

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Report
12/31/2017 – 1/13/2018**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officer (CO) Brian Lasanen assisted the Ontonagon County Sheriff's Department with a snowmobile that caught fire. By the time the officers arrived, the fire was out and the only thing left of the snowmobile was the frame and engine block. The owner/operator was uninjured.

Sgt. Grant Emery worked snowmobile activity in the Porcupine Mountains State Park over the weekend. Many snowmobiles were contacted as trail conditions were near perfect due to the large amount of snow fall during the past few weeks. Sgt. Emery took enforcement action for failure to register snowmobiles, no snowmobile trail permits, failure to affix registrations and trail permits along with careless operations of a snowmobile.

CO Ethen Mapes worked a holiday weekend snowmobile patrol and targeted snowmobilers who were driving carelessly and not stopping at stop signs before crossing the roadways. CO Mapes issued four careless operations of snowmobile citations and one snowmobile recreational trespass citation throughout the weekend.

CO David Miller has been working fishing activity on Keweenaw Bay and Huron Bay. Anglers have been doing very well on splake and lake trout. Ice conditions vary throughout the day depending on weather and wind conditions.

CO Shannon Kritz worked fishing activity in Iron County over the weekend. After two weeks of temperatures being below zero, many anglers took advantage of a break in the weather. Good compliance was found. One subject was found to be in possession of an undersized splake and another individual was found in possession of an undersized northern pike. Enforcement action was taken on both subjects.

CO Shannon Kritz coordinated with the Gogebic County Sheriff's Department to gather information on two fatal snowmobile accidents that occurred over the holiday weekend.

CO Shannon Kritz responded to a Report All Poaching (RAP) complaint about a subject who let his dogs out of his house before checking to see if there were any deer in his yard. The dogs chased a young deer causing it to run into a fence and injure itself. The deer had to be dispatched because of injuries. Enforcement action was taken on the individual for dogs chasing wildlife and the deer was given to a family in need.

CO Shannon Kritz and Sgt. Marc Pomroy conducted an ice fishing patrol to check whitefish anglers in Iron County. A check of one group found suspicious activity that led to further investigation. One of the two anglers appeared very nervous and a check of the retail sales system (RSS) found no license purchases for 2017. Further

investigation found evidence to lead the COs to discover a gill net set under the ice between the two angler's ice shacks. Approximately 35 feet of gill net was seized and both individuals were cited.

CO Jeremy Sergey served warrants for the following violations: two counts of exceeding the two-gallon bait limit and one count of poaching an 8-point deer. These violations stemmed back to the 2017 deer season.

DISTRICT 2

CO Chris Lynch received the disposition back from an investigation he conducted this fall. CO Lynch had received a complaint of a spike horn deer illegally taken. He obtained a search warrant for the suspect's residence. The search turned up evidence for the illegal deer and marijuana. Interviews were conducted. The deer, rifle, and marijuana were seized, and a report was turned in to the prosecutor's office. A 4-count arrest warrant was put out for the suspect including the following violations: taking a deer with rifle during a closed season, taking a deer without a license, possession of marijuana, and discharge of a firearm within the safety zone. The subject was arrested and lodged in the Delta County Jail. The suspect was sentenced to \$2,450 in fines and restitution, five days in jail, hunting privileges revoked for five years including the current year, and the firearm used was condemned.

CO Chris Lynch conducted an investigation on a possible illegal bear that had been shot. Pictures of the bear that was shot this fall were obtained. A younger member of the family was the only one with a valid license, but was not in any of the pictures. With the assistance of CO Bobby Watson, interviews were conducted. The COs found that a bear had been shot during the season by someone in the family and had not been registered with the DNR. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik completed the snowmobile fatal supplemental report for a fatal accident that occurred in Alger County.

Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon and CO Mark Zitnik were checking eager ice fishermen fishing Munising Bay when CO Zitnik discovered a short splake in one angler's shack. CO Zitnik asked to see their catch. The fisherman presented the CO his bucket of fish. When CO Zitnik asked to see the splake flopping behind it the fisherman said the short splake would not go back down the hole so he kept it so it wouldn't go to waste. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik checked two ice fishermen as they were walking off the ice. When asked to see their fish, CO Zitnik noticed a very small splake in the bucket. A quick measure of the splake revealed it to be short. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik checked two young fishermen packing up their gear off Sand Point. When asked about the two undersized splake in the sled, neither could remember who had caught them. During the walk to shore, the CO explained that obviously someone

had caught them and put them in their sled. By the time they reached the CO's truck, their memory had gotten better. Both young men learned an important lesson in taking responsibility for their actions. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

COs Robert Freeborn and Christopher Lynch were on snowmobile patrol when they observed a snowmobile pull up to a stop sign and stop. The snowmobiler then looked at the COs, waved and continued on. The COs did not observe a registration on the snowmobile and were able to catch the snowmobiler at the next stop sign farther down the trail. After a brief interview, it was determined that the snowmobile was not currently registered and hadn't been for years. A citation was issued for failing to register the snowmobile.

COs Colton Gelinis, Calvin Smith, Brett Gustafson, Kevin Postma, Probationary CO Josh Boudreaux and Sergeant Michael Hammill participated in a group snowmobile patrol in Grand Marais, Alger County. The COs also had a sound meter set-up to test snowmobiles believed to be over the 88 decibel sound limit. Numerous citations were issued under snowmobile law.

CO Colton Gelinis was on snowmobile patrol in Luce County when he observed a group of three snowmobiles approaching him at an intersection. Two out of the three snowmobiles had expired registrations out of Illinois and the other did not have a registration sticker displayed. CO Gelinis issued citations for operate snowmobile with expired registration and failing to display registration.

CO Colton Gelinis was checking ice fishermen on a lake in Mackinac County when he discovered eight active tip-ups with nobody around them. CO Gelinis also noticed a permanent shanty without a name or address. CO Gelinis followed ORV tracks back to a nearby residence. CO Gelinis made contact with two suspects who stated they ran out of bait and headed to town to get more. CO Gelinis informed the two suspects about the line limit per angler in Michigan, as well as failing to attend lines (tip-ups) and not affixing a name/address on all four sides of the shanty. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Colton Gelinis and Luce County Sheriff's Deputy Mike Jago held a four day Snowmobile Safety Course at Newberry High School. All participants (ages 12-15) were educated on the snowmobile laws in Michigan, as well as the operation of snowmobiles. At the end of the 4-day course, all participants had to pass a written examine to obtain their snowmobile safety permit. All participants left with a snowmobile safety certificate in hand.

CO Kevin Postma and Probationary CO Joshua Boudreaux responded to a snowmobile accident in the Grand Marais area. The driver of the snowmobile advised that he was traveling approximately 80 mph when he noticed a bridge ahead sign. The driver stated that he slowed down but hit a series of large moguls and lost control. The driver was thrown from the sled and landed in the snow. Fortunately the driver only suffered fractures to his ribs and he was treated and released from the hospital later that day.

While participating in a group snowmobile patrol in Grand Marais, CO Brett Gustafson contacted a snowmobile operator after he was observed not displaying a snowmobile trail permit. The operator stated that it was "too cold" to put it on his snowmobile. When he opened his wallet, a new 2017 trail permit was observed in his wallet along with his 2018 trail permit. When asked, the operator stated it was too cold last year. The operator was not displaying a registration on his machine either. When asked about his registration, he could not provide proof, but stated it was registered in Wisconsin. The VIN# on the snowmobile was covered by his custom wrap. After a lengthy investigation, it was determined that the operator had two valid warrants for snowmobile violations in Marquette County from 2003. Enforcement action was taken along with a significant amount of bond.

