

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
11/7/2016 – 11/19/2016**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officer (CO) Ethen Mapes and Sgt. Grant Emery assisted a fur harvester by releasing a timber wolf from a trap in the Ewen area.

Sgt. Grant Emery, along with Wildlife Division biologist John DePue, were guests on the K-Bear radio station in Houghton, answering questions and giving an overview of what hunters can expect this deer season.

Sgt. Grant Emery attended an open house with USFS staff at the Kenton Ranger District on the Ottawa National Forest. Several recreational users were in attendance where they were able to get their hunting, trapping and ORV questions answered.

CO Brian Lasanen and Sgt. Grant Emery were working together on opening day of the firearm deer season. CO Lasanen and Sgt. Emery stopped to check a campsite to see how the hunters did in the mornings hunt. During this check an excited hunter riding on a four-wheeler came into camp with his first buck ever taken draped over the back rack. Unfortunately for the hunter, the deer was untagged and his rifle was loaded. Enforcement action was taken for transporting a loaded firearm on an ORV and a warning issued for failing to attach his kill tag to the deer. Sgt. Emery assisted the hunter with showing him the proper way to notch out the kill tag and attach it to the deer.

CO Brian Lasanen received a tip that a hunter with a combination license had shot a 3-point buck on opening day. CO Lasanen was able to determine that the hunter's wife had purchased a single tag on opening day in the middle of the afternoon. CO Lasanen, CO Mapes and Sgt. Emery investigated the incident and ultimately came up with the deer, tagged with the wife's tag. Further interviews resulted in a determining that the husband had placed his wife's tag on the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Doug Hermanson contacted a hunter and upon checking the deer that he had harvested it was determined the deer had been improperly tagged with a combination regular kill tag, in violation of antler point restrictions. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen was patrolling on the third day of the season when he was flagged down by a hunter near a hunting camp who had a question. The hunter had two deer in the bed of his truck and stated that he shot one and a buddy shot the other. As things didn't add up, CO Lasanen was able to make contact with the second subject. After a lengthy interview, it was determined that the first subject had shot one deer on opening morning with a single license. Not wanting to be done hunting, he had the second subject buy a license and tag the buck so he could continue to hunt. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes contacted a hunter leaving the woods after an afternoon hunt. With information that the hunter had shot a 4-point buck without a tag to do so, questioning was conducted with the hunter about his hunt. After a short search, the 4-point buck was located only 50 yards from the subjects bait pile and was not tagged. Enforcement action was taken for taking an over-limit of bucks.

CO Ethen Mapes stopped an ORV in Rockland for not wearing a helmet, failing to license the ORV, and operating in an area open to public hunting between the hours of 7am and 11am. The hunter also forgot his deer hunting kill tag in his truck when he was out hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and CO Jared Ferguson were patrolling in Dickinson County when they encountered an ORV being operated with two occupants. A stop was conducted and a loaded rifle was seized from the passenger. A check of the two subjects found two handguns in the pockets of the occupants. Neither subject had obtained a concealed carry license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy were patrolling the Dickinson-Iron County line area when they waited for two hunters to return to their vehicle. The subjects came back to the vehicle long after shooting hours had closed, with their rifles still loaded. One of the subjects was also found to be violating the hunter orange law. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and CO Jared Ferguson received a call from the MSP Post in Iron Mountain of a subject at their office who wanted to report a hunter harassment incident. The COs interviewed the subject to find that another hunter in the area had confronted him and threatened to shoot him. A suspect was quickly identified through past contact with the COs and a felony assault warrant was obtained from the prosecutor's office. The following day CO Bacon, CO Ferguson and Sgt. Pomroy were able to locate the suspect in the reported hunting area and safely arrested the subject on the felony warrant. The subject was lodged in the Dickinson County Jail.

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy followed up on an illegal blind that CO Bacon had located earlier in the year. The COs found a hot fire still in the wood stove of the blind, but no hunter. A check of the bait at the site led the COs to a gut pile nearby that was fresh from that morning. A check of the blind two days later found a suspect hunting in the blind, but denying ever shooting a deer from the blind. A short interview with the subject led to the confession of a deer being shot two days earlier and still not being tagged. The COs and the suspect returned to the nearby residence to recover the untagged deer. While addressing the untagged deer, CO Bacon was also able to obtain a confession on a nearby timber theft of nearly ninety maple trees that had been cut over the course of the last year. Enforcement action was taken for the deer violations and warrants are being sought for the timber theft.

CO Brian Bacon contacted a hunter who stated he had shot an 8-point during the bow season. A check of the subject, found the hunter produced two unused licenses.

Further conversation with the subject found he had bought replacement licenses and then found the licenses he had lost. Enforcement action was taken and the extra licenses seized.

CO Shannon Kritz was on patrol with Cpl. Dave Painter when they received a road hunting complaint in Iron County. The COs responded and met with the complainant near the scene. The complainant showed the COs two shell casings found on the roadway. The COs quickly observed a dead 6-point buck lying near the roadway of the private property. With the assistance of Sgt. Marc Pomroy and CO Jason Wicklund, the COs set up to observe anyone coming back for the deer after dark. Approximately two hours after dark, four subjects were observed exiting a vehicle with flashlights near the scene of the dead deer. The COs made contact with the subjects and quickly discovered they were the suspects returning to retrieve the deer. Through interviews with the subjects, one subject admitted to shooting the deer earlier in the day and returned now after dark. Enforcement action was taken and the deer seized.

CO Shannon Kritz responded to the late night call of a lost hunter near Watersmeet. The subject had been tracking a deer by himself and had gotten turned around in thick cover. At approximately 5:30 pm, the subject texted his hunting party that he was turned around but would be finding his way out. CO Kritz along with MSP, Gogebic County Sheriff Department, and the local search and rescue, located the hunter just before 2:00 am, cold but in good condition. The hunter was transported to the local hospital for treatment.

CO Jared Ferguson and CO Brian Bacon followed up on an area where the COs have had problems in previous years. The COs found an illegal ORV trail leading behind a temporary tent camp. The COs waited on the trail until dark and made contact with two individuals on an ORV returning to camp. One subject returned on an ORV with a loaded rifle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson and Sgt. Marc Pomroy contacted a vehicle that was slow moving in a section of state land. Contact was made with the driver and a check of firearms found their rifle to be unloaded and encased. Sgt. Pomroy asked the driver if he had any success yet this deer season and the driver replied that he had not had any success. As the vehicles separated, Sgt. Pomroy observed a deer in the bed of the truck that had not been field dressed. A further discussion was had with the truck occupants on their reported lack of success. The COs interviewed both truck occupants and found the deer in the truck was shot earlier in the day by the driver, and left in the woods. The suspect's girlfriend then went and purchased a deer license that eventually ended up on the deer. Enforcement action was taken with the driver and the girlfriend who purchased a license after the deer was shot.

CO Nathan Sink was patrolling the Iron-Gogebic County line area with CO Jason Wicklund when they encountered a slow moving vehicle. CO Sink was able to make contact with the driver before he noticed the COs. A loaded uncased rifle was found on the front seat of the truck. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Ryan Aho and CO Jeffrey Dell were patrolling state land near Cedar River. A quick investigation of a parked vehicle led to a tree stand with a bow-hunter. The hunter had an improperly labeled tree stand, litter and an excessive amount of bait. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Ryan Aho, Cpl. Dave Painter and CO Brett DeLonge held a Hunter Safety Field Day in Marquette County at the Republic Township Hall. The field day was for students that completed the online hunter safety course.

CO Jeremy Sergey and Sgt. Ryan Aho received a report of an injured eagle on County Road 557 and Number 9 Lane. The eagle was recovered alive and delivered to a rehabilitator.

CO Jeffrey Dell and Sgt. Ryan Aho were patrolling public land when they noticed a truck blocking a roadway. The roadway had also been covered by debris to block access. Further investigation lead to an individual hunting over an illegal bait pile, hunting from an illegal deer blind and hunting without hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeffrey Dell was patrolling in the vicinity of North Lake when he encountered several hunters canoeing back to their vehicle after hunting. Neither hunter had a PFD. One hunter stated that he did not need a life-jacket because the canoe was less than 12 feet long. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeffrey Dell and CO Brett DeLonge came across a non-resident vehicle parked on the side of the road. The registered owner did not have any hunting license purchases. There was nothing inside the vehicle. After the COs left the car, a man stepped out of the wood line and started to drive the car. The COs turned around to interview the man. Inside the car was a gun and bucket with remnants of corn. The man stated he was not hunting, but just checking a blind. He insisted his gun was in his vehicle the whole time. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Ryan Aho and CO Jeremy Sergey found an illegal ORV trail and followed it to a hunter. The hunter used an un-licensed ORV, which he operated through several wetland areas, to get to his tree stand. The hunter had several other violations including exceeding the bait limit, cutting down trees on state land, and hunting from an illegal tree stand. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeffrey Dell and CO Jeremy Sergey were patrolling in Menominee County when they made contact with a hunter who was transporting two deer in his truck. Upon investigation, it was determined that one of the deer was harvested by a hunter who did not have a kill tag. The hunter admitted to purchasing a kill tag after the deer had been harvested. Enforcement action was taken and the deer was seized. The meat from the deer was donated to Sportsmen Against Hunger.

CO Mark Leadman, CO Brett DeLonge and Lt. Pete Wright investigated an untagged buck found hanging on the buck pole at an empty hunting camp. When the occupants of

the camp returned from hunting that evening, they were all transporting loaded rifles on their ORVs. After a brief conversation, it was discovered that the buck had been shot by an unlicensed, non-resident occupant of the camp. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Mark Zitnik and CO Michael Evink were on patrol early on the first day of the 2016 firearm deer season. The very first hunter they encountered was next to a two-track trail the COs were on. CO Zitnik asked the hunter about his blind, the lack of name and address on it, and all the litter around it. The hunter took responsibility for his actions and the situation was dealt with.

An impromptu group patrol was the result of an in progress complaint. Lt. Skip Hagy, Cpl. Steve Martin and Cpl. Shannon VanPatten, along with CO Mike Evink, joined forces to simultaneously check blinds with several violations present. CO VanPatten and CO Evink located one individual who's lengthy list of issues included hunting without a license, no hunter orange, illegal operation of an ORV, loaded / uncased firearm on an ORV, no helmet or ORV sticker, too much bait, and no name or address on the blind. Lt. Hagy and Cpl. Martin were not quite as lucky. The blind they found, following the illegal ORV trail across National Forest land, was empty. It was illegal however, had far too much bait, and an abundance of litter. The owner was however located, educated and enforcement action was taken with him as well.

CO Chris Lynch and Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon worked the opening day of the firearm deer season. Many good contacts were made with violations including over-bait, no hunter orange, hunt from illegal blinds, cut trees and shrubs on state land, and blocking public access to state land. Eight tickets and several verbal warnings were issued that day.

CO Chris Lynch waited for a hunter on an ORV to come back to his truck after the evening hunt. When the hunter arrived, he had an uncased rifle on the front of the ORV. A ticket was issued for the violation. He also discovered a non-resident hunting on a resident license.

CO Chris Lynch contacted a group a deer hunters that were road hunting. The odor of marijuana was present. A quick search of the vehicle turned up a subject to be in possession of marijuana. The drugs were seized and a report will be submitted to the prosecutor's office.

CO Mark Zitnik and CO Mike Evink were following an illegal ORV trail when they made contact with the hunter. Upon further investigation, the COs found the hunter did not have on hunter orange, no hunting license in possession, no name on blind and an expired driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik and Cpl. Steve Martin located a vehicle driving over a berm on a closed road. While making contact with the hunter, the COs found that the hunter owns a local

body shop and was using a customer's jeep to drive over a four foot berm. He was concerned the customer was going to find out. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik and Cpl. Steve Martin were patrolling on a snow covered two-track when they found a spare tire on the road. They picked up the spare tire and were going to follow the vehicle tracks to the tires' owner. The tracks led to a nearby camp. Upon making contact with the camp owner's wife, it was found the tire came off her nephew's truck. While rolling the tire to the camp, Cpl. Marin noticed a garbage bag hanging from a rope. Upon further investigation, it was found that it was a quartered-up deer. The wife stated her husband shot a 5-point buck a couple of days ago. While the COs were investigating the meat, the wife asked CO Zitnik if it was ok if she had bought a hunting license and her husband could use it while she was in camp. CO Zitnik said no. Upon making contact with the husband, it was found he used his wife's hunting license to tag his 5-point buck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig was patrolling when he noticed two hunters exiting a blind and walking towards their residence. At the residence, CO Hartsig contacted the hunters. While speaking with one, the other subject was seen hiding a rifle behind a tree. When CO Hartsig asked for his license, he replied he wasn't hunting. CO Hartsig recovered the loaded rifle behind the tree and pointed out the fact he was wearing orange, had grunt calls around his neck and was in possession of a loaded rifle in the field. The subject then admitted he was indeed hunting, but never purchased a license. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Robert Freeborn noticed a 4-wheeler traveling through marsh grassland. The CO stopped on the two-track and waited for the hunter to drive to his location. CO Freeborn talked with the hunter who stated he was baiting his deer stand. A walk to the hunter's bait found it to be way over the legal limit. The hunter was also not wearing a helmet and did not have an ORV sticker. Citations were issued for the violations.

