him what appeared to be a hunting tag. CO Kovach was able to stop the woman as she was leaving the area a few miles away. The woman said she had shot a nice buck and that her brother was gutting it for her in the field. CO Kovach made mention of the dress clothes the subject was wearing and how it was not typical hunting clothing. The female said since she was on her way home from church she thought maybe she had better tell the truth and she admitted to running a tag out to her brother who had shot the buck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Zultak responded to a complaint of an untagged deer hanging in a tree in Lapeer County. CO Zultak arrived on scene and made contact with the subject and the deer was located. The deer was in the process of being processed. The tag was next to the deer, but not properly validated. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Zultak located deer hunters on a deer drive in Lapeer County. The hunters had shot a deer, which had travelled into the Wild Life Refuge at the Lapeer State Game Area. The hunters followed the deer without permission into the closed refuge. Enforcement action was taken.

Upon the investigation of an illegally taken deer, CO Matt Zultak made contact with a suspect and the suspect's boyfriend. Through investigation and confession from both parties it was determined the suspect shot the 8-point whitetail deer without a license. The boyfriend then purchased a hunting license and tagged the suspect's deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Zultak arrived to a waterfowl hunting within the safety zone complaint. The hunter admitted to shooting two Canada geese within 90 yards of the complainant's barn. Also while on the subject's property CO Zultak located illegal traps and an over limit of bait. Enforcement action was taken.

While driving past a barn in Lapeer County, CO Matt Zultak noticed a deer hanging. CO Zultak observed that the deer was a yearling doe. Upon investigation CO Zultak noticed that the tag was an antlered restricted tag. The suspect admitted to shooting the doe with a shotgun and using the restricted tag. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Genesee County, CO Jeremy Beavers and CO Pete Purdy checked the Shiawassee River in Argentine Township for fishing and hunting activity. CO Beavers and CO Purdy checked the river at Cole Road, a spot where people routinely trespass in order to hunt and fish. While in the area, the COs spotted a truck parked along the road near the river. The truck was empty and it was determined that one or more persons likely launched a small boat and was fishing in Shiawassee Lake, which is fed by the river. The COs patrolled property along the river and spotted two subjects fishing from a small boat. CO Beavers and CO Purdy were able to make contact with the subjects on the south side of the lake. During contact it was discovered that the motorized vessel was unregistered and there was not a personal flotation device for either subject. Enforcement action was taken for the violations.

While patrolling in Genesee County, CO Jeremy Beavers received information that a subject shot and killed an eight point buck without a license. CO Beavers was told the deer was killed during the afternoon hunt of November 16 and the license was purchased after it was killed. After learning the identity of the subject, CO Beavers made contact with him at his residence. Upon contact, CO Beavers asked the subject about the deer. The subject stated that on the afternoon of the 16th, he was hunting private property that belonged to a family friend. The subject went on to say that it was near the close of hours when he shot the deer. At that time, CO Beavers asked the subject if he immediately validated his kill, as required by law and he stated he did. CO Beavers then asked the subject when the kill tag was purchased, telling the subject that it was in his best interest to be honest. CO Beavers then told the subject that he already knows the date and time when the tag was purchased. At that time, the subject stated that he did not purchase his tag until after the deer was killed. The subject went on to say that he thought he was shooting at a doe, for which he had a tag. The subject said that the deer had its head down; leading him to believe it was doe. CO Beavers then explained the importance of clearly identifying your target before shooting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Becker was following up with a suspect on a RAP complaint stating that he was trespassing in an apartment complex to trap muskrats. CO Becker made contact with the suspect and addressed the trespassing complaint. The subject stated that after he had a confrontation with the landowner, he removed all his traps. CO Becker noticed that the subject had approximately 20 traps in his pickup that had another person's tag or no tags at all. After a short conversation, CO Becker determined the subject had not tagged roughly 50 traps that were set in various locations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Walzak received an anonymous complaint that a subject was hunting deer within the city of Woodhaven in a stand of woods behind a theatre complex. The complaint also alleged that the subject was hunting over an amount of bait that exceeded the legal limits. During the investigation, and with the assistance of Sgt. Damon Owens and CO Ray Gardner, the COs found a very large bait pile that consisted mostly of carrots with some corn. The bait covered an area 7-8 feet in diameter (about 50 square feet instead of the required 100 square feet) and consisted of so many carrots that bare ground could not be seen. The COs also found a ground blind made from natural materials and a live-feed trail cam. After several subsequent checks of the area, CO Walzak and CO Gardner made contact with the subject. CO Walzak initially located the subject in the woods late in the afternoon using a thermal imaging device from about 170 yards away. When the COs entered the woods to make contact, it was already after legal hunting hours. CO Gardner, using night vision optics, spotted the subject and was able to approach within 3 feet of the individual before announcing his presence. When contacted by CO Gardner, the subject was hunting with a crossbow and still had a bolt nocked. The crossbow was outfitted with a 5-20X 50 scope with a tritium reticle, mounted on a tripod and trained on the bait pile. When contacted, the subject was hunting well after legal hunting hours, and hunting over the over-limit of bait. When asked if he knew where he was, the subject replied that he was in Romulus and had permission to be on the property from the owner. Woodhaven Police were called in to address the city ordinance violation. As for the bait, the subject thought that the limit was 10 pounds and admitted that he knew that he was using too much. When asked how much bait was initially brought in, the subject replied that he brought in six or seven bags of carrots weighing 40 pounds each. The COs corrected him on the issue of bait limits. On the matter of hunting after hours, the subject told the COs that there was another person that had been stealing equipment from him and he was trying to catch him. Enforcement action was taken.

Through investigation, CO James Zellinger learned that a suspect had killed an antlered deer without a tag. During the interview, Sgt. Damon K. Owens and CO Zellinger gained a confession from the suspect to killing an antlered deer without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO James Zellinger observed an ORV being operated on the county roadway. The operator was not wearing a helmet and there was no ORV license on the ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO James Zellinger observed a subject hunting with a muzzleloader on December 1st. The hunter claimed he thought the firearm deer season was still open. Enforcement action was taken.

BELLE ISLE

CO Pete Purdy worked a Sunday Belle Isle B1 shift. While there CO Purdy assisted CO William Brickel on a traffic stop. The driver had two outstanding misdemeanor warrants. CO Purdy stayed with the vehicle until the tow truck arrived on scene. CO Brickel transported the subject to Dearborn PD.

While patrolling Belle Isle Park, CO Larn R. Strawn observed a group of four people searching around the perimeter fence of the dilapidated and closed zoo. Two of the group members scaled the fence and entered the zoo. The remaining two group members continued to search the perimeter. CO Strawn followed from a distance. The two searchers discovered a hole in the bottom of the fence near the river. They quickly ducked under and entered the zoo. After watching the group illegally enter the closed zoo, CO Strawn called for backup from CO Jason Becker. CO Strawn and CO Becker entered the zoo and located the trespassers. The COs escorted the group out of the zoo.