DISTRICT 3

While on patrol, CO Kyle Cherry located two males who matched the descriptions of two suspects suspected in a larceny walking down a snowmobile trail. CO Cherry stopped the subjects and conducted an interview. CO Cherry then turned over the suspects to the City of Gaylord Police Department for further investigation. One of the men was ultimately taken to the Otsego County Jail.

COs Kyle Cherry and Nate Sink took a report of a snowmobile crash in Otsego County. Both the driver and passenger were ejected after losing control on the trail and the passenger suffered moderate injury.

CO Kyle Cherry was patrolling in Otsego County when he spotted a snowmobile with an expired registration. After conducting a stop on the snowmobile, multiple violations were discovered including no trail permit, multiple unregistered snowmobiles, and operating a snowmobile with a restricted driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Nathan Sink and Kyle Cherry were on patrol when a call came across central dispatch of a snowmobile accident, where the individual was thrown off her sled and went unconscious. The individual was taken to the hospital for medical attention. COs Sink and Cherry responded to the hospital to take the accident report. The individual was doing well and only suffered minor injuries.

COs Nathan Sink and Kyle Cherry were investigating an abandoned snowmobile when a domestic violence call came across central dispatch. COs Sink and Cherry were close to the call, so they went to assist the Otsego County Sheriff's Office. The parties were separated on scene without issue.

COs Nathan Sink and Kyle Cherry were on patrol when a call came across central dispatch of several snowmobiles zigzagging through traffic and jumping snow banks on the main road. COs Sink and Cherry responded to the call to find the snowmobiles operating against the flow of traffic, operating without trail permits, and operating carelessly. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nathan Sink responded to a complaint of several snowmobiles failing to stop at a stop sign in Otsego County. CO Sink worked the area and quickly observed three individuals run a stop sign without checking for oncoming traffic. CO Sink conducted a stop on the individuals. Not one of the individuals knew at what stop sign they failed to stop. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Cherry, along with Michigan State Police, Otsego County Sheriff's Department, and local firefighters, responded to a call of a sled entirely engulfed in flames. No one was injured in the incident.

CO Kyle Cherry was responding to a complaint in the Pigeon River Country when he encountered two snowmobiles with expired trail permits. Further investigation revealed both operators were displaying registrations not belonging to their snowmobiles. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki was patrolling Black Lake in Cheboygan County and checked an ice shanty with four tip-ups visible outside. Upon contacting the single subject inside, the individual stated his buddy had just gone back to shore and would be returning any moment. The subject did not know that CO Rosochacki had come from that parking location and no one else was there. The subject then admitted that there was not another angler and that he was alone. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki patrolled Mullet Lake in Cheboygan County when he observed an ice shanty with four tip-ups visible outside. Contact was made with the lone subject who admitted to having one too many tip-ups. Fishing was slow and he wanted to increase his odds. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki was first on scene to a roll-over accident involving a single occupant on an icy rural road in Mullet Township in Cheboygan County. Good Samaritans on scene had already removed the driver from the vehicle, as it had landed in a wet area off the roadway. The driver had sustained a major laceration to the head. CO Rosochacki provided first aid to the subject until EMS arrived on scene.

CO Eric Bottorff responded to a blood trail on January 2nd, in Cheboygan County. CO Bottorff located the blood trail and tracked it back to a residence. After several interviews, the hunter reported shooting the deer on January 1st, the last legal day of hunting. CO Bottorff confirmed the story and congratulated the hunter.

Sgt. Mark DePew was working snowmobile activity when he observed a snowmobile travel through an intersection at approximately 15 mph and operating in a carless manner. Sgt. DePew pulled from his position and began pursuing the snowmobile southbound onto US 27 in his fully marked patrol unit with his emergency lights and siren activated. During the 20-mile pursuit, the suspect crossed 17 public roadways at speeds of over 90 mph. The suspect was apprehended by Sgt. DePew and COs Nathan Sink and Kyle Cherry. The suspect was charged with a felony and lodged in the Otsego County Jail.

CO Andrea Albert and Probationary CO Stephen Butzin were on patrol when they noticed a vehicle attempting to avoid them. CO Albert and PCO Butzin caught up to the vehicle and found that the vehicle was not insured and had also observed it roll through a stop sign. A traffic stop was conducted, and officers discovered the driver had a suspended license. After obtaining a consent search of the vehicle, CO Albert and PCO Butzin found marijuana. The driver was lodged in jail for the violations.

CO Nick Torsky stopped two snowmobiles that displayed expired registrations. Both riders originally claimed they had left their renewed registrations at home, but their stories quickly unraveled. They eventually admitted to noticing the expired registrations when they unloaded their machines from the trailer, but decided to “take a chance.” Enforcement action taken.

CO Nick Torsky attended a meeting with Forest Management, Fisheries, and Wildlife staff to discuss an ongoing trespass in which a landowner adjacent to state land has illegally gated an easement road, blocking public access to the Black River. The landowner will be contacted to discuss the next steps; including removal of the gate.

CO Nick Torsky was contacted by central dispatch regarding an individual who had an unwanted and unidentified animal in her house. After talking with the homeowner, it was determined that the intruder was a weasel. Advice was given on how to trap and remove the unwanted guest.

CO William Webster attended a QDMA banquet in Hillman. CO Webster presented information on Law Enforcement Division and answered questions related to laws covering deer hunting and predator hunting.

CO William Webster and Sgt. Mike Mshar contacted a hunter leaving Hunter Access Property (HAP) land in Alpena County, during the late antlerless hunt. Sgt. Mshar asked to see the firearm in the vehicle. The hunter opened the case and while doing so admitted that the firearm was still loaded. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Paul Fox, Adam LeClerc, Jon Sklba, and Bill Webster conducted a group patrol on Grand Lake in Presque Isle County. Numerous contacts were made and tickets and warnings were issued for fish without a license, no helmets, and fail to register ORV.

DISTRICT 4

CO William Kinney was checking anglers on Lake Cadillac on a busy Saturday afternoon. CO Kinney made contact with several anglers in an ice fishing shanty. CO Kinney could detect the odor of burnt marijuana coming from inside the shanty while speaking with the anglers. CO Kinney questioned the anglers about the smell. The one angler turned over a container of marijuana to CO Kinney and admitted to smoking it. The angler was also unable to present his fishing license upon request. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rebecca Hopkins, CO Justin Vanderlinde and Probationary CO Nick Ingersoll received a call from central dispatch of an injured cross-country skier. The skier was two miles back on the Lake Ann cross-country ski trails on state land in Almira Township. The COs were able to use their snowmobiles to transport EMS back to the skier to provide first aid. With the help of one of National Park Services rangers, they were able to transport the skier out of the woods and to the ambulance by snowmobile. The skier was transported to the local hospital.

CO Rebecca Hopkins and Probationary CO Nick Ingersoll patrolled the 2018 Empire Snowmobile drag race event at Empire airport. This was a non-profit event with over 150 racers participating.

CO Justin Vanderlinde reports the conclusion of a lengthy investigation. The suspect was convicted of the following violations; felony flee and elude in the fourth degree, habitual offender second offense, DWLS second or subsequent offense, shining in November, purchasing a hunting license while his hunting privileges were revoked, and illegally killing a deer. The suspect served 93 days in jail, payed \$2,000.00 restitution for the deer along with other fines and costs, and lost his hunting privileges for a ten year period of time.