CO Robert Freeborn and CO Mike Evink received a tip from an informant that a tribal member had just shot a deer with a rifle during the closed tribal rifle season. The COs were only a few miles away from the suspect's house at the time of the complaint. The COs stopped at the suspect's house for an interview. The suspect admitted to shooting the deer out of his house with a rifle. The suspect was also found not to have a valid tribal hunting license. A report will be submitted through the tribe. The deer and rifle were seized per request of the Tribal COs and turned over to them for evidence. While working opening day of firearm deer season, CO Robert Freeborn and Lt. Skip Hagy checked several hunters throughout the day. Overall compliance was good and the hunters seemed encouraged over the amount of deer they have been seeing compared to years past. The COs did issue a few citations for no hunter orange, no name on blind and uncased firearm on an ORV. They also dealt with a subject who constructed an elaborate ORV bridge over a creek on public land to access his hunting area.

CO Robert Freeborn and CO Pat Hartsig encountered a road hunter on a busy ORV trail. After speaking with the hunters, it was determined that the driver did not have a valid driver's license. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the vehicle did not have current insurance or a valid license plate on the car. The operator was arrested for the violations and lodged.

CO Kevin Postma was patrolling a two-track road near dusk when he noticed a light turn on and off down the heavily wooded road. CO Postma used his binoculars to determine that a vehicle was the source of the light and it was heading in CO Postma's direction. CO Postma then pulled his truck off of the road as far as possible and proceeded on foot in the direction of the slow moving suspect vehicle in an attempt to distance himself from his own patrol vehicle. CO Postma stepped out of the woods and made contact with occupants of the slow moving vehicle. It was quickly determined that there was an uncased gun next to the driver who stated he was grouse hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma interviewed an individual reference a suspicious license purchase. After a short conversation, it was determined that the grandmother had purchased a license for her grandson who didn't want to be done hunting after shooting a 3-point opening morning. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma contacted an individual driving down a two-track road in a heavily wooded area. After a lengthy conversation, it was determined that the individual was in possession of a firearm without a license while in an area frequented by game. After going back and forth with the individual for several minutes, CO Postma advised "If it quacks like a duck and walks like a duck and looks like a duck... it's a duck". The individual then advised "I wasn't duck hunting, I was deer hunting", to which CO Postma replied "exactly". Enforcement action was taken

CO Bobby Watson and CO Calvin Smith made contact with several deer hunters who had placed permanent ground blinds on CFR land. One hunter confessed to the COs that he had left his blind there over 30 years. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken's assistance was requested with a probation search. The individual on probation was found to have several rifles, unregistered handguns, and more than 1,000 rounds of ammunition in his possession. CO Busken lodged the individual on several felony counts.

CO Jon Busken found an individual placing deer mineral out in April. The man claimed he was only putting the mineral down to see what was on camera. The CO gave the subject a warning and told him that he could not put any more bait down until it was the legal date if he wanted to hunt that spot. Six weeks before baiting opened, CO Busken found more bait had been placed. Contact was made with the hunter on opening day. He was reminded of their prior discussion and enforcement action was taken.

CO Tom Oberg was on patrol with US Forest Service Officer Jeff Wise on Drummond Island. CO Oberg observed a deer in a sled and three individuals standing around it at a camp. CO Oberg observed one of the individuals run back into the camp and came out with a deer tag and attached it to the deer. CO Oberg explained to the subject that the deer needs to be tagged immediately after kill. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tom Oberg was on patrol when he responded to a call from Central Dispatch advising that there was an ORV accident involving a side-by-side ORV operated by an intoxicated subject and his 10 year old daughter riding along. After arriving on scene with Michigan State Police and EMS, CO Oberg and the Trooper observed the side-by-side ORV disabled at the end of the driveway and the intoxicated subject sitting in the ditch. The child was unharmed and the intoxicated subject had minor injuries and was treated by EMS. Enforcement action was taken. CO Oberg transported the 10 year old girl to St. Ignace so she could take the ferry to Mackinac Island to stay with her mother.

CO Tom Oberg was on patrol when he responded to a call from Central Dispatch that there was report of a vehicle on the side of the roadway on I-75 and the driver appeared to be passed out. CO Oberg arrived on scene along with MSP, Sheriff Deputies, and Border Patrol. The female driver of the vehicle was having seizures and was suspected that it was from the bottle of pills that were in her possession. EMS arrived on scene and transported her to the hospital.

CO Tom Oberg was on patrol when he responded to a call from Central Dispatch advising of a rollover accident on I-75. CO Oberg and an MSP trooper were first on scene. The driver of the vehicle and the passenger appeared to only have minor injuries, but were unable to get out of the car because of the damage. The Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department arrived on scene and was able to get the occupants out with hydraulic tools. Both occupants were transported to the hospital by EMS.

CO Brett Gustafson worked with Senior Forest Technician, Cory Luoto, on the second day of the firearm deer season. They encountered a hunter while checking an illegal blind on state land near Rexton. The hunter admitted that his blind had been there for a while (since 1995 to be exact), and that he had not purchased a firearm deer license since he moved to Florida in 2014. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobby Watson and CO Calvin Smith responded to a tip that a very small spike buck was waiting to be processed at a local deer processor. CO Watson measured the spike and found it to be short of the legal 3" requirement. CO Watson made contact with the hunter and informed him he had shot a spike that didn't make the 3" antler requirement. CO Watson then asked the hunter to meet with them to discuss the matter and show them his hunting blind, bait pile, and campsite, all of which he stated were located on state land. The hunter continued to ask if they could meet the following day rather than at that moment. CO Watson began questioning the hunter as to what he was doing that was more important. The hunter responded that he was at the bar and watching the Lion's game. CO Watson informed the hunter that an illegal deer could face him with over \$1,000 in fines and costs. The hunter then immediately responded that he would

meet the two COs whenever they needed to meet him. CO Watson and CO Smith discovered additional violations, including no name on the hunter's blind and excessive bait. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 3

CO Chad Baldwin and CO Steve Speigl were checking for shining activity in Antrim County when they came across a truck parked in the middle of a seasonal road. When the COs pulled up behind the truck, it recklessly sped off for a short distance then erratically came to a stop, nearly hitting some trees. The COs checked on the driver and found him to be highly intoxicated. The driver was over twice the legal limit for driving. He was arrested and taken to the Antrim County Jail.

While working a field near a busy intersection in Antrim County, CO Steve Speigl and CO Chad Baldwin watched a truck approach the intersection on the side having a stop sign. The driver turned his headlights off and sped through the intersection without stopping. The COs stopped the truck for the careless operation. When questioned about the careless maneuver, he said that he was just trying to catch up to his buddy. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Albert was checking the deer that were hanging on a local buck pole when she noticed a tag that was purchased after hunting hours on November 15th. The deer was shot and hung on the pole on the 15th. An interview with the hunter found he had shot the 5-point buck and did not have a buck tag so he went to the store and bought one after the fact. The deer was seized and the hunter was cited for the violation.

CO Andrea Albert, CO Steve Speigl and CO Scott MacNeill were running the deer decoy in a remote area of Antrim County. A subject drove by and quickly turned around and came back to the decoy. The subject shot two times from his vehicle at the decoy. The subject was cited for the violations and his rifle was seized. The COs noted that six years ago the subject's adult son had also shot at the decoy in the same location.

On a vehicle stop, CO Andrea Albert found two loaded rifles. The adult driver and his 13 year old nephew had failed to unload their guns before driving to town and back for lunch. CO Albert explained the safety issue with having a loaded rifle in a vehicle and a ticket was issued.

While on patrol, CO Andrea Erratt encountered an ORV operating during the ORV quiet period of the firearm deer season. In addition, the operator was not wearing a helmet and was trespassing. CO Erratt had stopped this individual in the past and had given him warnings for ORV violations. A ticket was issued this time.

While on a stop for uncased firearms in a motor vehicle, CO Andrea Erratt had a vehicle pull up behind her. A check of this vehicle revealed the operator also had an uncased and loaded firearm in the vehicle. A ticket was issued.

While checking a subject who was hunting, it was learned by CO Andrea Erratt, that he had already shot two deer for the season. However, he still had a hunting license in his possession. Through interviewing the subject, it was learned he had tagged one of the other deer he had shot with his wife's kill tag. He did not want to use his, because he wanted to keep hunting. A ticket was issued.

While working a deer decoy, CO Andrea Erratt and CO Andrea Albert had an individual stop and get out of his vehicle and shoot the decoy. However, the subject was not wearing hunter orange, nor did he have permission to be hunting the private property the decoy was placed on. Tickets were issued.

While following up on an illegal ground blind with illegal ORV activity to the blind, CO Duane Budreau and Cpl. Brad Dohm encountered a male subject hunting from the blind. The subject adamantly denied that the blind belonged to him. However, when CO Budreau asked how he was able to unlock the padlock that was locked on the blind door, the subject's attitude changed. A ticket was issued.

CO Duane Budreau and Cpl. Brad Dohm followed up on an illegal ground blind complaint received from a retired CO. The COs checked the blind on opening day and were able to make contact with the owner. The blind was constructed of building material and was lag bolted to the trees. A ticket was issued.

While patrolling back roads, CO Duane Budreau and Cpl. Brad Dohm encountered two vehicles slow-rolling down the roadway. In both cases, the subjects were contacted and uncased loaded firearms were located in the vehicle. Tickets were issued.

While patrolling northern Emmet County, CO Duane Budreau encountered a slow-rolling vehicle. Contact was made and it was discovered that the operator had an open beer in the vehicle. In interviewing the subject, it was learned that he had been out hunting. A check of the subject's hunting site revealed an over-limit of bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Torsky received a complaint in Otsego County in reference to an illegal ORV trail on state land that went to a large bait pile. The CO made contact with the individual on the opening morning of firearm deer season. Upon contact, the hunter was not wearing hunter orange and admitted to operating an ORV, along with having excessive bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Speigl and CO Scott MacNeill responded to a complaint of a lost hunter in the Fisherman's Island State Park area after dark. Search efforts between multiple law enforcement agencies and volunteers were coordinated with the help of the Charlevoix County Sheriff Department's K9 Unit. After approximately two hours of searching, the COs heard two rifle shots that sounded to be within a mile away, and soon made contact with the lost hunter. He was exhausted and cold, but local agencies assisted COs to safely extract the hunter from the woods and to medical care.

CO Steve Speigl and CO Scott MacNeill conducted a deer decoy patrol during the first weekend of firearm deer season. Within only a few minutes after setting up the decoy, COs observed an individual stop his vehicle and load a rifle, before taking two shots at the decoy. The individual was not wearing any hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Speigl, CO Andrea Albert, and CO Scott MacNeill conducted a deer decoy patrol. COs observed dozens of vehicles pass by, but after only a short time, three separate vehicles stopped and took shots at the decoy. Two of the shooters had shot from the roadway, inside of their vehicles and one was found to be using a .44 magnum handgun. Contact was made and enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Pigeon River Country State Forest, CO Nick Torsky contacted a hunter that was located in an illegal deer blind on state land. Upon contact with the hunter, the CO also determined he had not purchased a deer license and was not wearing hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Torsky was dispatched to a dead bull elk carcass located in Montmorency County near the intersections of Johnson's Crossing and Meridian Line roads. A necropsy was completed on the animal showing possible time of death early to mid-September. Leads were developed and the investigation continues. If anyone has information, please contact the Gaylord Customer Service Center at (989) 732-3541.

