

**Law Enforcement Division  
Bi-Weekly Field Report  
6/25/12 – 7/8/12**

**DISTRICT 1**

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy attempted to stop a group of ORVs operating along the state highway. As the COs turned around to catch up to the leader of the group, the tail end rider veered off and left the area. After contacting the group, Sgt. Pomroy tracked down the missing ORV operator who was found in the woods a short distance from where he left the highway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Painter was working a marine patrol when he observed a boat operator power loading at an access site. CO Painter contacted the subject after his boat was loaded and asked if he read the large sign at the end of the launch dock. He stated he read the sign, but felt he could only power load the boat onto the trailer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Grant Emery served a two count warrant on a subject for the illegal take of otter. The subject had put out poison on the back of his boat at a local marina to target a family of otter that had boarded his swim platform.

CO Grant Emery took a call from a lady who had an encounter with a female black bear and her cubs. The lady had fallen asleep sun bathing in her yard. When she awoke to the ring of her cell phone she saw the sow bear pulling down a bird feeder on her deck that she had recently filled. Sitting down next to her awaiting their free meal were her three cubs.

CO Dave Painter assisted local deputies with a domestic violence call. CO Painter was involved with a foot pursuit when the subject fled the house from the back door. CO Painter caught the subject in a field behind the house and placed him under arrest.

CO Matthew Eberly and Sgt. Steven Burton stopped an ORV shortly after midnight this weekend. The operator was intoxicated and had a suspended license. The operator was arrested and lodged in the Houghton County Jail.

CO Trey Luce and Sgt. Steven Burton conducted surveillance on two anglers on Deer Lake after dark. The subjects were operating an unregistered boat, failed to have life jackets and also failed to display navigation lights. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman observed a jeep with four occupants in Forestville. Three male subjects got out to move trees and rocks to make a path around a gate on private property. The property was signed with no wheeled motor vehicles. CO Leadman followed them inside the closed area and stopped them. They explained to him that they hadn't gone around the gate but rather came in another way. He advised that he

had watched them go around the gate. He ticketed the driver for ORV trespass and had them rebuild the barrier wall of trees/rocks in the path they had created around the gate.

CO David Miller issued a ticket to an angler who lied about his age. As CO Miller asked to see their licenses, one young subject told CO Miller he was only 16. His younger brother immediately corrected his older brother that he was 17. A ticket was issued.

## **DISTRICT 2**

CO Mike Evink contacted two dirt bike riders operating on public land. The first bike did not have an ORV license. Upon questioning, CO Evink found that the previous day CO Robert Crisp had warned the second rider to get an ORV license, which he did. The second rider went on to explain that he had told the first bike operator to get one. The first bike operator decided against it. A ticket was issued along with a suggestion to follow his friend's advice.

COs Jared Ferguson and Mike Evink were patrolling a local river in plain clothes when they observed three subjects in a canoe. The COs watched as one of the subjects smoked marijuana from a small pipe. The officers radioed ahead to uniformed COs who contacted the subject in the canoe. A file check revealed he was on parole for armed robbery and possession and use of marijuana was a violation of his parole. One of the others in the canoe was also a convicted felon and the third was also in possession of marijuana and on probation. Two of the three were transported to the county jail.

CO Robert Crisp and Sgt. Darryl Shann assisted a Michigan State Police (MSP) trooper in Alger County with a report of a B&E in progress. The caller reported that when he and his wife drove to their camp they saw a pit bull run into an open door of a shed near the camp. They decided to back away from the camp. Officers arrived at the scene, met with the owners and approached the camp area. The suspect was arrested as he attempted to leave the scene in his vehicle. The pit bull, which turned out to be a mix of several breeds, was actually on loan from a local pound as a way to give it exercise. The suspect was arrested and the dog was returned to the pound.