CO Ryan Andrews located a large 7-point buck at a processor inspection during November that was possibly an illegal deer. While following up on the information from the processor inspection in District 4, CO Ryan Andrews of Lake County enlisted the help of CO Danny Walzak from Wayne County in District 9 to interview several suspects involved in the case. The investigation uncovered that the large 7-point buck had been harvested early in the morning on opening day of firearms season prior to purchasing a 2017 deer hunting license. Warrants are being sought.

CO Josiah Killingbeck followed up on a deer kill tag that was not validated at a processor inspection during the firearm deer season. While speaking with the hunter about the tag, CO Killingbeck asked the hunter what other deer he had taken. The hunter said he had shot a 4-point buck in Lake County. CO Killingbeck was able to obtain a picture of the deer and determined that it did not meet antler point restrictions in Lake County. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, while on snowmobile patrol, observed two snowmobiles drive past him at a high rate of speed and turned around to follow them. It was determined that the snowmobiles were operating at speeds in excess of 100 mph. It took CO Killingbeck eight miles to finally get the snowmobiles stopped. CO Killingbeck observed the snowmobiles disregard five stop signs, operate against the flow of traffic, and drive carelessly. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was checking an ice shanty on a local lake near Irons when he detected the odor of marijuana. CO Killingbeck asked the subjects if anyone had a medical marijuana card, to which they replied no. The subjects told CO Killingbeck that they had found the pipe and marijuana lying on the ice nearby and did not want the marijuana to go to waste. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Manistee County, CO Scott MacNeill observed a vast over-limit of deer feed piled high near a residence. After further investigation, it was discovered that the individual living at the residence had been using a front end loader to feed the deer. The individual admitted to the gross over-limit, stating he was attempting to help the deer through the winter. CO MacNeill explained the reasoning behind the two gallon limit. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Lake County, Probationary CO James Garrett and CO Steve Converse stopped at Harper Lake and noticed anglers on the lake. One angler noticed the COs arrival and quickly turned his back from them trying to hide the fact that he was fishing and set his pole down by his fishing companion. The COs made contact with the anglers and found the angler who set his pole down didn't have a license and was consuming alcohol while on probation. Enforcement action was taken.

While sitting at a busy snowmobile intersection, Probationary CO Garrett and CO Converse observed a snowmobile disregard a stop sign. The COs were able to intercept the operator a few miles down the trail and make contact. Upon further investigation, it was found that the individual was suspended. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse and Probationary CO James Garrett served a warrant on an individual who had shot a spike buck in violation of the local antler point restrictions. It was found that the individual tagged the buck with his restricted tag and attempted to cover it up by using a processor two counties away, instead of using a local processor. The individual was arrested and given an appearance date.

Checking a local lake in Mason County, CO Kyle Publiski and Probationary CO Micah Hintze checked subjects fishing in a portable shanty. While approaching the shanty, the COs could smell the strong odor of marijuana coming from the shanty. After making contact, the COs located two mason jars of marijuana and paraphernalia, as well as the individuals fishing too many lines. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and Probationary CO Micah Hintze heard a Be on the Lookout (BOL) from Mason County for a vehicle involved in a shoplifting in Ludington. While driving past a gas station in Oceana County, CO Publiski noticed the vehicle and matching license plate parked in front of the gas station with no one in it. The two COs pulled around to the back of the gas station and waited for the subject to come out. As the subject got into the vehicle to leave, the COs stopped it and located the merchandise in the front seat of the car and the subject was taken into custody. While searching the vehicle, two crack pipes were located.

CO Brian Brosky was working private property in Mason County for snowmobile trespass when he observed four snowmobiles fail to stop at a stop sign and enter onto a roadway at a high rate of speed. CO Brosky caught up to them over a mile away when they ended up at a cabin along the Pere Marquette River. When the CO made contact

with them and asked why they didn't stop, they claimed they never saw the CO with his emergency lights. One of the operators asked if the CO would be so kind as to give the operators a break for their violation. After CO Brosky advised them of all of the violations which included operating at an unreasonable speed, registration paperwork violations, failing to stop before entering a roadway, failing to operate to the extreme right side, and exceeding the posted 55 mile an hour speed limit, they were happy to receive a civil infraction ticket for careless operation.

CO Troy Van Gelderen and Probationary CO Hintze were conducting a taxidermy inspection when they found an improperly notched deer license on a set of antlers. When the COs went to interview the suspect, they discovered the subject did not even have a license when he shot the deer. Charges are being sought through the Oceana County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Troy Van Gelderen received a complaint of a wrecked snowmobile on a snowmobile trail in Oceana County. The complainant said that the snowmobile had been there for a few days. When CO Van Gelderen and a deputy from the sheriff's department arrived on scene, they found two subjects trying to tow the snowmobile from the location. The officers discovered that a third subject had crashed the snowmobile and went to the hospital a few days prior. Enforcement action was taken for failing to report the accident and an expired snowmobile registration.

COs Mike Bomay and Brian Lebel conducted a follow-up on an illegal deer complaint where the father allowed his daughter to harvest an 8-point buck and use his license. Upon interviewing the two hunters, admissions were made and citations were issued.

COs Mike Bomay and Brian Lebel received a Report All Poaching (RAP) complaint of a subject operating a snowmobile in a closed area. The COs immediately responded and were able to locate the operator that admitted to knowing he was operating in area he shouldn't have been and that he took his chances. A citation was issued and verbal warnings were provided for operating with no helmet and an expired trail permit.

CO Casey Varriale received a complaint about two untagged deer hanging from a tree in Osceola County. CO Varriale went to the residence to investigate and found two deer hanging from a tree outside the suspect's residence. During a quick observation of the property, CO Varriale located an additional deer hanging in another tree and a fourth buried in the snow. CO Varriale made contact with the suspect. The suspect stated the deer were given to him by a coworker, but wouldn't disclose who. The suspect did not have tags for the deer. Enforcement action was taken and all the deer were seized.

DISTRICT 5

CO Mike Hearn has received several complaints regarding snowmobile trespassing in Kalkaska County. While working one of the areas of concern, CO Hearn observed a snowmobile operator illegally driving on the paved portion of a state highway. The individual was stopped and issued a citation for the illegal operation.

CO Mike Hearn was patrolling for snowmobile activity in the Village of Kalkaska when observed a group of snowmobiles leave a local motel. The snowmobiles were observed speeding, jumping snow banks in driveways, operating on the wrong side of the road, and failing to stop at posted stop signs. As a result of the careless operation, the group was stopped and issued citations for the various offenses.

CO Ben McAteer observed a snowmobile operating in a careless manner in Crawford County. A stop of the snowmobile was made and CO McAteer noticed signs of impairment while dealing with the operator. The odor of intoxicants was also apparent during the contact. Once field sobriety tests were complete, the individual stated "Well, I jacked that up." The operator was placed under arrest for operating a snowmobile while intoxicated and transported to the Crawford County Jail.

CO Craig Neal was patrolling Crooked Lake in Missaukee County when he noticed a shanty in a similar location to where he located anglers fishing with too many lines the previous year. While talking with the three anglers, one of them advised CO Neal his ticket from the last year had been taken care of and this year should be a "gimme" year. CO Neal asked the anglers how many tip-ups they had out and they advised, "maybe seven or eight." CO Neal could see ten tip-ups from where he was standing, and after a short walk found a couple more. The anglers were cited for fishing with too many lines a second year in a row.