CO Eric Bottorff received a complaint of trespass on the opening day of firearm deer season. The reporting party advised hearing a gunshot on their property, then finding bloody drag marks that went onto the adjacent property. The CO arrived after following the drag marks and made contact with the hunter. The hunter admitted to trespassing and being in possession of a spike buck, without a valid tag attached. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff received a complaint of closed area operation of ORVs in Cheboygan County on the opening day of deer season. The complainant said he was hunting on state land when an ORV passed his location, then stopped a short distance away. The CO arrived making contact with the operator who stated he was unaware that he could not operate an ORV on state lands. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki assisted Tuscarora Township Police in Cheboygan County at the scene of a personal injury accident. The operator was found to be intoxicated when he lost control of his moped causing himself injuries. Charges are being sought through the Cheboygan County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Mark DePew finally made contact with several individuals whom he had been looking for over three years in Otsego County. The individuals had repeatedly been violating state land usage rules during the firearm deer seasons. The CO walked into the general location the day before opening day finding the individuals operating ORVs

in a closed area, open containers of alcohol on an ORV, over-bait, along with illegal hunting blinds. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark DePew, CO Nick Torsky, CO Matt Theunick, and CO Tim Rosochacki executed a search warrant on a camp in Otsego County. The COs were investigating a poached elk that was killed during the firearm season in 2014. The COs obtained evidence sought in the search warrant along with additional investigative leads unrelated to the poached elk, involving the illegal taking of deer. The investigation continues.

While investigating a poached elk case that occurred in 2015 in Otsego County, CO Mark DePew and CO Nick Torsky made contact with a vehicle that was operating suspiciously on a state land two-track. Upon contact with the operator, a loaded rifle was located in the passenger front seat. The operator was also smoking marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark DePew made a traffic stop for a civil infraction in the City of Gaylord. Upon contact with the operator, the CO smelled a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. A search found marijuana and an open container of alcohol. While checking the vehicle, the CO noticed a small amount of blood located on the bumper of the vehicle and inquired as to who had shot a deer. The operator confessed and added he did not possess a valid tag for it. The deer was eventually recovered, and warrants are being sought for possession of a deer without a valid tag, possession of marijuana, and open intoxicants in a motor vehicle.

CO Mark DePew was dispatched to over six illegal dumping cases on state land. All the dumping involved several deer carcasses. The DNR reminds hunters that processed deer must be disposed of properly and cannot be dumped on state lands.

CO Paul Fox received a complaint about subjects placing permanent deer feeding structures on state land. In addition, the subject was tilling ground with a tractor and planting flood plots on state land. The subject also placed more than two gallons of bait near the structure. Contact was made with the individual and a citation was issued for operating a motor vehicle in a closed area. Warnings were given for destroying brush and placing over-limit of bait.

CO Paul Fox, CO Brad Bellville and CO Kelly Ross checked a large hunting camp in Montmorency County and discovered several illegal bait piles. Contact was made with the hunters and citations were issued for hunting over-bait in a closed area. During the investigation, one subject was discovered to have an outstanding warrant. As the subject was arrested, the COs discovered drug paraphernalia stuffed in a sock. A search of the subject's vehicle yielded additional narcotics. In addition to the arrest warrant, the subject was arrested and charged with felony drug possession.

CO Paul Fox contacted a hunter in an illegal ground blind on state land in Presque Isle County. The blind had been left out for years, several large trees had been cut down to

clear a shooting lane, the blind did not have a name on it, excessive bait was placed in the shooting lane, and the hunter was not wearing the required amount of orange. A citation and several warnings were issued.

CO Paul Fox and CO Jon Sklba were on patrol during the evening when they observed a truck with two deer in the bed. The truck failed to stop properly for a stop sign and was operating on the wrong side of the road. Upon investigation, it was discovered that one hunter failed to validate the deer tag. In addition, a loaded rifle was discovered in the vehicle. A citation was issued and the firearm was seized.

CO Jon Sklba contacted a subject trespassing and target shooting during the quiet period. The same subject was warned for the same things, at the same location, the previous fall almost a year to the date. Enforcement action was taken. During opening day CO Jon Sklba contacted a subject hunting from an illegal blind on state land in Presque Isle County. The same subject had a blind in the same location four years prior and removed it only after receiving a citation, only to return it the following fall. After contacting the subject, he was provided a written reminder of the rules for stands on state land.

CO Jon Sklba responded to a roadkill bull elk. The elk sustained life threatening injuries and had to be euthanized. The vehicle was a total loss but there were no reported injuries. The elk was donated to a local nonprofit organization.

CO Jon Sklba and CO Bill Webster were patrolling Green Township in Alpena when they were sent to a farm where the DNR pilots located large bait piles. Through their investigation, the COs located one untagged spike horn deer shot on opening day, one 5-point that was shot on the second day, and a very nice 10-point that was shot in September on a disease control permit (DCP), but they had failed to turn in the head for testing. The COs seized the deer and issued citations for fail to tag, APR violation, DCP violation and place bait in closed county.

After observing a vehicle in a remote location in Presque Isle County after hours, CO Jon Sklba went to locate the subjects on foot. The CO was able to locate subjects dragging a deer down a trail where they were met by more subjects in another vehicle. The CO watched the hunter field dressing the deer from a distance. When the CO approached, he noticed the deer was a 6-point without brow tines and the hunter failed to tag the animal. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bill Webster, CO Adam LeClerc, and CO Brad Bellville were working a section of state land in Wellington Township, Alpena County. The COs were addressing illegal ground blinds that have been permanently placed on state land for years. CO Bill Webster had done preseason scouting of the blinds in the years past and had them marked on GPS. The COs split up and were able to contact hunters in five of the seven blinds. The hunters were issued citations for baiting in a closed county, hunt out of illegal blinds, and operate ORVs on state land. There were numerous warnings for not

wearing hunter orange, cutting trees on state land, making illegal trails on state land, uncased firearms on ORVs, no hunting license on person, and riding double on ORVs.

CO Adam LeClerc was working Alpena County for the firearm deer season. CO LeClerc issued eight citations for hunting over-bait. The majority of the contacted hunters knew it was wrong but each commented that their neighbors do it, so they have to.

CO Adam LeClerc and CO Bill Webster were doing meat processor inspections in Alpena County. Numerous violations were located and through investigation, two deer have been seized due to antler point restrictions. More follow-up continues on other issues located during the inspections.

CO Adam LeClerc was patrolling on a QuietKat mountain bike on a large parcel of private land in Alpena County. The CO was able to ride right up to the blinds and the hunters didn't even know he arrived. CO LeClerc was able to contact three hunters on the parcel of land and issue three citations for hunting over bait.

CO Bill Webster was working a complaint of illegal ORV trails on state land in Alpena County. The CO was able to locate four hunters hunting off the illegal trails. Each hunter was hunting over large bait piles and failed to affix name to blinds. When the CO contacted one of the hunters, the CO noticed the smell of burnt marijuana. When the CO asked if the hunter had been smoking, he replied he was just smoking as the CO pulled up. Enforcement action was taken on the drug use and possession. CO Webster finished up the contacts with the rest of the hunting group and issued multiple citations for hunting over bait, no hunter orange, and one deer was seized for antler point restrictions.

CO Brad Bellville and CO Kelly Ross investigated an elk that was shot and mortally wounded in Montmorency County. Evidence recovered at the scene and canvassing of the area led COs to a nearby camp. The investigation led the COs downstate to the Marlette and Imlay City area. The COs were able to locate a suspect. Through their investigation they have arrested a 44 year old Marlette man in connection with the illegal killing of a cow elk on the second day of the firearm deer season. The elk was apparently mistaken for a deer. The elk was killed in Montmorency Township, in the northwestern corner of Montmorency County. The COs were assisted by the Michigan State Police, Sanilac County Sheriff Department, and the Marlette Police Department.

CO Kelly Ross and CO Brad Bellville responded to a hunter who mistakenly shot a 6x6 bull elk on the opening day of firearm deer season in Montmorency County. The hunter explained to the COs that it was just starting to get light and he saw what he thought was a very large whitetail deer. The hunter told the COs he shot the animal in the neck and it didn't go down, so he shot it again in the neck causing the animal to fall. The hunter, who was accompanied by his son, went over to see the deer. As they approached, they realized they had not shot a white tail deer, but an elk. The hunter immediately contacted the Report All Poaching hotline and turned himself in. The COs

took possession of the elk and made arrangements for it to be donated to a non-profit organization to help the community. The hunter was issued a citation and is responsible for paying restitution for his mistake.

CO Brad Bellville worked numerous hunting camps on private and state land in Montmorency County. CO Bellville issued ten citations for hunting over bait in a closed county.

DISTRICT 4

CO William Kinney assisted the Haring Township Fire Department in Wexford County on a wildfire investigation. A three acre fire started because the suspect was open burning trash in his front yard on a high fire danger day. With the lack of rain and the high winds, the ashes started smaller fires which caused the man to lose control and call 911. After the fire was extinguished, CO Kinney investigated the cause. It was found that the suspect was remodeling his house and was burning unlawful household materials. Enforcement action was taken for environmental and burning laws that were broken.

CO Sean Kehoe responded to two hunter harassment complaints in the first week of firearm deer season. One involved an elderly woman walking around the woods blowing a whistle and the other involved a man stealing a hunter's bait. In both situations, the hunters failed to put their ID on their blind/stand and were in violation of the baiting laws. These violations negated the hunter harassment violation. Hunters should be reminded that hunter harassment cases can only be prosecuted if the hunters are hunting legally.

In response to a complaint of over-baiting and a tent blind without a name on it, CO Rich Stowe made contact with a hunter on opening day of the firearm deer season. Enforcement action was taken for the violations present.

CO William Haskin and CO Steve Converse received a complaint that a bear was taken out-of-season in Wexford County. They responded and questioned the hunter. The hunter tried to hide evidence and cover up his crime, but after investigation the COs were able to find enough to know a bear was at least shot. CO Converse and CO Haskin went to the hunter's stand and located a blood trail, which led to the finding of a dead mature sow bear. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Colton Gelinis interviewed two suspects from a previous complaint. CO Gelinis obtained a confession from both suspects stating that one of the suspects used the other suspect's deer tag to tag his deer that he shot. The suspect had already shot a 6-point earlier in the year and used his regular deer tag. That same suspect shot a 5-point and used the other suspect's regular deer tag. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Colton Gelinis received a tip in Leelanau County about a suspect that had shot an 8-point with his bow and did not have a hunting license. CO Gelinis made contact with

the suspect who admitted that he had shot an 8-point with his bow and bought a license the next day. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse responded to complaint in Manistee County where a vehicle driving down a roadway had stopped and shot a deer from their car on posted private property. Along with the assistance of a Michigan State Police Trooper, CO Converse was able to locate the suspect as he was dragging a deer from the private land to the roadway. They made contact with the poacher who advised that he wanted to get his kid a deer and said he hasn't had much "luck" finding any deer this season. The man decidedly loaded up his kid in the car and proceeded to road hunt until they found a buck. Unfortunately for the man and his son, a hunter in an adjacent parcel witnessed the incident and called 911. Unbeknown to the poacher, the property that he shot deer on was owned by a police officer who gladly pressed trespassing charges. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck made contact with a hunter on the opening day of firearm deer season who was hunting over approximately three truckloads of sugar beets. The hunter said that he had put that much out to keep the deer coming in throughout the week when he was downstate working. The hunter was advised of the bait regulations and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck received a call from a subject in the Luther area of Lake County advising he had observed a truck driving on his property and witnessed them shoot a deer from the window of the truck. The hunter made contact with the subject in the vehicle and was able to identify both subjects and get a license plate. The hunter remained with the dead deer until CO Killingbeck arrived on scene, but the poachers were gone upon his arrival. CO Killingbeck then made contact with the subjects who were identified in the vehicle as the shooters. The man who shot the deer told CO Killingbeck that he knew better than to hunt from his vehicle and said it was a bad mistake on his part. CO Killingbeck determined that the subject had been driving on a suspended license and also had several warrants for his arrest. The subject was arrested and lodged in the Osceola County Jail.