CO Jared Ferguson and Sgt. Darryl Shann were patrolling state land for ORV activity as well as timber theft complaints when they met an ORV being driven by a male subject with a female passenger. Neither subject was wearing a helmet. The road was very narrow and the ORV had to drive into the woods to get by the patrol truck. At this point, the COs were planning to issue a warning, as the ORV was operating at a slow speed. That did not become an option due to the operator driving past the patrol truck and accelerating in the opposite direction. After some interesting backing up, the COs were able to turn the patrol truck around and almost caught up to the ORV when it was driven around a gate at the edge of private property and lost. The following day, a nearby resident found an ORV on her property and called the sheriff's department. The deputies seized the abandoned ORV and found it belonged to a local resident. When contacted, the owner claimed it had been stolen. During an interview, the owner

confessed to running from the COs the previous day. Charges are being sought for the helmet violations, riding double and making a false police report.

CO Robert Crisp assisted local deputies with a motorcycle personal injury accident. The motorcyclist had pulled to the side of the road and then attempted to make a U-turn but turned into an SUV he hadn't seen. Assistance was given to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) with first aid and with loading the patient into the ambulance.

CO John Wenzel observed two subjects in a canoe who stopped along the river and both smoked what appeared to be marijuana. He contacted the subjects and asked them for the pot. The subjects turned over a bag containing marijuana. One of the subjects stated that he had a medical marijuana card, but didn't have it with him. The other individual was asked if he also had a card and he stated no. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma was conducting surveillance of anglers on the St. Marys river when he observed a subject who was snagging fish. Upon contact the subject stated that he knew what he was doing was wrong but the fish just weren't biting so he decided to snag some. A ticket was issued.

CO Kyle Publiski was conducting a marine patrol when he encountered a subject herring fishing. To his surprise, the subject was adamant that he was only perch fishing. The CO checked his fishing license and marine safety gear but when asked about a cooler the subject became very nervous and hesitant. He eventually stated that it was just his lunch and that the CO was harassing him. Further investigation revealed that the cooler possessed an overlimit of fresh herring. A ticket was issued.

CO Kevin Postma reports that fishing activity at the Sault Powerhouse remains very busy. Teaming up with Bay Mills and Sault Tribal COs they have written several tickets for violations of tribal and state fish regulations.

COs Jeff Panich and Brett Gustafson worked the St. Ignace Classic Car Show in the Straits State Park along with Parks and Recreation Division officers. A few warnings had been issued for various violations, bringing everyone into compliance until the early morning hours, at which time a subject driving a pickup truck entered the park at a high rate of speed and carelessly continued around a loop in the upper campground area. It was discovered that the subject had just left the bar and was intoxicated. The subject was arrested and lodged in the Mackinac County Jail.

### **DISTRICT 3**

CO Carl Vanderwall was recently involved in a court case in Emmet County involving a subject charged with trapping during the closed season, failing to check traps and for using untagged traps. The defendant claimed he was exempt from state laws due to the fact that he was a Mackinaw Band Tribal Member. The court, however, ruled that

the Mackinaw Band is not a federally recognized tribe and thus the defendant does not have any standing on those grounds. The defendant was found guilty on all charges.

CO Carl Vanderwall responded to a complaint of college-aged subjects shooting ducks from a home on Crooked Lake. An interview with neighbors revealed that this is a common occurrence from this residence. CO Vanderwall attempted to make contact with the subjects at their lake house, which had numerous cars in the driveway and boats at the dock; however, no one would answer the door. The situation is currently under investigation and efforts to contact the registered property owner are underway.

While patrolling the Sturgeon River for marine activity, CO Matt Theunick encountered kayakers without life jackets. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Pine River Channel, CO Andrea Erratt observed a subject fishing next to the DNR Fisheries Research Building. A check of the subject revealed that he did not have a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

While on Lake Charlevoix, CO Andrea Erratt encountered a 44 foot documented vessel that was not registered. By not registering the vessel, the paying of state sales tax on the vessel is avoided. Enforcement action was taken.

Responding to complaints of reckless activity on the Jordan River, CO Andrea Erratt conducted a patrol by kayak. Three tickets were issued for not having life jackets along with numerous warnings. In addition, a littering warning was given for shooting bottle rockets into the river.

While patrolling the Jordan River, CO Andrea Erratt encountered a rowboat overloaded with five subjects, none of whom had life jackets and were using crutches wrapped in duct tape for oars. The CO gave them five life jackets and directed them into shore.