CO Craig Neal was conducting a routine taxidermy inspection in Missaukee County when he noticed a license on a deer that appeared suspicious. After closer inspection, it appeared there was a licensing violation. CO Neal contacted the individual and before his interview began, the man confessed to shooting the deer and only having one license. The man called his wife and had her buy a hunting license to put on the deer so he could continue hunting the rest of the season. Charges for the licensing violations will be sought through the Missaukee County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Matt Zultak conducted ice fishing patrols on the three big lakes in Roscommon County. Multiple fishing violations were addressed. CO Zultak also took enforcement action on safety and registration violations for ORVs and snowmobiles during the patrol.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz was patrolling a Missaukee County snowmobile trail when he observed drag marks and foot prints leading to an area where a vehicle was parked. Following the vehicle tracks to the county road, CO Liestenfeltz found a second set of drag marks and foot prints. CO Liestenfeltz was able to track the vehicle to a residence that was located nearby. After making contact with the homeowner, he admitted to taking two bucks earlier that day. The bucks were located with kill tags attached, but were not validated. Further interviews resulted in a third buck that the suspect had shot in October. Warrants are being sought through the Missaukee County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Brad Bellville received a complaint in Ogemaw County of an entire deer dumped on state land with an ear tag attached. When CO Bellville arrived on scene, he did not find a deer, instead he was led to a deceased goat with an ear tag. CO Bellville loaded the goat into the bed of his patrol truck with hopes of locating the farm it came from. It wasn't long before CO Bellville located a nearby hobby farm and made contact with the owner asking if they were missing a goat. Unsure on the status of the farmer's goat herd, CO Bellville and the hobby farmer attempted to go around the back of the house to check, but not before the farm dog escaped from the house biting and ripping CO Bellville's uniform pants. Ultimately, the hobby farmer admitted to dumping the goat named Clarabelle on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Panich and Probationary CO Keven Luther were patrolling Alcona Pond in Alcona County when they made contact with two ice anglers. PCO Luther discovered one of the individuals had an outstanding misdemeanor warrant for his arrest. The subject was arrested on the warrant and lodged in the Alcona County Jail.

CO Steve Lockwood and Probationary CO Amanda McCurdy noticed a side-by-side ORV with an expired registration operating down the middle of a Gladwin County road. By the time they were able to turn around the patrol vehicle and catch up to the ORV, it had turned onto a Michigan highway and continued down the middle of the highway. The operator was very slow to respond to the emergency lights and siren from the patrol vehicle. When the female operator finally noticed the signals to stop, she pulled to the side of the road and immediately threw a beer can out of the ORV. During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that the operator was driving on a suspended license as well as operating while intoxicated (OWI). The operator was arrested and lodged in the Gladwin County Jail. Due to numerous priors, she was charged with felony OWI.

CO Steve Lockwood and Probationary CO Tyler Sabuda were patrolling Saginaw Bay in the evening when they noticed a snowmobile hurrying off the ice away from the direction of most anglers. The COs followed the snowmobile and made contact with the operator when he stopped at his residence. The operator was proud to show his limit of Walleye from the evening fishing trip. However, his pride disappeared quickly when additional Walleye were found from the morning fishing trip. The subject admitted to taking an overlimit of Walleye, having caught and kept fish from earlier in the day. A citation was issued for the violation and the extra fish were seized.

CO Nick Atkin was recently checking anglers after dark as they returned from their fishing activities on Saginaw Bay. Numerous violations were found, including operating snowmobiles without headlights, possession of fish without licenses, and ORVs operating without proper ORV licenses. Enforcement action was taken as well as preventative education for the future.

DISTRICT 6

CO John Byars noticed an operator of an ORV on Rainbow Lake without a helmet. The CO stopped the ORV and noticed the ORV was not licensed. A citation was issued.

CO John Byars checked a hunter who had obtained a free military hunting license when not eligible. The investigation revealed that the hunter not only obtained an illegal license, but he had also harvested a doe and used the buck tag. A citation was issued.

CO Ken Lowell and Probationary CO Zach Painter were checking ice fishermen on Little Whitefish Lake in Montcalm County. The COs checked two individuals fishing together. One individual admitted to fishing with four lines and the other individual did not have a fishing license. Warnings were given for no name and address on their tip ups. Tickets were issued for fishing with too many lines and for fishing without a license.

CO Ken Lowell and Probationary CO Zach Painter were checking ice fishermen on Winfield Lake in Montcalm County. They checked one individual who they observed fishing with a jig pole and two tip-ups. The individual admitted to also having a line with a hook and a minnow down inside of his shanty. Warnings were given for no name and address on tip-ups and for not having a name and address permanently attached to the shanty with the appropriate sized lettering. Tickets were issued for fishing with too many lines.

CO Ken Lowell and Probationary CO Zach Painter were on patrol in Montcalm County when they came across a subject walking down the road waving his hands. The subject stated that he and his wife had had a flat tire earlier in the morning. He said he had been walking for hours, he was very cold and just wanted a ride home. While giving the subject a ride home, there was radio traffic of several hit and runs in the same area with the suspect fleeing on foot. The COs sensed something suspicious and took the subject to the scene of the crash. The COs left the subject with the deputies and followed the foot prints back to several houses and parked vehicles. The track finally led back to where the COs had picked up the suspect. The suspect was turned over to the Michigan State Police for further investigation on the hit and runs, larceny from vehicles and UDAA.

CO Ken Lowell received an anonymous complaint regarding an over limit of antlered whitetail deer. CO Lowell and Probationary CO Zach Painter performed a taxidermy inspection and located one buck shot by the suspect. The COs conducted an interview of the suspect which led to a confession of shooting three antlered whitetail deer. The third deer was tagged with someone else's tag. Warrant requests have been submitted to the prosecutor for loan and borrow a kill tag of another and take an over limit of antlered whitetail deer.

While working a snowmobile patrol in Bay County, CO Quincy Gowenlock observed a sled coming into the Independence Launch with an expired registration from 2005 and no trail permit. The CO stopped the subject and during the investigation it was determined that the operator had a suspended driver's license. When the suspect was told about the suspension, he advised he didn't know that he wasn't allowed to ride a snowmobile with a suspended license. When asked about the registration and trail permit, the suspect again stated he didn't know he needed them. The suspect was

issued a citation for DWLS and failure to register his snowmobile. He was given a verbal warning for the trail permit violation.

While patrolling on the Kawkawlin River, CO Quincy Gowenlock observed a subject operating a snowmobile without a current trail permit. An enforcement stop was initiated and upon contact the operator advised he didn't know he needed a permit to ride on the frozen river. After explaining the laws to the subject, he commented on how "stupid" it was to need a trail permit on the river. The suspect was issued a citation for no trail permit.

While conducting a snowmobile group patrol with fellow District 6 COs on the Saginaw Bay and Kawkawlin River, CO Jason King made contact with many snowmobilers, subjects riding ORVs, and ice fishermen. Good contacts were made, verbal warnings were given, and citations were issued for no trail permits and no ORV licenses while operating.

CO Jason King responded to a complaint from central dispatch of an injured deer in Bay County. The CO located the deer and determined that the deer was in good enough health to continue on its way.

COs Chad Foerster, Quincy Gowenlock, Jason King, Joe Myers, Jay Person and Kyle Bucholtz patrolled the Saginaw River and Saginaw Bay ice as a group. Multiple citations were issued as were just as many warnings. Small amounts of perch were being taken at that time.