Sgt. Carla Soper was heading to meet CO Josiah Killingbeck in Lake County on opening morning of firearm deer season. As she approached their meeting spot, she noticed a vehicle driving very slow and swerving all over the roadway. The driver then quickly pulled over to the shoulder and Sgt. Soper made contact with him and found a loaded and uncased rifle in the passenger compartment. Sgt. Soper relayed the information to CO Killingbeck who was less than a mile away and asked that he head her direction. As CO Killingbeck was heading to assist, an ORV pull out in front of him with no ORV stickers and he made his traffic stop directly next to Sgt. Soper. CO Killingbeck discovered the driver of the ORV also had a loaded and uncased rifle, with the barrel pointed directly at the driver. The subject told CO Killingbeck he was not aware that his gun needed to be in a case or unloaded when driving an ORV. Both the driver of the passenger vehicle and the driver of the ORV received citations for possessing loaded and uncased firearms.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, CO Ryan Andrews and Sgt. Carla Soper walked onto private property where numerous oversized bait piles were previously located. The violations were addressed with three hunters who were sitting in their stands that were significantly over-baited. Each site had over a truck load of sugar beets and one hunter was not wearing any hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was at the Baldwin Field Office when a hunter came in to the deer check station with a doe that had a restricted combo tag attached to it that was not validated. CO Killingbeck then observed a uncased gun laying in the front seat of the hunter's vehicle. The gun was discovered to be loaded and the subject did not even have a case in his vehicle. It was determined the hunter did not have any antlerless tags and that the deer was taken without a license. The deer was seized and enforcement action taken.

CO Kyle Publiski received a complaint from an individual who had heard two rifle shots and figured that there was a deer killed prior to season. CO Publiski responded to the suspect residence and when he pulled up, no deer was killed, but he did find a bobcat lying on the bed of a truck with crossbow bolt in its head. CO Publiski made contact with the owner who advised he shot the bobcat because it was eating all the wild rabbits in the area. The hunter had been deer hunting in his bow stand when the bobcat came in range and he shot it because he and his wife enjoy watching the rabbits. Enforcement action was taken for taking a bobcat out-of-season and without a license.

CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky walked into a complaint in Mason County where several large baits were reported. Upon making contact with two hunters who were hunting with over 25 gallons of bait, the COs discovered both had antlerless deer tags in their wallets that were not their tags. When the COs questioned as to why they were in possession of tags that didn't belong to them, both stated "I don't know how that got my wallet." The COs told the men that they must have been visited by the tag fairy while they were sleeping last night and enforcement action was taken for the over-bait.

CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky were conducting processor inspections in Mason County when a woman arrived and began unloading a 6-point buck without a tag attached. The COs questioned the woman as to where her tag was and she informed that it was in her purse. She pulled it out for them and they looked at the validated tag only to discover it had been purchased ten minutes prior to her bringing her deer in. The COs asked her why she had taken a deer without a tag and she advised she was "so busy she forgot to buy her license before she went hunting." The 6-point buck was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky responded to a trespass complaint in Mason County. Upon arrival, they saw two subjects on a tree-line who were both hastily climbing out of tree stands. The COs quickly approached and were able to catch one hunter who was running from them and found that he was a convicted felon. The second hunter who had fled the scene with both firearms unfortunately left his identification in his hunting pack in his blind. The felon was lodged on the trespass at

the Mason County Jail and warrants are being sought for both men on additional charges.

While on patrol in Lake County, CO Ryan Andrews and Sgt. Carla Soper discovered a vehicle with an occupant who was parked along a trail during firearm deer season. Sgt. Soper made contact with the occupant who was smoking marijuana and also had a loaded rifle lying on the passenger seat. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Lake County, CO Ryan Andrews and Sgt. Carla Soper stopped a vehicle for passing in a no-passing zone. As they approached, they noticed the passenger clearly keeping his hands in the air. As Sgt. Soper approached the passenger side, the man told her that he had a loaded pistol on his side, exclaiming it was "open carry." After advising that "open carry" laws did not allow for him to possess a loaded pistol in a motor vehicle, enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Varriale and Sgt. Mike Bomay were on patrol when they witnessed two hunters standing near their trucks. While talking with the hunters, CO Varriale and Sgt. Bomay discovered that one of the hunters had killed a deer. The hunter said he was waiting for nightfall to bring the deer back to the truck. When questioned further, the hunter admitted to shooting a deer that did not meet the antler point restriction requirements for Osceola County. CO Varriale and Sgt. Bomay asked to see the deer, and on the walk out to find the deer, the hunter confessed to having killed two deer. The deer was retrieved from the hunting spot, and the other deer was discovered in the hunter's truck. The hunter had taken two deer in violation of the antler point restrictions claiming to have made a mistake. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Varriale was on patrol on state land in Osceola County when he witnessed two men driving down a road with a dead deer on the back. When stopped, CO Varriale noticed the deer had not been tagged and the passenger had a loaded, uncased rifle in his hands. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively was working an area of high complaints of shining during November. CO Shively conducted stationary surveillance in the area and was able to stop two vehicles within a short period of time for shining during November and cited both of them.

CO Ben Shively and CO Troy VanGelderren were working a shots fired complaint on school owned property when they observed a crossbow hunter walking out to the road. CO VanGelderren made contact with the hunter and noticed the odor of an intoxicating beverage coming from his person. The hunter was a licensed CPL holder and was in possession of a concealed .45 caliber handgun. The hunter was administered a preliminary breath test that showed his BAC was .071. CO VanGelderren seized the handgun and issued a citation to the hunter for possession of a CPL while BAC between .02 and .08. As CO VanGelderren was explaining the citation to the hunter, a subject pulled up in a truck to pick up the hunter. CO Shively made contact

with the driver and observed an uncased crossbow behind the driver in the cab of the truck. CO Shively issued the driver a citation for transporting an uncased crossbow.

CO Ben Shively was patrolling along federal land when he observed an ORV exit federal land behind him from an illegal trail. CO Shively observed that the operator also did not have any eye protection. CO Shively activated his emergency lights and made contact with the ORV operator as it pulled up behind him. Upon contact with the operator, he advised he had a CPL and it was in his front pocket. As CO Shively spoke with the operator he could smell alcohol and marijuana. The operator admitted to drinking three beers, some liquor, and had a glass smoking pipe in his front chest pocket. CO Shively removed the .22 caliber handgun from the subjects front pants pocket and removed the glass pipe. CO Shively administered a preliminary breath test to the subject which resulted in a BAC of .072. CO Shively cited the subject for possession of a CPL while BAC between .02 and .08 and operating an ORV in a closed area. The handgun was seized and numerous warnings were issued.

CO Mike Wells was on patrol shortly after dark when he received information of a subject whom had taken two deer earlier that day without a license. CO Wells went to the suspect's residence and knocked several times on the door with no answer. CO Wells observed someone moving around in the residence and continued to knock with no response. A dispatcher contacted CO Wells via radio advising that the owner of the residence called advising his children were at home with no parent and would not answer the door. The dispatcher advised that the parent whom had called was working at a local business at the time of the call. CO Wells went to the business and made contact with the suspect in the complaint. CO Wells spoke with the subject and asked him how many deer he had hanging at his residence. The subject responded that he had one deer at the residence. Further interview revealed that the subject actually had three deer at the residence, all of which were antlerless deer and all un-tagged. The subject advised that he was told by the property owner that he could harvest the deer under crop damage permits, but never actually received the permits. Citation was issued to the subject for the over-limit of deer/no license and all deer were seized.

CO Jeff Ginn responded to a complaint where a hunter with a rifle was hunting within a safety zone. The landowner watched the suspect fire three rounds while walking out to his vehicle. CO Ginn located the hunter at work and obtained a confession from the hunter explaining he was irritated that the landowner had posted the property, so he took aim and shot three signs while walking out. One of the signs was directly in line with the complainant's residence. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Ginn assisted the Michigan State Police and Newaygo County Sheriff Department on a fatal car accident. CO Ginn assisted with traffic control and the accident investigation. It was later determined the victim was unable to stop for a stop sign, possibly due to the snowy weather conditions. The vehicle was struck by another vehicle causing severe injury to both drivers and one passenger.

CO Brian Lebel received a complaint of a hunter that had harvested a spike on opening morning and failed to recover the deer after shooting it. CO Lebel responded to the residence and interviewed the hunter that had since purchased a firearm deer license. The hunter was hunting with a valid antlerless license and claimed to have made a mistake. CO Lebel checked the hunter's history in the retail sales system and it was documented that this hunter displayed a pattern of purchasing antlerless licenses prior to the November 15th opener and regular or antlered deer licenses after the November 15th opener. The hunter was issued a citation and the deer was seized.

CO Jeff Ginn and CO Brian Lebel teamed up in Hinton Township following up on a trespass complaint from last week that resulted in an untagged buck, no blaze orange and three hunters trespassing. One of the suspects that were trespassing was also involved with taking the SD card out of the property owner's trail camera. The SD card was recovered and multiple citations were issued to the group.

CO Brian Lebel received a RAP complaint of a hunter that had harvested two bucks and failed to tag either. The suspect shot one with a crossbow and one on the firearm opener. The suspect only purchased a base license according to the retail sales system. One buck was a spike and the other was a 5-point buck that did not meet the antler point restriction for Osceola County. Citations were issued and the deer were seized.

CO Troy VanGelderren received a complaint from the Oceana County Sheriff Department of two subjects shooting a deer alongside the road and loading it into a truck at 9:00 p.m. CO VanGelderren responded to the area and began to interview friends and family members of the suspect. The suspect eventually called the COs and asked to meet with them to turn himself in. The suspect met with the COs and brought the dead button buck along. The suspect said that he did not have any luck hunting, so he got excited when he and his dad saw a deer standing alongside the road. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Angela Greenway received a complaint of a subject that had harvested a 9-point buck and a doe with a crossbow just before the firearm deer season and never purchased a license. CO Greenway was able to make contact with the suspect at his house. While CO Greenway was conducting an interview with the suspect, his roommate was attempting to hide the meat out the back door of the house. After several minutes of talking with the suspect, a full confession was obtained, and the meat was recovered. CO Greenway issued two citations, seized the hunter crossbow and meat from the two illegal deer.

CO Angela Greenway was selected by the Mecosta and Osceola County Law Enforcement Advisory Board for the Criminal Justice program. The board has about 15 to 20 members including, but not limited to the Sheriff of Mecosta County, Chief of Public Safety at Ferris State University, and the Chief of the Big Rapids City Public Safety, Fire and Rescue.

DISTRICT 5

CO Phil Hudson recently contacted an angler on Saginaw Bay. When CO Hudson asked to see his fishing license and fish, the angler immediately admitted he was over limit. CO Hudson counted out the perch and the angler was 43 perch over the limit. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling backroads in rural Gladwin County, CO Mark Papineau observed a vehicle slow rolling and repeatedly stopping in the middle of the roadway. CO Papineau activated his emergency lights and stopped the vehicle. During initial contact, the passenger of the vehicle appeared very uncomfortable and nervous. As the conversation continued, the subjects admitted to "road hunting" after dark for deer and an uncased firearm was located in the backseat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Papineau responded to reports of a trespassing complaint on the Gladwin/Clare County line. CO Papineau was informed that during the afternoon of November 17, a single gunshot was heard coming from an adjacent property followed by a subject trespassing wearing full camouflage. The complainant advised CO Papineau that they had numerous issues with a particular neighboring property owner. CO Papineau was able to make contact with the suspect and obtain a full confession. It was also determined that the subject was unlicensed at the time the 5-point buck was shot. Warrants are being sought for various violations including taking a deer without a license, recreational trespassing, and failure to wear hunter orange.

CO Mark Papineau received a report of several deer carcasses dumped in a private lake in northern Gladwin County. While investigating the complaint, CO Papineau made contact with numerous subjects hunting an adjoining private deer camp. During an informal conversation with the hunters, CO Papineau obtained a confession on the illegal dumping of the carcasses. During further investigation, several members of the secluded private deer camp had been hunting without licenses since 2010. It was also determined that one of the dumped deer carcasses had been shot a week prior to the firearm opener without a license. After a consent walk-around of the camp, CO Papineau discovered an untagged antlerless deer stashed in the woods. With the discovery of the untagged deer, one of the hunters quickly confessed to taking the deer without a license. In total, two subjects were cited for hunting without a license, one for taking a deer without a license, and a warrant is being sought for another member for taking a deer without a license.

CO Joshua Wright received a complaint referencing an 8-point buck that was killed during bow season. It was reported that the suspect was a non-resident and that he was hunting without a license. CO Wright and CO Gainforth tracked the man down and located the buck that had been shot. Upon interviewing the suspect, the suspect informed both COs that he did plan to purchase a license eventually so that he could take the deer to the taxidermist. Enforcement action was taken for possessing an untagged deer.