CO Andrea Albert received a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint of two subjects shooting a turkey with a .22 caliber rifle. After several interviews with local residents, CO Albert was able to identify two suspects. Subsequent interviews revealed one subject had shot and killed a hen turkey that was with poults and the second subject had shot at another hen turkey, but missed it. Charges are pending for taking a turkey out of season and for attempt to take turkeys out of season and the firearm was seized for condemnation.

While working the busy 4<sup>th</sup> of July activity on the Torch Lake sand bar, CO Andrea Albert and a local marine deputy received a citizen complaint of a highly intoxicated subject starting several fights. The officers did not have to watch long, as the subject had passed out and went under water. As friends of the subject were pulling him out of the water and getting him to come to, the subject started to fight with them. During the struggle the subject tore a railing off of a nearby pontoon boat. While attempting to arrest the subject for disorderly conduct, the subject resisted arrest and had to be

controlled with the use of OC pepper spray. CO Albert lodged the subject at the county jail on charges of drunk and disorderly conduct and resist and obstruct an officer.

While off duty, CO Andrea Albert observed a male subject and his three daughters catching and keeping several undersized bass. CO Albert went home to check in service and quickly returned to contact the angler. When contacted, the subject had 16 undersized bass in his possession. The angler had several excuses for keeping the undersized bass, he first claimed he did not know the size limit, his second excuse was that all of the fish swallowed the hook and were dead, and lastly he said he was new to fishing and didn't know the laws, even though this was his second year for purchasing a fishing license. CO Albert explained the requirement of anglers to know the laws prior to fishing. The subject was ticketed for possessing the undersized bass.

COs Steve Speigl, Andrea Albert and Mike Hearn responded to a call on Torch Lake's "sand bar" of possible narcotics possession. CO Speigl interviewed the occupants of the boat where the drugs were found and was able to obtain a confession. A bottle containing 'ecstasy' was seized and the subject was lodged in jail.

CO Steve Speigl responded to a call of an individual burning illegally. Upon arrival, CO Speigl could tell by the odors that the contents of the now extinguished fire were unlawful. A short investigation and interview revealed that the individual was unable to sell his boat, so he decided to burn it instead. A ticket was issued for unlawful burning of solid waste.

COs Steve Speigl and Andrea Albert conducted a patrol on Lake Michigan and observed a personal watercraft (PWC) towing without an observer. As the COs headed toward the PWC, the driver went to shore when he saw the COs approaching. Upon contact, the operator said he didn't think that big of a boat could get that close to shore. A ticket was issued for the violation.

CO Kelly Ross was off duty when he received a call from the sheriff's office that someone was yelling for help on Fletchers Pond after dark. The owner of Hill's Landing launched his boat and was able to locate two adults and three children in the water; which left his boat overloaded and unable to move. The anglers had been in the water for approximately two hours after their boat capsized when they were attempting to land a fish. CO Ross transferred the rescued anglers to his boat and took them to a waiting ambulance where they were treated for symptoms of hypothermia.

CO Kelly Ross was patrolling Clear Lake when he saw a person who was being pulled behind a boat on a tube fall through the tube and then get dragged across the lake. CO Ross stopped the boat and found the operator did not know the rider was being dragged. He had three small children in the boat and was not being told the rider was in distress. The rider recovered after 10 minutes and the driver of the boat was ticketed for not having a competent observer.

CO Mark DePew reported that the four individuals who shot a bull elk earlier this year were sentenced and will pay \$8,400 in fines and restitution, they will spend 30 days in jail, they lost hunting privileges for the next four years and lost the firearms which were used in the shooting.

CO Mark DePew was watching four individuals in a boat fishing. CO DePew also saw the occupants drinking beer and then filling the cans with water and sinking them in the lake. CO DePew waited for them to return to shore and ticketed them for minors in possession of alcohol, not having any lifejackets and littering.

COs Bill Webster and Jon Sklba were patrolling after dark when they witnessed a boat pulling a tube approximately an hour and a half after dark. They contacted the driver of the boat and ticketed him for pulling a tube after legal hours.

COs Bill Webster and Jon Sklba were on Long Lake at approximately midnight when they saw a boat operating at a high rate of speed without navigation lights. The boat was stopped and the operator was put through sobriety evaluations and was subsequently arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol. He was nearly two times the legal limit.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

CO Rebecca Hopkins received a complaint of a subject shooting at mergansers from his deck on Glenn Lake. During the investigation, CO Hopkins was able to locate a subject who admitted to shooting at three mergansers on the water with a .22cal. rifle. The subject claimed he was attempting to scare the mergansers away. The firearm was seized and a warrant will be requested from the prosecutor's office.