CO Kyle Bucholtz continued work on multiple cases stemming from the 2017 deer season. Multiple interviews were completed. Multiple warrant requests are being sought regarding those cases.

COs Seth Rhodea and Robert Hobkirk have been patrolling the east side of the Saginaw Bay checking fishermen. COs have cited eight individuals for unlicensed off road vehicles, one unregistered snowmobile, one snowmobile operator for no helmet, and one individual for fishing with no license.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted an angler on Saginaw Bay who was unable to locate his fishing license but was sure he had one. Upon checking the angler through the Retail Sales System (RSS), he was found to be fishing without a license.

COs Seth Rhodea and Bob Hobkirk conducted several patrols on Saginaw Bay checking ice fishermen. Compliance with anglers was high, but the COs did issue several citations for license and safety violations.

CO Mark Siemen conducted follow-up on a two-year-old deer complaint. The suspect had shot two 8-point bucks and used his friend's tag to tag one of the bucks. Later in the 2015 firearm deer season, the suspect shot an 11-point buck and tagged it. CO Siemen was able to get a confession from the suspect. The 11-point buck which was already mounted

and hanging on the wall at the suspect's residence was seized, along with the antlers for the 8-point. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen was dispatched to handle two complaints involving coyote hunters using dogs. Contact was made with multiple hunters and some warnings were given. The complainant stated she is new to the area and was concerned about all the people with guns and dogs running and driving down the road she lives on. CO Siemen explained to her the laws about coyote hunters with dogs.

CO Josh Wright and Probationary CO Cody Smith were patrolling in Tuscola County when they spotted two snowmobiles on the Quanicassee River. Shortly after they were seen riding along the roadway, contact was made. Upon inspection, the snowmobiles did not have valid trail stickers and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Wright and Probationary CO Cody Smith patrolled at Thomas Road checking ice fishermen as they came off the ice. With the frigid temperatures, anglers were hesitant on complying with helmet regulations. Anglers were reminded of the safety concerns and informed that even if it is cold you must wear your helmet when on a snowmobile or ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Wright and Probationary CO Cody Smith followed up on a tip on the sale of whitetail deer. Contact was made with an individual who stated he had paid for three deer, receiving them from two friends. Upon inspection of the deer at the residence, the tag didn't belong to either of the individuals mentioned. Contact was made with the two friends and they admitted they had given him the deer. They denied money exchange, contradicting the original contact. Enforcement action was taken. After looking up the owner of the hanging deer, a meeting was arranged. This individual stated the deer had been mistakenly switched with his friend's deer after both successfully harvesting a deer the same night. Inspection of the deer revealed a gunshot wound. Being that the antlerless deer was tagged with a combo regular tag concerns were raised. The owner of the tag stated he had shot the deer with his muzzleloader. The individual was informed of the violation and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Wright and Probationary CO Cody Smith were patrolling when there was a report of an injured deer at a residence. The caller reported that it slipped on the ice in their driveway and was unable to get up and had crawled to their wood line. Once on scene, it was apparent that this was a critical injury and the issue was addressed.

With rising temperatures and fresh snowfall, CO Josh Wright and Probationary CO Cody Smith expected to see coyote hunters running their dogs. Contact was made with two groups of hunters both reporting no luck. One group had their dogs trail fox tracks, but came up empty. They stated that the wet snow was hindering the tracking abilities of their dogs.

CO Josh Wright and Probationary CO Cody Smith were on patrol when they made a stop at Becroft Lake to inspect anglers. Upon contact with the anglers, they were not having

the best of luck with one small crappie being their catch for the day. Upon inspection, they had an undersized northern pike. The angler admitted to catching the pike thinking the size limit was shorter. The angler was informed the pike had to be a minimum of 24" to keep. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Wright and Probationary CO Cody Smith launched their snowmobiles from Vanderbilt Park to patrol evening anglers. Fish numbers averaged 3-4 fish per angler with them reporting a slow bite. Contact was made with a snowmobile coming off the ice. Upon inspection, the registration was expired and enforcement actions were taken. After checking a few more anglers, contact was made with an airboat. The operator had success catching some large fish out by the sparkplug. Upon inspection of his vessel, however, he failed to produce flotation devices, navigation lights and proper registration. The individual was informed that even if the airboat is being used on the ice it must comply with watercraft regulations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Wright and Probationary CO Cody Smith launched from Hidden Harbor and made their way toward the mouth of the Saginaw River checking anglers along the way. Afternoon fish reports showed low numbers with multiple sightings of northern pike down the hole. Riding out to deeper water, anglers started having better numbers and eventually limits. A few anglers found some nice perch with a couple reaching 14" in length. One angler had 18 walleye in their possession. Enforcement action was taken.

A group patrol was conducted on the Saginaw Bay and the Saginaw and Kawkawlin Rivers by COs Chad Foerster, Seth Rhodea, Kyle Bucholtz, Joe Myers, Quincy Gowenlock, Jason King, John Byars, Jill Miller and Sgt. Tony Soave. A total of 573 people were contacted resulting in 19 citations issued for various fish, ORV and snowmobile violations along with 40 warnings given as well.

While on a group patrol on the Saginaw Bay, Saginaw River and Kawkawlin River, CO Jill Miller stopped a snowmobile with no trail permit. The subject stated he didn't know he needed it for just riding up and down the river. Education and enforcement action was taken.

COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson conducted a snowmobile patrol and checked numerous anglers ice fishing and riding on Lake Isabella during a busy weekend. The fishing was slow, but the COs issued multiple citations for ORV and snowmobile violations including careless operation, operating without helmets, riding double, and operating unlicensed and unregistered machines.

While checking ice fishing anglers on a lake in northern Montcalm County, COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson came across a fisherman fishing alone in a secluded cove. The COs made contact with the man in his shanty and discovered he was fishing with two jigging poles and also had three tip-ups baited and in the water; two lines over his legal limit. The man had a five gallon bucket filled to the top with crappies and bluegills and the COs also located additional fish in the shanty. The angler had a total of 54 pan fish in his possession, 29 fish over his legal daily limit. The angler had accessed the

lake with an unregistered snowmobile which he had failed to transfer the title to and he admitted that he had a suspended driver's license. The over limit of fish was seized and numerous citations were issued.

While working in Isabella County, CO Dan Robinson was called to an address in Mt. Pleasant. The caller stated that there was a cub bear in her garage curled up sleeping. CO Robinson responded with back-up provided by the Mt. Pleasant Police Department (MPPD). CO Robinson and MPPD Officer Covarrubias made entry into the garage and didn't see anything at first look, except a trash bag that had been chewed on. After looking a little more, CO Robinson spotted the offender in a large gift bag, curled up sleeping just as the home owner had stated near the steps leading into the house. The offending animal was not a cub bear, but rather a very large opossum that had gotten in through the open garage door and found a warm place to sleep. The CO captured the animal and removed it to the backyard and released it. The homeowner was contacted and was relieved to know that it was not a bear in her garage.

CO Joel Lundberg and Probationary CO Tyler Sabuda were patrolling the Saginaw Bay for ice anglers when they encountered three individuals leaving the ice on an ATV. The anglers stated they all caught their eight fish limit. The COs asked to see the fish and the driver of the ATV stated, "I'm not really sure how many fish I have in this bag". The driver had twelve walleye, not eight. They had been fishing with another group of individuals and the COs contacted them, confirmed their total fish count and determined the driver of the ATV did have an over limit. That individual already had his limit in his machine. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg put together a group patrol on the Saginaw Bay and River system with COs Jason King, Jill Miller, Steve Lockwood, Probationary COs Tyler Sabuda, Amanda McCurdy and Sgt. Tony Soave. The group patrol produced nine citations, three of those were for taking an over limit of walleye written by COs Lundberg, Lockwood and Sgt. Soave along with an undersized walleye taken less than the legal 13" minimum size written by Probationary CO McCurdy. The other five citations were for various ORV and snowmobile violations along with numerous verbal warnings given. A subject was also arrested and lodged who was fishing and had marijuana and two outstanding warrants for his arrest.