CO Joshua Wright and CO Steve Lockwood received a complaint via Central Dispatch regarding a rifle shot that had rang out after hunting hours during the tail end of archery season. The COs contacted the complainant and gathered information regarding the suspects. The COs were able to locate blood on one of the suspect's large bait piles and tracked the suspects back to their residence. Upon interviewing the subjects, their story started out with a twist. Both suspects claimed to be out coyote hunting. They further claimed to have shot at a coyote and the bullet missed the coyote and struck a nearby deer. They further claimed to "panic" after shooting the deer and then went to the local store to buy a deer tag. Their far-fetched story did not hold up long and they eventually confessed to their improper activity.

CO Joshua Wright, CO Steve Lockwood, CO Ethan Gainforth and Sgt. Jon Wood received a complaint after dark about a barn with several untagged deer hanging inside. The specific location was reported as "three and a half miles from a named road." The problem was they did not specify east or west of the named road. COs could only narrow the location down to a seven mile stretch of road that ran through both Clare and Gladwin Counties. The COs split up and began knocking on doors in an attempt to locate the deer. CO Lockwood and CO Wright located a farm in which the owner admitted to having several deer in the barn. While speaking with the owner, CO Lockwood noticed a young subject dart from the house to the barn in the dark and he appeared to be in a real hurry. With CO Lockwood fast on his heels, he was able to catch the subject who was frantically attempting to put tags on the three untagged deer. The subject admitted to taking all three deer and never putting tags on them. Enforcement action was taken for the untagged deer.

CO Nick Atkin responded to an illegal woodcutting complaint on state land. The investigation found that the woodcutters were in possession of the proper permits and no violations were present. CO Atkin then re-contacted the complainant, along with his passenger, who were both in a vehicle down the road. During the conversation, both subjects openly bragged about killing nice bucks during the firearm season. A quick check of their unused licenses raised some suspicions about the passenger. It seems he handed CO Atkin a hunting license with a date of birth that did not appear to match what would be appropriate for his appearance. Further interviews and investigation led to the passenger admitting that he was a non-resident. He went on to admit that he had hunted without a license. After he killed the nice 8-point buck, he asked his son to purchase a resident tag and he was then able to borrow the tag from his son. Warrants are being sought for the subject and his son.

Working the wee hours of the morning, CO Nick Atkin located a vehicle shining in a rural part of Arenac County. The suspect vehicle led CO Atkin on a high-speed chase which ended up at a local tavern in a small rural community. Driver and passengers dispersed into the establishment and attempted to blend in. With assistance from the Arenac Sheriff's Department, the driver was located and arrested. Interviews with the driver led to more names and an admission that the group of men in the vehicle had just used a spotlight to shoot at a deer prior to the pursuit. The driver was lodged in the local jail and numerous warrants are being sought for the other individuals involved.

While patrolling a rural part of northern Oscoda County during the last week of archery season, CO Casey Pullum noticed a deer lying in the roadway. The deer got up and ran into the ditch before lying down again. CO Pullum noticed blood coming from the side of the deer. After dispatching it, he attempted to locate the owner of the recent kill. Looking around it was obvious the deer came off private property. With the help of CO Bobbi Lively, they tracked it back to a baited blind about 60 yards into the woods. During the track, a bolt from a crossbow was located with blood on it. At the blind, CO Pullum could see a crossbow lying in the blind with bolts that matched the one they had found. A very obvious foot path led from the blind back to the same camp where neither hunter had admitted to seeing any deer. During a second interview, the older male subject admitted to shooting the deer. However, he claimed it was too small and he didn't want to waste his kill tag so he didn't track it. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader took a complaint from a hunter on state land in Ogemaw County. He said he had located a dead deer near a bait pile right in front of a tree stand. The deer was slightly bloated and look as if it had been there a day or two. There were also multiple live trees cut for a shooting lane. CO Bader located the tree stand and the dead deer. After multiple interviews at a hunting camp and in the West Branch area, CO Bader developed a suspect. He interviewed the man who confessed to shooting the deer opening morning of firearm deer season, knowing he didn't have a license for it. Since he couldn't tag it, he just moved it aside and continued to hunt, later killing two more bucks. He was cited for taking a deer without a license. Another person at the camp was cited for cutting live trees on state land.

CO Kyle Cherry and CO Jeff Panich were on patrol in Alcona County when they saw a house with three deer hanging in the front yard. They approached the residence and greeted three hunters in the yard. After talking with them, the COs found out that all three deer were shot over bait in a restricted baiting area. The hunters showed the COs the bait piles where they shot the deer. The COs soon became suspicious of one of the hunters after he was very weary in describing when the deer had been shot. After talking further with him, the COs found that the man had shot the deer without a license and bought one after the fact. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jonathan Warner was contacted by Iosco County Central Dispatch to investigate a possible car submerged in Lake Huron. A helicopter had noticed the wreck while flying along the shoreline south of Tawas City. CO Warner arrived on scene and used polarized sunglasses from an elevated position to confirm the report. A tow company was contacted to remove the car, which was approximately 150 feet from the shoreline completely submerged. Further investigation determined that the car had been in Lake Huron for approximately one week. The owner has been contacted and the investigation is still ongoing.

CO John Huspen received a complaint of a subject possibly hunting over bait using an artificial light. The subject was hunting out of a small wooden shed. He had about five

apples for bait and a 60 watt utility light shining on the bait. The subject had a loaded crossbow when contacted by CO Huspen. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Huspen contacted a subject for the third time in four years for hunting over too much bait. CO Huspen located the subject this year hunting about a mile away for the two previous contacts. Each of the three piles of bait had been the size of a pickup truck box. CO Huspen explained to the subject two years ago during that contact that if the over baiting continued he could be charged as a habitual offender. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Hearn and CO Sam Schluckbier received information of a convicted felon that was allegedly hunting with a rifle in Orange Township the opening day of firearm deer season. The COs responded to the area and were in proximity to a single rifle shot that was fired. The shot was tracked back, and the felon was located, hunting on private property. The suspect told the COs that he had shot and missed a 10-point buck. However, during the investigation it was found that he had shot a small spike, which was in violation of the antler point restrictions for Kalkaska County. The suspect was subsequently arrested and lodged in the Kalkaska County Jail without incident.

CO Mike Hearn and CO Matt Liestenfeltz made contact with a suspicious vehicle during a recent snow storm. Although the weather was severe, the windows on the passenger side were both down. Upon seeing the COs, the vehicle attempted to speed up and ignore the COs. A traffic stop was conducted. During the investigation, uncased guns, open intoxicants, and marijuana were located inside the vehicle. One of the suspects also had multiple warrants for his arrest. The suspects were arrested without incident. During a license check with a firearm deer hunter afield, CO Mike Hearn detected the odor of marijuana. The suspect denied having narcotics on his person, and said he had smoked the drug several hours before. The suspect was searched and several marijuana cigarettes were found in his clothing. The suspect was questioned again and admitted smoking the drug just an hour before. The hunter was checked for impairment, and subsequently placed under arrest.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz was called out on a late shooting complaint that occurred near a private land deer camp in Missaukee County during archery season. CO Liestenfeltz made contact with a North Carolina resident, who after a lengthy interview, confessed to having shot at a deer with a firearm. The suspect was arrested for hunting without a license and attempt to take deer with firearm closed season. A second suspect who had left camp earlier that evening was also cited for hunting deer without a license.

CO Chris Bowen responded to a wild fire that had been started by hunters. The hunters had been successful in taking a deer. One of the hunters made a fire to make lunch while two others tended to the deer. The fire spread and became large very quickly. The hunters attempted to extinguish the fire but were unsuccessful. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben McAteer, CO Sam Schuckbier and Sgt. Jeremy Payne worked a nighttime shining patrol during the month of November with the aid of a Department air plane. The plane located a suspect vehicle shining near the Missaukee Kalkaska county line

and COs the responded. After the stop was made, three pistols and one spotlight was located. The driver and passenger were lodged for shining with a weapon.

DISTRICT 6

CO Will Brickel made contact with a suspect in Saginaw County, Richland Township who was reported to have already shot his two bucks for the year during archery season and was continuing to hunt during the rifle season. CO Brickel located the suspect vehicle and checked for blood and rifle cases. Later that day contact was made with the suspect. He had a 5-point buck he had shot that morning with his tag on it. After a short interview, CO Brickel obtained a confession from the suspect that he had already shot his two bucks that year and had used his wife's tag. A ticket was issued.

CO Will Brickel and CO Quincy Gowenlock received a complaint at the Saint Charles Field Office of subjects waterfowl hunting out of their zones. The COs loaded a canoe into the patrol truck and drove to the Shiawassee River SGA. They launched the canoe and paddled through the whiteout conditions until they spotted four subjects beginning to pull their boat over the dike. The COs questioned the hunters as to what zones they were in and the hunters stated they were all in different zones. When separated, the hunters' stories began to fall apart. After a few minutes of questioning, the hunters finally admitted to all hunting in zone 5 because that's where the ducks were flying. The COs conducted a bag limit check and the hunters did very well with all taking their limits of mallard ducks. Citations were issued to the three hunters that were hunting out of their zones.

While on patrol in Huron County, CO Kyle Bucholtz observed two individuals sitting in a parked truck. One of the subjects had a long gun hanging out the window. CO Bucholtz made contact with the individuals. The driver admitted to hunting from the truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Byars observed some suspicious activity on the opening day of the firearm season for whitetail deer. CO Byars made contact with a suspect with two dead deer (one buck and one doe) that had been shot. The suspect told the CO that he didn't shoot the doe and that it came out of state land wounded and that he didn't have a doe tag. CO Byars left the deer and returned to the location a couple of hours later with Sgt. Kimmerly. CO Byars noticed the deer had been field dressed and missing. The COs investigated the scene and determined the deer did not come from state land but was shot there and dropped on the spot. The COs contacted the suspect again and he confessed to shooting both deer. A ticket was issued for a tagging violation.

CO Chad Foerster made a traffic stop in northern Bay County and found the driver to be in possession of two deer, one antlered and one antlerless. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the hunters were hunting in northern Michigan on their way home to central Michigan and the antlerless deer had a southern Michigan kill tag attached. The subject confessed to being unsuccessful in the antlerless drawing for the northern county that he hunts so while at the license vendor, he went down the list of counties

until he found one where he could buy an over-the-counter antlerless permit. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Haas located an illegal stand on state land where numerous large shooting lanes had been cut. During the opening day of Michigan's rifle season, CO Haas located a hunter in full camouflage rifle hunting in the stand. The illegal cutting of numerous trees, the unmarked stand on public land and not wearing hunter orange were addressed. Enforcement action was taken.

While conducting a meat processor inspection, CO Mike Haas located a deer with a suspicious tag attached. The hunting tag had been bought just a couple hours prior. CO Haas went to the hunter's residence and interviewed her about her deer. The hunter stated she shot the small buck early morning on November 15th. CO Haas then pointed out she had not bought her license until the early afternoon on November 15th. After a short discussion, the woman admitted to shooting the deer prior to purchasing her hunting license. A review of the woman's hunting license purchases suggested she had hunted the past ten years and not purchased a license until after harvesting a deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Haas contacted a family that had a large buck in their garage and asked them about their hunt. The father and daughter stated that they had went out hunting the day prior and the daughter shot the deer which was her first buck. CO Haas noticed some discrepancies in the story and the deer license, but congratulated the hunter and left. After looking into the hunter's license purchases, CO Haas was able to determine that both hunters were hunting without a license and only purchased a license after the buck was shot. CO Haas called the daughter and expressed his suspicions but the woman continued to stick to her story. CO Haas then stopped back at the house where the deer was located and spoke with the father again. The gentleman eventually admitted to hunting without deer licenses, buying their deer license after shooting the deer and lying to CO Haas previously. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

On opening day of the firearm deer season CO Robert Hobkirk was foot patrolling property owned by the Michigan Nature Association due to trespassing complaints. CO Hobkirk encountered a hunter trespassing on the MNA. The hunter was also not wearing hunter orange. He was cited for the hunter orange violation and warned about trespassing.

While on patrol in Isabella County, CO Mike Haas and CO Dan Robinson observed a vehicle traveling towards them. The COs could see a light shining out the passenger side window intermittently. The COs initiated a traffic stop and found an adult male driver and a vehicle full of young kids. The driver stated that he was taking the kids out to look for deer. There were no weapons in the vehicle and the COs warned the driver and the young man in the passenger seat for shining during the month of November.