CO Rebecca Hopkins assisted local law enforcement agencies with a suicidal/missing person complaint. The missing subject's vehicle was located and a search of the area was conducted. The deceased subject was soon located in the vicinity of the vehicle.

Sgt. Bob Torres was contacted by Parks and Recreation Division personnel in reference to officer safety information on a subject who was currently camping at a State Forest Campground (SFC). CO Sean Kehoe reviewed the information and noted the name of the subject camping matched a suspect in a littering case he had been looking for. In 2010, CO Kehoe contacted the subject on a state land camping complaint. Following up at the camp site after it was vacated, CO Kehoe discovered a large pile of litter and human waste. CO Kehoe had been looking for the subject since that date with little success. Using the recent information, CO Kehoe was able to contact the subject who was again camping on state forest lands. CO Kehoe showed the subject the camp card and photos from 2010 with the subject admitting to the violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky was patrolling on Lake Michigan near Ludington when he encountered two subjects trolling with excessive lines. When CO Brosky attempted to get them to

stop, the subjects acted as though they didn't understand and continued fishing. CO Brosky was forced to activate his emergency lights but the two continued to ignore him and continued fishing. CO Brosky then activated his siren and drove directly up alongside the other boat and ordered them to stop the vessel before the operator finally complied. When stopped, the operator claimed to be from Russia and stated he didn't understand English. As the ticket was being written, the operator began speaking quite well in English about his dismay in receiving a ticket.

COs Brian Brosky and Steve Converse responded to a call for assistance regarding a situation whereby a subject had shot and wounded a Ludington police officer using a rifle. The COs assisted with perimeter control of the house and ultimately with the physical arrest of the subject after he surrendered.

Sgt. Kevin Hackworth assisted local deputies in locating and arresting a subject who had broken into a gun cabinet and stolen a pistol and ammunition. The subject fled on foot and was located after an extensive search. Sgt. Hackworth was able to utilize GPS coordinates provided by a cell phone company after the subject had used his cell phone. This information enabled Sgt. Hackworth and a deputy to be in the right area and make a quick apprehension.

While assisting the sheriff's deputies with a search for the B&E suspect, Sgt. Kevin Hackworth, in an attempt to obtain information on sightings of the suspect, contacted a subject fishing. During the contact a six inch trout was located. Sgt. Hackworth, who was occupied with the felony search, took the subject's information and placed the undersized trout in his pocket. Contact was made the next day and the subject with the trout was ticketed for the undersized fish.

While working the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks on a patrol boat out of the Manistee Harbor, CO Carla Soper contacted a male subject and his son operating PWCs after dark. The pair had operated along the Lake Michigan shoreline for approximately eight miles to attend the fireworks display with others in their party who were in boats. When CO Soper issued a ticket to the adult for the offense, the subject responded that he had a flashlight onboard. The adult further stated that they had just attended a marine safety class and figured the light was an "appropriate white light". He stated that he didn't remember anything about the red/green navigation lights or the restrictions on PWC operation after sunset.

COs Steve Converse and Carla Soper responded to a residence in the City of Manistee about a complaint that the resident had shot and killed a deer in the backyard. The suspect was located and quickly admitted to shooting the deer for damaging his landscaping. The deer was located and a written confession was obtained. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Mike Bomay and CO Jeff Ginn were patrolling the Silver Lake Sand Dunes when they responded to a personal injury accident. The wind conditions were severe, causing enormous peaks on the dunes. The operator of an ORV jumped the dune and

flipped his ORV on top of him, breaking his arm and causing multiple lacerations. Upon arriving at the location of the accident, the victim was found partially buried in sand due to the high winds shifting the sand. Emergency blankets and towels were used to keep the victim from being covered by sand as the officers administered first aid and awaited EMS. Sgt. Bomay and CO Ginn assisted EMS with stabilization and removing the victim from the dunes.