DISTRICT 7

CO BJ Goulette and Probationary CO Katie Stawara reported that when they went to drop off a ticket at the Grand Haven court they were sitting in the parking lot discussing the court process when they heard over the "car to car" county channel "Grand Haven court officer to the DNR truck in the parking lot". CO Goulette answered back and the court officer asked if they had any special equipment for catching bats, so CO Goulette replied, "My two hands". CO Goulette and Probationary CO Stawara went inside to find they had already trapped the bat under one of the trays that you put your items in to go

through the metal detectors. They put their leather gloves on and scooped the bat up and relocated him to a hopeful new hibernation spot.

COs Matt Page, Zach Bauer and Sgt. Zach Doss conducted a snowmobile patrol in Berrien, Cass and Van Buren Counties over the weekend. During the patrols, seven citations were issued for trail permit and registration violations. In total, the COs gave 20 verbal warnings for various minor violations.

CO Matt Page was flagged down by a concerned citizen in reference to a suspicious subject at a local lake access site. According to the citizen the suspicious person was not dressed for the conditions and was wandering around the parking lot near vehicles. CO Page arrived on scene and observed a subject fitting the description of the suspicious person lying unconscious in a snow bank. The temperature at the time of contact was approximately 10 degrees. CO Page, after yelling to the subject and tapping him on the shoulder, was unable to get a response. CO Page then gave the subject a sternum rub and at that time the subject became conscious and stood up from the snow bank. CO Page detected a strong odor of intoxicants and obvious signs of intoxication. The subject was unwilling to provide CO Page with any background on how he got to the access site or whom he was with. The subject refused to be checked out by medics and was then arrested and lodged for outstanding warrants out of Kalamazoo County.

CO Zach Bauer investigated a complaint of a hunter shooting a deer without a license during the deer season. CO Bauer interviewed the suspect and obtained a full confession. The subject was cited for the violation.

CO Zach Bauer was on patrol when he was contacted by the Report All Poaching (RAP) hotline of an angler that was fishing at a nearby dam in a boat in a restricted area. CO Bauer was close to the dam and responded to the call. CO Bauer located the vessel that was fishing above the buoys in the restricted area. After multiple attempts to get the anglers attention, CO Bauer finally made contact with the angler. A citation was issued for being in the restricted area.

CO Jeff Robinette followed up on a Report All Poaching (RAP) complaint regarding a juvenile who had taken an 8-point deer on opening day of firearm season. The picture had been posted to the Michigan buck pole website. In the picture the deer was tagged and there was an adult male, later identified as the juvenile's father, next to the juvenile. According to Retail Sales System (RSS), the juvenile did not have a deer license for 2017 but the juvenile's father did have a license. CO Robinette contacted the juvenile's father who admitted he had been with the juvenile when the juvenile shot the deer. The father stated that since the juvenile had not purchased a license yet he had tagged the deer with his tag. The skull and antlers had already been made into a European mount and were seized. The father was issued a ticket for the possession of an illegally taken deer.

DISTRICT 8

CO Mike Drexler responded to a Lenawee County complaint where a subject shot an antlerless deer and had it laying in his yard without a tag attached to it. CO Drexler found the untagged deer laying in the suspect's yard. The hunter stated he had shot the deer the night prior and had just not validated or attached the tag yet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler was on patrol in Sylvan Township when he observed a pickup truck with a dog box in the bed parked in the roadway. CO Drexler pulled up next to the vehicle that was running just as a coyote hunter popped out of the woods. The CO checked licenses and discovered the subject had a loaded and uncased firearm in the vehicle. The hunter swore to CO Drexler that it was the first time and he never leaves his firearm loaded in the vehicle. A computer check revealed the subject had been cited for possess loaded/uncased firearm in a motor vehicle twice before. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler was checking ice anglers in the Waterloo Recreation Area when one subject started to walk away from his fishing spot as he approached. When asked for his fishing license, the subject initially went to his vehicle to check his wallet. The subject then stated he didn't have it with him but he did purchase it. A computer check revealed otherwise, and the subject did not have a license for 2017. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds received a tip of some over-limits being taken on a lake in Lenawee County. The COs went to the area undercover and located the group of shanties and set up next to the group of fishermen and started to fish. While sitting on the ice, they heard two individuals stating that they already had a limit of bluegills each and they were going to keep fishing for a while. Once the individuals were observed packing up, the COs made contact with them and checked licenses and counted fish. Both individuals were well over the legal limit of 25 bluegills. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds were driving past a lake in Lenawee County when they observed an ORV with two individuals riding on it with no helmets doing donuts on the ice. The COs walked out on the ice and made contact with the adult and child on the ORV. They stated they had helmets at the house but just didn't put them on. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds observed an ORV pull out of the boat launch on a Hillsdale County lake with the operator not wearing a helmet or having proper registration. The COs went out on the lake and were trying to track the ORV down when they contacted two anglers. The anglers were checked for fishing licenses and one of the fishermen failed to buy his out of state license. Enforcement action was taken. After the contact, the ORV operator was located and enforcement action was taken for the violations.

CO Andrew Monnich responded to a complaint of people trespassing on a lake in Lenawee County. Once at the lake, CO Monnich observed two ORVs coming from the other side of the lake with the riders not wearing helmets. CO Monnich went out and made contact with the ORV riders. CO Monnich recognized the riders and had given them warnings for the same thing over week ago. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich was checking some spearing coops on a local lake when he came across an individual who he had given a warning for not having a fishing license the week before. While checking the angler's license, CO Monnich noticed the tail of a pike sticking out from a spot in the shanty. CO Monnich pulled the speared northern pike out of the shanty and measured it. The pike only measured 20 inches. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Maher were heading back home from a patrol when they conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle. Upon contact with the driver, the CO noticed some open alcohol containers in the vehicle. The driver was also driving with a suspended license. Both individuals were given sobriety tests and a PBT which indicated they were not over the legal limit or impaired. Enforcement action was taken for driving with a suspended license and open alcohol in a motor vehicle.

CO Pete Purdy and Probationary CO Nick Wellman were first on scene to a single vehicle injury crash on US-23. The driver was unconscious and the COs provided first aid until EMS arrived. When clearing the accident, COs Purdy & Wellman were requested to check another 2-car injury crash that occurred when traffic began to back up due to the above crash. The COs were first on scene and provided first aid until EMS arrived.

CO Pete Purdy and Probationary CO Nick Wellman contacted an angler on Lake Shannon. The angler was reluctant to show the fish in his bucket. Further investigation revealed that the angler was in possession of 67 bluegill, 42 over the 25 fish limit. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling towards Wampers Lake, CO Eric Smither made contact with three snowmobilers at a gas station as they were getting fuel. CO Smither checked the registrations on the snowmobiles and found one had not been registered since 2011. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Lenawee County, CO Eric Smither observed a snowmobile with no registration. CO Smither stopped the snowmobile and found that it hadn't been registered since 2002. Enforcement action taken.