Sgt. Ron Kimmerly took a complaint of a single gunshot early in the morning just before the firearm deer opener. Sgt. Kimmerly searched the area with assistance from a

Saginaw County Deputy. They located a large bait pile behind a house close to where the shot was heard. They also found a fresh 4-10 slug casing between the house and garage only 30 yards from the bait pile. When the suspect was asked if he had been doing any shooting this morning he advised he had not. Sgt. Kimmerly advised him he would have one more opportunity to be truthful with him. The suspect then said he shot a .22 rifle at some squirrels behind the house. Sgt. Kimmerly removed the 4-10 shotgun casing from his pocket and showed the subject. The suspect apologized for lying and stated that he shot at a deer with his 4-10, but missed. Further investigation showed that he did in fact miss. The violations included attempting to take a deer with a firearm during the closed season, hunting deer with no license and baiting over the legal limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Lowell received a complaint regarding a hunter that was hunting from the back of his truck and not wearing hunter orange. The CO made his way to the state land where the complaint originated and located the hunter. The hunter was sitting in the back of his truck in a pop-up blind with a loaded firearm in hand. The hunter was not wearing hunter orange and admitted to shooting a doe from his blind the previous day. Tickets were issued for having a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle and for failing to wear hunter orange while firearm deer hunting.

CO Ken Lowell was conducting a deer processor inspection and located an 8-point buck that was shot on November 15th and the tag was purchased the same day. CO Lowell made contact with the suspect and talked with her about her hunt. After a short discussion, it was determined that she did not shoot the buck, but she bought a tag for her son. CO Lowell then made contact with the hunter who shot the deer and received a full confession. The hunter also admitted that he had already shot two bucks with his bow and this was his third buck of the year. Tickets were issued for taking an over-limit of bucks and using the deer tag of another.

CO Joseph Myers and CO Josh Russell received a complaint of two bucks being taken in Sumner Township where one of the bucks was not claimed by the hunter. The investigation revealed the hunter did in fact shoot two bucks and failed to retrieve and tag the first buck he shot in the evening. Further investigation found that the hunter also had an over-limit of bait and had put out poison for raccoons. Tickets were issued for the tagging violation and poison.

CO Joel Lundberg stopped a vehicle for a traffic infraction and walked up to the vehicle and found two uncased rifles in the passenger's laps. One passenger had an old spot of blood on his shoe as well. After a thorough investigation, it was determined that both hunters had been hunting the first two days of the firearm deer season without licenses and one individual had shot a big 8-point buck and had it hanging at the house without a license attached. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg checked two hunters on state land and while approaching them, one hunter got a knife out and frantically began to try to validate his deer license. CO Lundberg located a gunshot doe that the hunters had been dragging, with no license

attached. Neither hunter had an antlerless tag for the deer. The hunters admitted they were just going to go to the store and buy an antlerless deer license for the deer for whatever area of the state still had antlerless licenses available and put it on the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg located a hunter hanging a deer up to begin processing it. CO Lundberg contacted the hunter and found the hunter had not tagged the deer and advised he shot the other deer that was hanging on November 12th. After a close inspection of that deer, it was obvious it was shot with a shotgun. The hunter admitted to shooting the other deer on November 12th with a shotgun during archery season from the window of his cabin. Enforcement action was taken

CO Joel Lundberg stopped and spoke with a hunter who had shot a deer the first day of the firearm deer season. CO Lundberg checked the hunter's deer license and discovered it was purchased after the first day of the season. After further interviewing the hunter, he admitted to killing two nice bucks the first two days of the season and went and bought another combo deer license and reported his original combo deer license as being lost. The deer were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jill Miller attended an event in Bay County talking to Cub Scouts about gun safety. There were over 50 kids and adults in attendance.

CO Jay Person followed-up on two separate Report All Poaching complaints that focused on Facebook posts. The first subject had posted two illegal deer (one back in 2013) and an illegal turkey. When presented with the photo evidence and a print out of when he purchased his licenses, or lack thereof, the subject admitted to taking all three animals illegally. The second/separate subject was also presented with the same type of evidence and admitted to taking his deer illegally. Charges have been filed on both subjects.

CO Jay Person assisted the Midland County Sheriff's Department on a search for a two year old boy that walked away from his residence with the family dog. His socks were found by a river that is a short distance from the residence. There was also evidence that he had entered the river, but then got back out. A Midland City Police K9 unit started the track there. The boy had been missing for about four hours when a neighbor on the road a half mile to the north went out to help. He came to a pipeline just behind his residence and found the small boy hugging a tree. The man picked up the boy and turned him over to the K9 officer who was a few hundred feet away. The young boy was checked out by EMS and found to be in good health. He was returned to his parents for a happy ending for all involved.

While checking anglers at the Lexington Harbor, CO Seth Rhodea contacted an angler that was in possession of an over-limit of Atlantic salmon. The angler was cited and the over-limit of fish was seized.

CO Seth Rhodea and CO Mark Siemen received information that a subject from Argyle Township in Sanilac County had shot a 7-point buck on November 16th with a rifle. The deer was located and was hanging in the subject's grandfather's shed. The COs examined the deer and it was determined the deer had been shot with a rifle in the limited firearm zone. Contact was made with the subject and a confession was given by the subject. Enforcement action was taken and all evidence was seized.

CO Seth Rhodea and CO Jason Smith worked an area with a large number of Atlantic salmon. When the COs arrived to the location, they immediately observed a subject attempting to snag fish. The subject would stop snagging anytime anyone came into his area and then resume immediately after they left. After a couple hours of observation, contact was made with the subject as he was getting ready to leave and he was cited for snagging.

CO Seth Rhodea and CO Jason Smith investigated a complaint in Tuscola County of a deer that was possibly shot with a firearm the day before the firearm deer season started. Upon contacting the suspect, he was found hunting over an illegal bait pile and not wearing hunter orange. After a brief interview, the hunter admitted to shooting a deer with a gun the night before gun season opened. The firearm and deer were seized and the subject was cited for several violations.

While on patrol in Isabella County, CO Dan Robinson was dispatched to a shots fired complaint. The complainant stated that her trailer house had been shot and reported that it happened sometime while she was gone the day before. CO Robinson checked the outside of the house and found a large hole in the steel siding of the mobile home. The projectile went through the side of the house, into another room, ricocheted off the ceiling and dented the wall on the other side. CO Robinson and the complainant searched the room and recovered a large rock that did not belong. Further questioning, and the fact that the grass appeared cut, revealed that the complainant's neighbor mowed her grass the day before, also during the time when she was not home. The rock also fit the entry hole where the projectile went through the metal sheeting. The complainant and the CO were glad to find out that her house had not been hit by negligent gunfire, but rather by a rock that had been thrown by the mower.

While patrolling during the firearm deer opener, CO Dan Robinson was out on foot when he heard what sounded like an air-horn. Knowing that was unusual, CO Robinson began listening to locate the source, thinking that maybe a hunter was in trouble. CO Robinson found the source and witnessed a subject blowing an air horn out the window of his car while sitting stationary on his property. After watching the subject for a while, CO Robinson made contact with him and he stated that he was making as much noise as he could that morning to keep the deer away and mess up his neighbor's hunting. The subject was unhappy with where the neighbor placed his blind. Enforcement action was taken against the subject for hunter harassment.

CO Josh Russell received a complaint of hunter harassment on opening day. The subject was banging on pipes, shooting his gun, and driving his ORV up and down the

property line at daylight and just before dark. CO Russell sat in the complainant's blind one morning and witnessed all of the above actions occur. CO Russell then made contact with the subject and explained what he was doing was a criminal offense. A ticket for hunter harassment was issued.

CO Mark Siemen received information that a female subject from the Sandusky area had shot an 8-point buck during bow season without a deer license. CO Siemen made contact with her and a confession was obtained. All evidence was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen and CO Jason Smith conducted a late night patrol for subjects fishing from the Lexington Harbor in Sanilac County. The COs received information of fishermen netting Atlantic salmon from the boat docks in the harbor. COs conducted surveillance late into the night and early morning hours, and watched four subjects that were netting the salmon. After watching them, contact was made. The subjects had three salmon with them and eight more salmon in plastic bags in the back of a van. After the investigation was complete, all subjects were issued citations for netting the salmon and all evidence was seized.

While on patrol in Tuscola County, CO Joshua Wright observed a vehicle that appeared to be road hunting. After stopping the vehicle, it was found that the operator had an uncased gun in his possession. Enforcement action was taken.

On an evening patrol in Tuscola County, CO Joshua Wright encountered a hunter deer hunting outside the legal hours. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Mike Mshar was on patrol in rural Allegan County when he observed a pickup truck traveling slowly on the opposite shoulder of the roadway against traffic. CO Mshar made contact with the driver as he pulled into a driveway and stopped. During this contact, CO Mshar observed a cased long gun and other hunting equipment in the truck. The subject stated he didn't hunt and was just looking around. CO Mshar then observed a single deer hair in the bed of the pickup truck. The subject stated that it was from a deer his brother had taken. The driver, however, could not remember if it was a buck or a doe. During the contact, the brother drove by and stopped to see if everything was okay. CO Mshar inquired about the deer that the brother shot. The brother stated he hadn't shot a deer. When CO Mshar explained to the subjects that their stories did not make sense, the second subject finally admitted to killing a 6-point buck and not tagging it. CO Mshar recovered the deer at a nearby residence. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mshar received a Report All Poaching complaint of a subject who posted a picture on Facebook of a buck he harvested with a bow. There was no record, however, of the subject purchasing any licenses since 2013. CO Mshar made contact and interviewed the subject. During this interview, the subject admitted to killing the buck and a doe without purchasing hunting licenses. He also admitted to hunting the first few days of

gun season without purchasing a license. The deer and equipment were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Mshar received a complaint of a subject shooting a buck from the window of his pickup truck. CO Mshar responded to the area and located the vehicle and one subject. The shooter had left on foot to track the deer he had shot and would not return. After several hours, CO Mshar was able to locate the shooter with the help of the phone company as they tracked his cell phone. The subject was on foot over a mile away from the scene. CO Mshar interviewed the subject who admitted to shooting from the vehicle. He stated he did it because he has a bad heart and really wanted to get a deer. CO Mshar and CO Chuck Towns returned the following morning and were able to locate the gun, which the subject had hid in the field, as well as the deer, which was mortally wounded in the woodlot. The gun and deer were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Paul Higashi assisted in the rescue of a man who became lost in the woods for an extended period in the cold weather near Sugarloaf Lake in Kalamazoo County. The person was out walking in a wetlands area and became stuck in mud. A local firefighter search team ultimately located the person and carried him to CO Higashi's vehicle. CO Higashi transported the person to an awaiting ambulance.

CO Gerard Goulette responded to a call with the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department regarding a subject shooting a shotgun near some houses in a residential area. The subject said he was duck hunting on the pond in his yard and said he was only hunting in the one corner of the pond because that was the only spot far enough away from surrounding houses. When CO Goulette and the deputy searched the area they did not find any evidence of hunting at the location the subject claimed. Searching the area revealed shotgun shells in other locations around the pond that were too close to neighboring houses. Illegal shotgun shells containing lead shot were also found that were fresh. After looking closely at the shotgun shells, CO Goulette suspected that there was a second subject hunting there as well and after lying about it several times, the subject called his friend back to the scene. Both subjects were charged with violations of hunting within a safety zone and one subject was charged with using lead shot to hunt waterfowl.

CO Mike Wells and CO Greg Patten investigated a deer shot during bow season without a license. The suspect was revoked from hunting due to prior violations. The deer killed was an 11-point buck. The suspect used his girlfriend's license to tag the deer. The Muskegon County Prosecutor authorized a three count warrant for illegally killing the deer, taking game while revoked, and using another's license. The suspect faces 10 to 180 days in jail and fines of \$500.00 to \$2,000.00, up to an 11 year license revocation, and \$10,250.00 in reimbursement for the deer on the first charge. He faces 180 days in jail and a fine of \$500.00 to \$2,500.00 for taking game while revoked. He also faces misdemeanor charges for using another person's license. The woman who tagged the deer faces misdemeanor charges for loaning her license.

CO David Rodgers responded to a safety zone / trespass complaint. Upon arrival, CO Rodgers encountered a female subject that stated both deer were in the pole barn and that her boyfriend had shot them. Inside the pole barn, a partially processed button buck and a doe were located. A third deer carcass was also located. None of the deer had been tagged. The firearm and deer were seized, and a citation was given for taking an antlerless deer without a license.