Sgt. Mike Bomay and CO Jeff Ginn were conducting a marine patrol on the Muskegon River to address multiple complaints of illegal activity by tubers. Patrolling downriver to a state access site, four young adults were observed standing near shore with their inner tubes. The COs observed several full bottles of beer in the cup holders of the inner tubes. When asked who the beer belonged to, the young adults advised they had another friend who was 21 coming to meet them but he wasn't from the area and got lost. The COs obtained the subjects' identification and discovered that everyone was under 21. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Ginn was working early one weekend morning when he located nine vehicles parked at campsites along the Muskegon River. The vehicles were well beyond the barricades and when the owners were asked why they had operated the vehicles in a closed area they advised that it was just too far to carry all their gear and campfire wood by hand. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Ginn was requested by a U.S. Forest Service (USFS) officer to assist with an investigation of a possible arson in the Huron-Manistee National Forest. The officers were able to locate the origin of the fire along with the remains of three wooden kitchen matches. CO Ginn interviewed a young boy at the adjacent property and was able to obtain a confession for this fire as well as another fire the boy had set earlier in the spring.

CO Troy VanGelderren was patrolling Lake Michigan when he observed a vessel trolling with nine rods. While CO VanGelderren approached the vessel, one subject was observed to quickly start reeling in lines. CO VanGelderren was able to determine that the vessel only had two licensed anglers onboard. The subject continued reeling in lines in such a hurry that a treble hook penetrated his thumb past the barb. Upon making contact with the frustrated and injured subject, still trolling one too many lines, the subject stated that the fishing just got hot so he put out the "max". The subject was a charter boat captain from the east side of the state. Enforcement action was taken along with directions to the local hospital.

CO Mike Wells was working a complaint of unregistered kayaks being rented from a local livery. CO Wells then observed the operator of the company unloading unregistered kayaks for use. The CO interviewed the renters to determine that the watercraft was rented for a fee. The employee who delivered the kayaks was also interviewed and confirmed that the kayaks dropped off belonged to the company. CO Wells interviewed the owner of the company and confirmed that the kayaks were being rented without the required registration. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 5**

CO Mike Hearn conducted a marine enforcement patrol on July 4<sup>th</sup> and observed a subject on a boat staggering and stumbling as he made his way to the driver's seat of the vessel. The CO was able to get the vessel stopped as they approached the nearby mouth of a river. The operator failed his sobriety tests and was above the legal limit when given a breathalyzer test. The subject was lodged for boating under the influence of alcohol, while the passengers on the boat became verbally abusive to the arresting officers.

CO John Huspen assisted two subjects floating in the water without any vessel nearby. The subjects had been riding on a PWC and fallen off. The lanyard, which would have shut the engine off when the driver was ejected, broke and failed to shut the engine down. CO Huspen located the PWC and was able to turn it off and get the operators back on the PWC.

COs Mike Hearn and Matt Liestenfeltz observed several subjects sitting on the back of a speedboat in an area not designed for passengers while the boat was on plane at high speed. As the boat hit waves and the wake of other boats, the occupants would bounce into the air. The vessel was stopped and a check of other safety equipment was conducted. During the stop, it was determined that the operator was under the influence of alcohol. The operator failed a sobriety test and was taken into custody for operating a boat while under the influence of alcohol.

COs Chris Bowen and Chuck McPherson checked two subjects who were fishing without licenses. The subjects were Canadian residents and indicated they did not know a fishing license was required. As the conversation went on, one subject mentioned that in the past they had purchased their fishing licenses at a nearby tackle shop.

Sgt. Jean Davis responded to a complaint of subjects camping near a river who had speared a turtle. Sgt. Davis was able to locate a very large dead snapping turtle that had an arrow wound in the neck and through the shell. The campers arrived later in the day and Sgt. Davis was able to locate the subject who admitted to shooting the turtle with an arrow the previous night and leaving it lay in the hot weather. The subject had used an illegal method to take a turtle out of season.

While on patrol on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, CO Mark Papineau responded to a reported boating accident on Wixom Lake. According to the complaint, one operator was attempting to maneuver amongst numerous other vessels anchored on an area known as "Pontoon Alley". The operator of the vessel attempted to change direction within close proximity to other vessels by placing the throttle hard into reverse. At that point, the vessel swung quickly out of control and collided with another vessel at anchor.