CO Eric Smither assisted Lenawee County Sheriff's Deputies on a suicidal subject who had taken a whole bottle of pills. CO Smither assisted in directing medical personnel to the subject's location and helping to find what pill bottle the pills he had taken came from. The subject was transported by EMS to the hospital for treatment.

CO Josh Jackson received a call from a landowner about two injured deer in his field. The landowner has had several poaching incidents in the area in the past. CO Jackson responded and dispatched both of the deer in the same field only 150 yards apart. Upon inspection, it is believed both deer had been hit by a vehicle.

CO Josh Jackson received several complaints of an individual selling fresh fish. The suspect has been posting on social media he has ready-to-eat bluegills for sale. CO Jackson made contact with the suspect and the suspect's brother as they were ending an evening of ice fishing. When questioned about the fish for sale, the brother of the suspect sighed and told his brother, "I told you it was a bad idea." The suspect admitted to knowing it was wrong but claimed he needed the money. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Jackson has received word that anglers are fishing Rose Lake both mornings and evenings. Callers in the area are reporting that fishermen are pulling limits during both trips to the ice. CO Jackson arrived early one morning to observe 11 anglers on Buck's Cove – a cove on the west end of Rose Lake. The CO observed all anglers for several minutes until they began heading to their vehicles, where he made contact with them. Several anglers were leaving the ice with their limit of pan fish, but one angler was found to be over his limit of pan fish. The angler was issued a citation for an over-limit and the extra fish were released back under the ice.

CO Troy Ludwig contacted a hunter after finding a deer with tagging irregularities while performing a taxidermy inspection. When questioned, the hunter admitted to taking the deer and tagging it with his father's kill tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough completed a trespassing investigation from a deer that was shot on New Year's Eve. CO McCullough responded to the complainant's property and observed the spot where a deer had been freshly killed. CO McCullough followed blood and drag marks on the complainant's property, across the neighbor's property and onto the suspect's property. CO McCullough located a gut pile and found where the deer had been loaded into the back of a truck, which drove up to the barn on the suspect's property. After contacting the suspect, the deer was located in the barn untagged. The suspect confessed to trespassing and enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Hillsdale County for fishing activity, COs Chris Reynolds and Andrew Monnich observed a fisherman on a secluded lake. When the COs observed the angler, they noticed several tip-ups on the lake in the area the subject was fishing. As they approached, it appeared that there were five tip-ups. When contact was made with the angler he stated that the tip-ups were his and he was the only person on the lake fishing. The COs also found an additional tip-up which made six lines for the subject. Other violations were uncovered during the check. A citation was issued for fishing with more than three lines.

CO Chris Reynolds, while patrolling Lenawee County with CO Andy Monnich for snowmobile activity, observed a group of snowmobiles. The COs noticed that one of

the snowmobiles did not have all of the required permits. The violations were explained to the rider and a citation was issued for not having a snowmobile sticker while operating on the lake.

CO Chris Reynolds, while patrolling Lenawee County with CO Andy Monnich for fishing activity, observed an ORV travelling on the lake with a young operator not wearing a helmet. A stop was conducted and it was found that the operator did not have an ORV safety certificate. The COs talked to the parents of the youth and explained the laws for operating an ORV. A citation was issued for operating an ORV while not wearing a helmet.

CO Sam Schluckbier was checking ice anglers on Narrow Lake in Eaton County. One fisherman was under the impression that his base hunting license was also his fishing license. CO Schluckbier educated him on the proper license requirements for fishing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier and CO Troy Ludwig completed an inspection on a local taxidermist. During the inspection, several cases were generated for taking a deer illegally. Further investigation will be conducted.

CO Sam Schluckbier assisted CO Miller and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources with investigating an unlicensed guide who resides in Eaton County.

CO Carter Woodwyk was patrolling a lake in Hillsdale County checking ice fishing anglers when he observed one ice fishing shanty separated from the main group of anglers on the lake. Upon contact, one of the anglers denied fishing for the three hours they have been on the ice. The CO observed the group to have seven fishing lines in the water. When the CO explained to the unlicensed subject that one of his friends would end up getting a citation for having more than their allotted number of lines in the water, he immediately confessed to fishing. Additionally, the CO located a small amount of marijuana that the unlicensed subject tossed when he saw the CO approaching. Another subject in this group was discovered to be on probation and in violation of his conditions. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Carter Woodwyk, while on patrol in Hillsdale County, was walking on the shoulder of the road when he approached a truck stopped at the corner of an intersection. The driver yelled a name out the window, so the CO approached the vehicle. When the CO shined his flashlight in the vehicle, he observed a fifth of Fireball Whisky in the center console, nearly empty. Upon further investigation, the driver was also discovered to be driving on a suspended license. Charges are being sought through the Hillsdale County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Carter Woodwyk had charges approved for a suspect who shot a 9-point whitetail deer during the 2017 archery deer season and purchased his license the next day. The CO served the suspect with an arrest warrant, and the suspect immediately posted bond.

CO Carter Woodwyk was patrolling a lake in Hillsdale County when he observed a single shanty tucked back in a small cove. The CO approached the shanty and listened to the subjects' conversations for a short period of time. After hearing many drinking stories, the CO made contact with the anglers. The CO discovered all three anglers to be minors in possession of alcohol and one of the anglers to be fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols was called out on New Year's Day to assist the Clinton County Sheriff's Department on a trespass/illegal deer complaint. The complainant had heard a shot after legal hunting hours and went out the following day to investigate. A drag mark was located on his property leading to the neighbor's property. When the deputy arrived at the suspect's residence, a processed deer carcass was found on a sled next to the garage. No tag was found with the deer. CO Nickols arrived on scene to assist with the investigation. The suspect was uncooperative and refused to answer questions. Charges are pending with the prosecutor's office.

CO Rich Nickols received a Report All Poaching (RAP) complaint from a subject who found a dead bald eagle on his property. CO Nickols collected the eagle and submitted it to the wildlife disease lab for necropsy. There were no visible signs of trauma and no evidence suggesting it was illegally killed.

CO Rich Nickols was first on scene of a dispatched unknown medical issue. CO Nickols arrived and found the subject in her residence face down on the floor but conscious. CO Nickols believed the subject was having a stroke and stayed with her until an ambulance crew arrived shortly. The subject was transported by ambulance to the hospital.

CO Rich Nickols followed up on a Report All Poaching (RAP) complaint from New Year's Day about a subject who shot two does with one shot and kept them both even though he only had a valid license for one. The subject admitted to shooting both does but said it was two separate shots and that he used his father's kill tag for one of the deer. Charges are pending with the Shiawassee County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Matthew Neterer responded to a trespassing complaint in the Leslie area. The complainant stated that two male subjects entered the wooded property surrounding his home. When confronted, the subjects told him that they were tracking a deer. They went on to say that they had spoken to a CO and that they could legally enter the property as long as they didn't have their firearms. The witness provided a picture of the pickup truck with the license plate partially obstructed by snow. CO Neterer immediately recognized the truck and one of the suspects as an individual he had cited early in the archery deer season for failing to tag an antlerless deer. CO Neterer also knew that the suspect was a convicted felon and determined that his rights to possess firearms had never been reinstated by the court. CO Neterer obtained a search warrant for the residence where he located two shotguns and the antlerless deer that had been recovered illegally. The suspects seemed surprised when officers arrived at the residence. Ironically, they were just sitting down to watch the Wardens Show on TV. CO