CO David Rodgers located a truck parked on Whites Bridge with an open empty gun case on the front seat of the truck. Inside the open case was a .30.06 round. Thinking someone was using a rifle in the shotgun zone and possibly road hunting, CO Rodgers attempted to locate the subject. He was able to locate three subjects and two more trucks parked at the back of the property. CO Rodgers did not locate the rifle, but he did find a buck that had not been tagged at one of the vehicles. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg responded to a complaint of two subjects hunting from a vehicle on commercial forest land. CO Ulberg arrived on scene and contacted one of the hunters sitting in his vehicle. A loaded uncased shotgun was located in the passenger seat of the vehicle. While speaking with the subject, CO Ulberg noticed the smell of marijuana. When the subject was questioned about the smell he produced a small glass jar of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg investigated several complaints of subjects buying their deer licenses after harvesting deer. Photos of the subjects posing with the deer were located on social media websites and a records check showed that none of the subjects had current deer licenses when the photographs were taken. CO Ulberg interviewed the subjects and obtained confessions on three separate incidents. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ivan Perez had a vehicle pull alongside his patrol vehicle and ask if everything was O.K. CO Perez told the driver everything was fine. She stated that she thought something was wrong because her neighbor had just shot a deer that had gone on her property and was waiting for them to collect it. CO Perez followed her to where she had last seen the deer only to find drag marks. CO Perez returned to his vehicle and went to the neighbor's residence to find a father and his son dragging the deer to the back of the residence. The deer was untagged and when asked about the kill tag, the son went to his vehicle to retrieve it. CO Perez learned that the son had shot the deer, located it on the neighbor's property, and then returned to the residence to get his father to help him retrieve the deer. He never thought about grabbing his kill tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ivan Perez was conducting a processor inspection when he checked a rather large 9-point buck with a tag that was purchased the night before at approximately 7 pm. The buck was at the processors the following morning by 9 am. With the assistance of CO Justin Ulberg, he was able to confirm using a thermometer and Time of Death training that the deer had been dead between 9 to 20 hours prior to being brought to the processor. Armed with that information, the suspect quickly confessed that he had shot

the deer at approximately 5:30 pm the evening prior and then purchased his license. This is one of the biggest bucks in recent memory being taken in central Ottawa County. Enforcement action was taken.

During the same processor check, CO Ivan Perez also discovered a small 4-point buck with a kill tag that had been purchased the prior evening at about 5 pm and was validated for the same day it was purchased. A check of the history of the purchaser showed a female who had only purchased a single deer license, with no other purchases in her history. A further check showed that a male at that residence had only a few fishing licenses and a single deer license purchased back in 2012. When contact was made at the residence, CO Perez learned that the male in question was the husband of the female who had the kill tag on the deer. When asked about the deer, he stated that he took his wife out hunting and that she got really lucky and shot a deer right away. CO Perez asked if he was hunting also and he replied that he was. When CO Perez informed him that not only did his wife not have a hunter's safety certificate, but that he had not purchased a deer license for this year, he confessed to killing the deer himself and having his wife purchase a kill tag so he could take it to the processor. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Zach Bauer was on patrol with Sgt. Zach Doss, when they witnessed a hunter in a field with improper hunter orange. Further investigation also revealed that the hunter was hunting without kill tags in his possession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Saykham Keophalychanh submitted a warrant request for felony firearm and felon in possession of a firearm. The incident stems from a complaint that CO Keophalychanh received from CO Matt Page where a subject had possibly shot a deer before firearm deer season. CO Keophalychanh responded and subsequently found a subject with a deer that he claimed he had shot with a crossbow. CO Keophalychanh examined the deer and found that it had been shot with a shotgun in the neck. A firearm was recovered and the suspect was found to be prohibited from possessing a firearm. A citation for the illegal deer was issued, with the additional warrants being sought for the suspect.

CO Tyler Cole and CO Matt Page conducted a deer processor inspection and discovered a 9-point buck taken in Illinois. The deer was then transported to Michigan and taken to a processor. Contact was made with the individual who admitted to taking the deer in Illinois and transporting it across state lines back to Michigan. The deer was seized for CWD testing and a citation was issued for violating the CWD importation regulations.

CO Tyler Cole received a complaint in reference to a deer carcass dumped on private property. A kill tag was found along with the carcass. CO Cole and CO Jeff Robinette made contact with the owner of the kill tag. After questioning, it was discovered that the deer was taken outside of the deer management unit for the antlerless deer, along with the individual admitting to the illegal dumping of the carcass. Citations were issued for both the illegally taken deer and the littering violation.

CO Matt Page was patrolling Cornish State Game Area on opening day of firearm season when he observed a group of hunters dragging a doe out of the field towards the road. CO Page made contact and observed an untagged doe. The subject stated that he did not have a knife to validate his tag. After reviewing the subject's hunting license, it was found that he did not possess a public land antlerless permit. The doe was seized and a citation was issued to the hunter for taking the deer without a proper antlerless license.

CO Matt Page while patrolling a nature conservancy checked some hunters coming out of the woods on a side-by-side ATV over a half hour after legal shooting hours. CO Page observed a subject in the back of the ATV with a loaded and uncased firearm in his hands. After checking all hunting licenses, the operator of the ATV advised CO Page that his wife had shot a 4-point buck in archery season. After further questioning, the man changed his story that his wife didn't have a license and he actually killed the 4-point buck. The deer antlers were located by CO Mooney and it was in fact, a 3-point buck tagged with the subject's restricted license. The husband was cited for transporting the loaded gun on a motor vehicle and the wife was cited for taking the buck without a license.

CO Steve Mooney received information that a subject had shot a 12-point buck without a hunting license and had purchased the license after-the-fact. CO Mooney investigated and obtained a confession from the subject that he had hunted without a license, had killed the buck, and then bought the license. In addition, it was discovered that the subject had never taken hunter's safety as required. The deer was seized and the subject was cited for taking the deer without a valid hunting license.

CO Steve Mooney received information from a VanBuren County Deputy that he had stopped a subject that was transporting a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle. CO Mooney responded and discovered that the subject had shot and wounded an antlerless deer and had committed recreational trespass while tracking the deer. In addition, the subject did not have an antlerless deer license. CO Mooney tracked the wounded deer and put the mortally wounded deer down and cited the subject for both the loaded gun in the vehicle and for taking an antlerless deer without a license.

CO Jeff Robinette made contact with a hunter who stated that he had missed a buck a short time before CO Robinette made contact with him. CO Robinette checked his hunting licenses and discovered that the subject had forgotten to bring his hunting license with him and that he had only purchased antlerless deer licenses. CO Robinette cited the subject for being afield without his kill tags and explained what would have happened if he had actually killed the buck.

CO Andy Bauer, CO Saykahm Keophalychanh, CO Steve Mooney, CO Jeff Robinette and Sgt. Zach Doss conducted a group patrol at the Michigan/Indiana state line targeting violations of the CWD importation of deer regulations. During the patrol, two vehicles were stopped and four deer from CWD positive states were brought into Michigan whole, not complying with Michigan's CWD regulations. All four deer were

seized, bagged in biohazard bags, and sent to the Wildlife Lab for CWD testing. The four subjects that brought the deer into Michigan were cited for violating the CWD deer importation regulations.

DISTRICT 8

CO Shane Webster investigated a report of a subject who had killed a deer without a license. CO Webster gathered evidence and confronted the subject who confessed that he had killed an 8-point buck prior to purchasing a license the next day. Charges are being sought through the prosecutor's office.

CO Shane Webster responded to a complaint of waterfowl hunters shooting a swan. CO Webster was able to locate the area the hunters had been in and eventually located a Trumpeter Swan that was still alive, but could not fly. The hunters had left the area and the investigation is continuing.

CO Shane Webster observed a hunter in a tree not wearing hunter orange. As he approached, the hunter became agitated and demanded to know why he was being contacted. CO Webster advised the man that it was because of the lack of hunter orange. The man flipped his hat inside out to the "orange" side and asked if that was better. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster investigated a suspicious license purchase after a processor inspection. The subject was contacted and quickly admitted that he did not shoot the deer and had never been hunting in his life. He had asked his uncle to shoot him a deer and then supplied the tag after the 4-point buck was killed. The uncle was contacted and admitted the story was true. Charges are pending through the prosecutor's office. CO Todd Thorn contacted some hunters at their camp who were preparing to head into the field. CO Thorn asked if they had any success and was told by one of the hunters that he had recently shot an 8-point buck. CO Thorn asked to see hunting licenses as they had firearms with them and the hunter who just said that he had shot an 8-point handed CO Thorn two unused buck tags. The hunter was asked what he tagged the 8-point with. He slumped his shoulders and said he didn't tag it. The hunter retrieved the antlers and gave them to CO Thorn, along with photos of the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn located a pickup truck parked in a field in Vevay Township, Ingham County, and saw that there was an empty gun case in the front seat. CO Thorn looked further and saw a fresh set of antlers with blood and hair in the bed of the truck. CO Thorn waited until hunting hours were over and watched a man with a shotgun walk to the truck. CO Thorn contacted the hunter and found a loaded, uncased shotgun on the passenger seat and learned that the hunter didn't have any license purchases since 2009. CO Thorn investigated further and found that the hunter had recently shot two deer, which were located by CO Thorn. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Neterer assisted Bath Township PD, Dewitt Township PD and the Clinton County Sheriff's Department with a suspected drug deal gone bad near Rose Lake. A Bath Township officer observed a vehicle traveling on the roadway with a subject

hanging out of the back door. As he went to turn around to stop the vehicle, he located a handgun in the roadway. It was discovered that there were two vehicles involved that fled the scene. Two male subjects abandoned their vehicle and fled on foot into the woods. CO Neterer assisted with setting up a perimeter as a K9 unit tracked the suspects. The investigation is ongoing.

While on patrol in Concord Township in Jackson County, CO Chris Maher observed a car driving down the road without a rear tire and sparks coming from behind the vehicle. CO Maher initiated a stop and interviewed the subject. After performing field sobriety evaluations, CO Maher determined the subject was not able to drive. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking a deer processor, CO Andrew Monnich came across a large antlered buck with no kill tag attached to it. After some time, the processor was able to supply a kill tag for the buck. CO Monnich noticed that the tag was bought at noon on opening day of gun season and was improperly validated. CO Monnich also learned that the buck made a few different appearances on some local buck poles the morning of opening day. CO Monnich interviewed the suspect and asked what time the buck was taken. The individual ultimately confessed that he never expected to see a deer, let alone shoot a nice deer on opening morning. The suspect admitted he failed to buy a license prior to going hunting and shooting the buck. The buck was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich responded to a report of a convicted felon hunting with a firearm. CO Monnich and CO Eric Smithers went to the location and made contact with five individuals coming out of the woods well after legal shooting hours with loaded firearms. CO Monnich also identified one of the five men as the felon who was carrying a firearm. Enforcement action was taken for having loaded firearms after legal shooting hours and felon in possession of a firearm.

CO Andrew Monnich and CO Chris Reynolds were on patrol when they received a call from a hunter who observed five hunters trespass onto his property to push deer. While responding to the complaint, the hunter called CO Monnich and stated that the trespassers left the field and he followed them back to the home they came from. Upon arrival, the COs located the five hunters who admitted that they had gone onto the neighbor's property to push deer. Enforcement action was taken for trespassing.

CO Andrew Monnich received a call from a hunter who watched a guy drive out onto neighboring property and set up a pop-up blind and start hunting with no hunter orange. CO Monnich arrived at the location and sat by the hunter's vehicle. A half-hour after dark, the hunter came out of the field carrying two gun cases and wearing no orange. CO Monnich located a 7MM rifle and a .22 rifle with a spot light attached to it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben was patrolling on the morning of the firearm opener when he came across a vehicle parked on the side of the road with a single occupant. CO

Hartleben made contact with the operator and could smell an odor of burnt marijuana coming from the vehicle. CO Hartleben had observed a tree stand in the rear of the vehicle and also noted a suspicious looking red blanket behind the passenger seat. CO Hartleben asked the operator what was under the blanket and the subject stated that it was probably his crossbow. This was confirmed and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough and CO Jeff Goss concluded an 11 month investigation involving a suspect who was killing deer without a license, trespassing and illegally disposing of carcasses. CO McCullough received a complaint of deer carcasses being dumped next to a local business in January. Information gathered from the deer carcasses as well as surveillance video from several local businesses identified a possible suspect and vehicle. In early October, CO Goss and CO McCullough had a suspect flee from private property while trespassing in the same area as the carcass dumping complaint. The COs were able to connect a suspect name with the suspect vehicle, which was registered to another individual. The suspect was found to be a parole absconder that had multiple warrants out of multiple counties. The COs contacted the local fugitive team who picked the suspect up within 24 hours. CO McCullough interviewed the suspect in jail and a confession was obtained for the killing of multiple deer over the last several years without licenses, as well as the dumping of the deer carcasses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough responded to a trespassing complaint. The suspect was observed by neighbors hunting the same property where he had been written numerous tickets for trespassing, dating back to the 1990s. CO McCullough contacted the hunter, and after a brief interview, the hunter apologized to McCullough for continually trespassing. The hunter was cited for recreational trespass, again.

CO Jason McCullough observed a truck pull out into a field after dark and shut off its lights. CO McCullough drove around the section and discovered the house where the hunters were coming from. CO McCullough watched the hunters return to the house and hang up a deer in the garage. When CO McCullough pulled in the driveway one of the subjects quickly pulled the truck out of the garage and tried to run into the house. The other subject tried to close and lock the garage door. After explaining to the hunters that the CO had been watching for quite a while, the hunters became cooperative. The deer was discovered to be untagged, killed without a license, and shot by a convicted felon with a firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Isaac Tyson received an anonymous tip that a local hunter had shot a deer without a license. CO Tyson patrolled by the subject's residence and noticed a truck parked in the back yard. CO Tyson approached the vehicle and located an untagged 8-point buck in the bed of the truck covered by a tarp. CO Tyson contacted a resident who informed him that the hunter had run into town and would be back soon. After a short time, the hunter arrived with a freshly purchased deer license. A confession was obtained. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Isaac Tyson stopped in at a local processor in Branch County and spoke to a hunter who was dropping off an 8-point buck. CO Tyson congratulated the hunter on the deer and asked to hear the story. The hunter told how he shot the buck on opening morning after missing three other bucks. A check of the license revealed that it was purchased after hunting hours on opening day. CO Tyson questioned the hunter, who admitted to having his wife buy a tag for the deer so he could continue hunting. After further questioning, he admitted that his wife does not hunt. Records showed that the hunter's wife had purchased multiple deer licenses in past years, indicating that this was likely not the first time he had borrowed a tag. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

District 9 hosted and put on a hunter safety field day on November 13, 2016 at the VFW Hall in Richmond Michigan for 37 students. CO Chris Knights, CO David Schaumburger, CO Ken Kovach, CO Kris Kiel, Sgt. Damon Owens, and Sgt. Todd Szyska instructed. The class was a huge success and 37 more students are now able to safely hunt in Michigan for the upcoming firearm deer season.

CO Brad Silorey received a complaint from DNR dispatch in regards to a possible suspect who took a deer without a license, posting it to social media. CO Silorey investigated the complaint further and was able to speak to the suspect's father. The father confirmed to CO Silorey that his son did shoot a 5-point buck this year and showed CO Silorey the rack. After a brief check, it was found that the subject never purchased a deer license with kill tag, but had three antlerless tags. CO Silorey asked the father where his son was currently and the father told CO Silorey he was at work. CO Silorey arrived at the subject's place of work and interviewed him on scene. The subject stated that he only killed two antlerless deer this year and that his friend killed two bucks. CO Silorey explained to the subject the penalties of taking the deer without a license, and it was at that time he confessed to taking a 5-point buck without a kill tag. The evidence was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was on patrol at a local deer processor checking for possible violations in Macomb County. After inspecting numerous deer, CO Silorey came across a kill tag on a 10-point antlered deer that looked slightly suspicious. The hunter's kill tag was purchased on the same day that the deer was brought into the processor, which raised a red flag for CO Silorey. After further investigation, it was found that the subject had never purchased any licenses in previous years and had never taken hunters' safety. CO Silorey then interviewed the subject at her residence, who was reluctant to tell the full story. After asking several questions, the subject finally told CO Silorey the truth. The subject stated that her husband went hunting that morning and "forgot" to purchase a tag on the way to his hunting spot. The husband shot the 10-point buck and had no kill tag to put on the deer. He then called his wife and asked her to go purchase a kill tag. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was working waterfowl hunters when he observed a vessel returning to the boat launch in Macomb County. After contacting the individuals, CO Silorey checked the hunter's licenses, equipment, and kills for the day. While checking one hunter's ammo box, CO Silorey found several boxes of lead shot. CO Silorey questioned the subject on why he had toxic lead shot shells while hunting waterfowl. The subject stated that he "forgot" it was in there. The subject also had failed to validate his unattached federal duck stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach received a complaint of a hunter trespassing on a farmer's land by ORV to hunt. CO Kovach was able to follow the subject's ORV tracks to a nearby residence, where the subject was confronted about the issue. A full confession was obtained to the subject shooting a deer while trespassing and retrieving the deer with his ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach followed-up on a tip in St. Clair County of a subject who shot a buck and then went and purchased a deer hunting license. CO Kovach was able to interview the subject at his residence, and obtained a full confession to the violation. Enforcement action was taken.

On opening day, CO Ken Kovach observed a truck in the middle of a section of property in St. Clair County. After some surveillance, CO Kovach made contact with the subjects as they were driving out of the corn field. A check of the vehicle produced two untagged deer in the bed of the pickup truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak was first on scene to a man stranded in the middle of Twin Lake in Lapeer County. The subject was freezing and soaked, but hanging onto his over-turned canoe. CO Zultak inflated his life jacket and tied multiple ropes together, and handed the bundle to a Lapeer County Dive Team member. The Lapeer County Dive Team used fins and a wetsuit to bring the life jacket to the subject. CO Zultak and multiple other law enforcement officers pulled the subject to shore. The subject was so cold he was unable to stand as he was hypothermic. CO Zultak waded into the water and assisted the subject who was transported to the local hospital for treatment.

CO Kris Kiel and CO Brad Silorey patrolled a large parcel of Consumers Energy property in Macomb County by foot due to prior hunting trespass issues. CO Kiel and CO Silorey checked tree stands that CO Kiel had located last year, but was unable to catch or identify the suspects. The COs found an over-limit of fresh bait and ORV tracks near the stands. They decided to set up near the stands in hopes that the hunters would return to them that evening. The COs watched as two hunters, not wearing any hunter orange, climbed into their stands. Contact was made and enforcement action was taken.

Working off of a tip, CO Matthew Zultak investigated a subject who had shot an 8-point whitetail buck in Lapeer County, possibly without any licenses. CO Zultak responded and located the subject and obtained a full confession from the subject who had not purchased any 2016 Michigan deer hunting licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak contacted a suspect in a trespassing complainant in Lapeer County. CO Zultak located a 3-point whitetail buck head hanging from a tree in the subject's yard. Upon further investigation, CO Zultak discovered the subject had not purchased a deer or combo license for 2016. The subject confessed to shooting the deer without a valid license. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking hunting activity in Macomb County on opening day of firearm deer season, CO Joseph Deppen and Sgt. Todd Szyska noticed a hunter without any hunter orange, hunting the powerline property owned by Consumers Energy. After speaking with the hunter, he said he has hunter orange, he just never wears it. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Macomb County on opening day of firearm deer season, CO Joseph Deppen and Sgt. Todd Szyska noticed a hunter at the rear of his UTV in the middle of a cut corn field with an unloaded weapon. The hunter said he was hunting all morning, but did not take a deer. The COs were taken to his hunting area and noticed a heavily baited area, exceeding the two gallon limit. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Macomb County on opening day of firearm deer season, CO Joseph Deppen and Sgt. Todd Szyska noticed a vehicle approaching them from behind at a high rate of speed on a wash board dirt road. As the vehicle passed them, they noticed the vehicle fish-tailing and almost losing control. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle for the careless driving. The driver of the vehicle did not listen to CO Deppen's verbal commands of staying in his vehicle and was agitated. CO Deppen and Sgt. Szyska made contact with the subject who stated he was just on his way home from having an argument with his wife. He said he was watching the smoke blow out from behind his vehicle (dust). The subject continued to become agitated and then complained of heart issues as he had a small bottle of nitroglycerine in his pocket and began taking doses of it. The subject could not stand up without almost passing out. Macomb County Dispatch was called for an ambulance to the location by the COs. The vehicle driver had an EKG ran by responding EMS and refused transport to the hospital. CO Deppen and Sgt. Szyska still dealt with the violations at hand; careless driving, no license plate light, a cracked windshield, and failure to signal when passing. Enforcement action was taken and the COs followed the subject home to make sure he made it there safely.

While on patrol in Macomb County on firearm deer season opener, CO Joseph Deppen and Sgt. Todd Szyska noticed a truck parked on the side of the road, tucked in behind some shrubbery. Two hunters were seen taking off their packs and kneeling down behind the truck. As the COs approached the rear of the vehicle, a strong odor of suspected marijuana was present. When confronted about the marijuana smell surrounding them, one hunter owned up to possessing the marijuana. The subject handed CO Deppen a paper lunch sack full of marijuana, which tested positive with a NIK test conducted by CO Deppen. The marijuana was seized and enforcement action was taken.

While checking Wolcott Mill Metro Park Property on the eve of firearm deer season for illegal shining activity in Macomb County, CO Joseph Deppen and Sgt. Todd Szyska observed several flashlights scanning and panning around in a field well after regular hunting hours had ended. The COs located a pickup truck on the move and conducted a traffic stop. The truck was occupied by three subjects (two in the cab, and one standing up in the back of the truck bed). The trio was nighttime raccoon hunting and had just freshly bagged two raccoons off of the private property. All hunting licenses and identifications were checked, but the subject in the rear of the truck bed was in possession of an uncased .22 long rifle firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher responded to an in-progress safety zone complaint in St. Clair County, and found two subjects in a blind with one gun. The admitted hunter did not have any kill tags in his possession and was not wearing his hunter orange properly. With the use of his laser range finder, CO Lasher was able to obtain the measurement that the blind was 123 yards from the complainant's house. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Raymond Gardner and CO David Schaumburger were conducting a shining patrol near London Township when they observed a flashlight being used to shine farm fields in an attempt to locate game. The COs made contact with a vehicle occupied by two individuals. The COs found out that the individuals both had prior DNR violations, one of them for the exact same violation. The COs asked the subjects if they knew what they were doing was illegal to which they responded "yes." Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Damon Owens and CO Zellinger investigated a RAP complaint of a subject having three untagged deer hanging in a garage. During the investigation, it was determined there was only one untagged deer hanging and a full confession was received from the hunter who harvested the deer. Charges are being sought through the Monroe County Prosecutor's Office.

After receiving a RAP complaint, CO James Zellinger responded to a local state park to check shore fishermen. One angler was in possession of fifty pan fish. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling a managed waterfowl area, CO James Zellinger observed a hunter harvest a duck before legal shooting hours. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger was checking deer at a processor when a hunter pulled up with an antlerless deer in his pickup truck. CO Schaumburger examined the tag and realized the hunter placed his receipt on the deer. He did not have a kill tag placed on it. CO Schaumburger asked why that tag was on there and the hunter stated he must have overlooked it. The CO explained not only did he overlook it, but there was no place on the tag for him to validate it, so he should have realized it then. The hunter also was not in possession of an antlerless tag and the deer was killed during the firearm deer season. The deer was seized and donated to Sportsman Against Hunger. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger was checking waterfowl hunters at Lake St. Clair Metropark and one particular hunter kept stating that all of his shells were in his pocket and he only had a full box in his backpack. CO Schaumburger looked in the backpack and found six lead shells. The hunter stated that he also squirrel hunts and did not clean out his backpack the previous night. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger was checking waterfowl hunters entering the managed units at Pointe Mouille, counting shells and looking for violators possessing more than 25 shells in the managed units. The CO examined one hunter's bag and found 40 shells. The hunter stated that he did not clean out his bag last night and thought it was no big deal because he did not intend to shoot more than 25 times. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking HAP property in northern Genesee County, CO Justin Muehlhauser checked a group of hunters returning after legal hunting hours had expired. One man, hunting with a 20 gauge, was loaded in the barrel outside of legal hunting hours. When the CO asked the man if he knew when the close of hunting hours was he replied, "6:00... I don't know... I just usually stay out until it gets dark". The CO explained that legal hunting hours expired at 5:37, approximately 20 minutes before the contact was made. The CO explained the safety concern being on public land and loaded after hours. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Travis Dragomer received an over-limit of bait complaint in Genesee County. CO Dragomer responded to the area of the complaint and made contact with the hunter. The suspect stated that he had two tons of sugar beets in his back yard. CO Dragomer located the large bait pile and it was approximately two tons of sugar beets. Enforcement action was taken.