Neterer was assisted by CO Sam Schluckbier and CO Troy Ludwig. Charges for felony firearm and trespassing are pending with the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Matthew Neterer investigated an internet complaint of a subject who took two bucks during the 2017 season but only purchased a single deer tag. The subject took a large 8-point buck during archery season near Mason and then obtained a replacement tag at Meijer before taking an 11-point buck during firearm season in the Cadillac area. The suspect told CO Neterer that he wounded the first buck with his bow and that a neighbor eventually tagged it and took possession of it. The suspect could not explain why there were two separate Facebook posts of him posing with the dead buck with captions about "Getting it done" and "From the woods to the freezer/wall." The suspect also had no recollection of obtaining a replacement tag at Meijer. CO Neterer obtained a search warrant for the residence and located the 11-point antlers, the replacement tag and the rifle used to take the buck. While executing the search warrant, the COs located an illegal bait pile in the woods behind the residence and CO Neterer discovered evidence of two antlerless deer that were taken without licenses in the 2016 season. CO Neterer was assisted by CO Troy Ludwig and CO Sam Schluckbier. Charges are pending with the Missaukee and Ingham County Prosecutor's Offices.

DISTRICT 9

COs from District 9 worked the Ultimate Fishing Show in Novi. They made hundreds of contacts and answered both hunting and fishing related questions.

COs Jason Becker, Jacob Griffin, Justin Muehlhauser, and Sgt. Steve Mooney were patrolling Wolverine Lake for ORV and snowmobile activity and checking anglers. CO Muehlhauser observed a snowmobile that displayed an expired registration. When CO Muehlhauser and CO Becker stopped the snowmobile, the operator's father approached the COs. The COs observed that three out of the group of four snowmobiles had expired registrations and no trail permits. CO Becker recognized the father as a subject he warned for the same violations last year. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin was patrolling for snowmobile activity in Oakland County when he spotted one subject operating a snowmobile off the main trail. As CO Griffin rode closer to the subject, he noticed the operator was not wearing a safety helmet. When CO Griffin asked the subject why he was not wearing a helmet, the subject said the helmet he had did not fit his head. The subject further stated that his face was cold. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin was patrolling Oakland County when he spotted multiple anglers from a distance. As CO Griffin checked the fishermen, he discovered one subject only had a sturgeon tag. When the subject was asked why he did not purchase a fishing license, the subject stated that the sturgeon tag was all that was given to him. CO Griffin explained to the subject that the sturgeon tag is free and the fishing license must be purchased. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin and Sgt. Steve Mooney were patrolling Oakland County lakes on ORVs when the COs spotted one snowmobile and one ORV without the proper permit and registration. The COs stopped both subjects and discovered the snowmobile did not have the required trail permit and the ORV was not licensed. Both subjects were educated on the issues and enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers on Lake St. Clair, CO Joseph Deppen noticed a snowmobile traveling at a high rate of speed while towing an ice shanty. The rider was not wearing a helmet. CO Deppen stopped the snowmobile and the rider claimed he left his helmet in the truck. It was also discovered that the snowmobile was unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers on Lake St. Clair, CO Joseph Deppen observed four anglers riding on a single ORV with no one wearing a helmet. CO Deppen approached the ORV and all the riders hopped off and started walking away. When CO Deppen stopped the group, they all claimed to have been walking the entire time. The ORV was also unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Danielle Zubek were contacted by PCO James Garrett to conduct an interview on a subject for possibly taking a deer and purchasing a license after the fact. The COs were able to make contact with the subject who confessed to taking an antlerless deer and purchasing a license after he had shot the deer.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Danielle Zubek were contacted by PCO James Garrett to conduct an interview on another subject for possibly taking a deer and purchasing a license after the fact. The COs were able to make contact with the subject who confessed to taking an antlerless deer and purchasing a license after the fact. The antlerless license was also purchased for the wrong DMU.

COs Kris Kiel, Joseph Deppen, Brad Silorey and Probationary CO (PCO) Danielle Zubek conducted a group patrol on Lake St Clair targeting anglers, ORV and snowmobile activity. CO Kris Kiel and PCO Danielle Zubek made over 200 contacts. Many violations were addressed including unregistered ORVs and snowmobiles and operators not wearing helmets. Enforcement action was taken for these incidents.

COs Ben Lasher, Pat Hartsig and Sgt. Todd Szyska conducted a public hearing to address the request of the City of Algonac to have a slow no wake control act placed into effect for their municipality water jurisdiction on Lake St. Clair. Due to high water and large vessel traffic, damages have been incurred to private property including sea wall wash out, beach erosion, etc. The meeting was attended by County Commissioners, Township Supervisors, and approximately 30 members of the public.

CO Pat Hartsig checked ice anglers on Lake St. Clair. While contacting one angler, there were numerous perch on the ice in his shanty. When asked how many fish he had, the angler responded "He didn't know". A count of perch revealed 79 fish, making the angler 29 over the limit. The fish were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig had finished contacting an angler on Lake St. Clair with a perch over limit when he contacted another angler near him. After counting his catch, it was found that this angler was also over his limit of perch by 11. The fish were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was checking ice anglers on Lake St. Clair when he encountered several anglers who had a good day of fishing catching walleye and yellow perch. CO Silorey checked the anglers' fish and then asked for the anglers' fishing licenses. One showed his license to CO Silorey, however the other angler stated he did not have his with him but he did buy one. CO Silorey took the anglers ID and checked with dispatch to see if the angler had purchased a license. After a brief check it was discovered that the subject had not purchased a Michigan fishing license for several years. It was also discovered that the suspect had a warrant out for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken, and the arresting agency was contacted on the warrant.

CO David Schaumburger made contact with four anglers returning from walleye fishing on Brest Bay. Three of the anglers had proper fishing licenses. One angler had two different individuals' fishing licenses and three different individuals' deer kill tags and did not have his ID on him. The CO asked the angler for his name and double checked to make sure he had the proper fishing license. With the aid of dispatch, it was determined the angler had provided a false name. The proper name was found, along with a warrant for his arrest. Although the angler did have a fishing license, he was still transported to the county jail on his warrant.

COs Pat Hartsig, Ben Lasher, Brad Silorey, and Sgt. Todd Szyska responded to a late-night Report All Poaching (RAP) complaint of a subject who had asked for a dog tracker to respond to a deer he had shot and failed to produce the correct hunting license in northern Macomb County. The dog tracker stopped the track immediately, notified Station 20 and left the scene. A trooper with the Michigan State Police responded to the scene and stayed with the hunter until the COs arrived. All involved officers were responding from a public hearing or special event assignment in another county. CO Silorey was able to contact the dog tracker while in route and asked him to come back out to assist the officers. CO Hartsig and Sgt. Szyska talked with the hunter and CO Lasher assisted the dog tracker. CO Silorey was the furthest out and when he arrived he was briefed on the incident. The hunter had explained to the COs that he had shot a doe but that he could not find it so he contacted the dog tracker. The hunter had a valid hunting license, but was also carrying a part of his friends hunting license with him which is what he had first given the dog tracker. The hunter also had two baited hunting sites, one which was a pop-up blind and the other a tree stand. At the pop-up blind there was over 200 pounds of fresh shelled corn. At the tree stand site there was shelled corn and sugar beets. The dog tracked the deer through three different tracks of property when it became tired and could not continue. Due to the inclement weather and tired tracking dog, the deer could not be recovered. COs Silorey and Hartsig are finishing up the investigation on this case and charges will be sought for the baiting violations.