CO Jason McCullough assisted local deputies in the investigation of a boating accident that resulted in a drowning. A subject was being towed on a tube when he fell off and

drowned. It was discovered through the investigation that the subject did not know how to swim. The case is being reviewed by the prosecutor's office.

CO Warren MacNeill received numerous complaints of houndsmen illegally running their dogs. After several nights of working the complaint, he was able to catch the subject who was training his dogs during the closed training season.

Sgt. Glenn Gutierrez assisted local deputies with an investigation into a boating accident where the driver, who was intoxicated, had run into a pontoon boat. The suspect's boat completely sank due to damage sustained in the accident and the victim's pontoon boat partially sank. The suspect was lodged and both boats were recovered from the water. There were no injuries resulting from the accident.

## **DISTRICT 6**

CO Seth Rhodea and local deputies contacted a large group of campers illegally camping in the Minden State Game Area (SGA). Multiple tickets were issued for the camping violations and two tickets issued for minors in possession of alcohol.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted numerous ORVs in Sanilac County and issued tickets for operating without valid ORV licenses and operating without helmets. Numerous warnings were also given.

CO Ken Lowell was contacted by the RAP hotline regarding a deer that had been shot after dark from a vehicle in Montcalm County. The CO responded to the complaint and sat in the field waiting for the suspects to come back and claim the deer. After a short wait, a vehicle pulled up to the field and dropped off two of the subjects. Both ran out to the dead eight point buck and started to drag it back toward the road. The CO activated his lights and sirens and both subjects began to run for the nearby woods. The CO chased the men in his truck until they entered the woods and then chased them on foot. After a chase through the woods, a struggle, and a TASER deployment, the CO was finally able to place one of the subjects in custody. The subject was lodged for resisting and obstructing a police officer, illegal possession of a deer and the two arrest warrants out of Montcalm County.

While patrolling the Saginaw River after the Bay City fireworks display, COs Josh Wright, Quincy Gowenlock and Dan Lee heard excited shouting coming from a vessel. As they approached, the COs could see smoke coming from the vessel. The COs pulled alongside and were able to remove all nine passengers, including four children, from the smoking vessel and onto their patrol boat. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary responded and assisted with towing the vessel back to shore. No one was injured and the vessel appears salvageable.

While patrolling state land in northern Midland County, COs Joel Lundberg and Dan Lee followed vehicle tracks over a berm and into an area closed to vehicle traffic. Shortly after entering the trail they met a jeep heading out and observed the driver throw

something into the woods. Contact was made and the COs found the driver had a suspended driver's license, the vehicle was not registered, had no insurance and the passenger had an open beer in the vehicle. While the COs were attempting to locate the object thrown into the woods the passenger decided to run. He was quickly apprehended. The object thrown from the vehicle was located and turned out to be a bag of marijuana. Both subjects were lodged in the county jail and the vehicle was towed.

COs Quincy Gowenlock and Dan Lee were patrolling the Saginaw River on Independence Day when they observed a large speed boat with a number of other similar vessels traveling at a high rate of speed with an infant on his mother's lap without a life jacket on. The COs stopped the vessel to find the mother hastily fastening a life jacket onto the child. The mother stated that her young son gets scared when they go fast and doesn't like to wear his jacket. The operator was ticketed.

## **DISTRICT 7**

CO Andy Bauer was patrolling Lake Michigan near the Michigan/Indiana State line, when he made contact with two anglers trolling for salmon. CO Bauer requested to see fishing licenses and the anglers held up two blank daily fishing licenses. The anglers stated that they had purchased the daily licenses and did not have a pen, therefore had not filled out any information on the licenses, making them valid for the day. Enforcement action was taken against both individuals.

CO Jeff Robinette was on patrol in Cass County for marine and fishing activity. At a public access site, he used his binoculars and observed two separate boats, with all occupants fishing. After launching his boat and making contact with the first boat, he observed the other boats' occupants quickly begin to leave. CO Robinette made contact with the anglers and asked for fishing licenses. One subject produced a valid license and the other subject stated he wasn't fishing and that CO Robinette couldn't prove that he was actually fishing. CO Robinette showed the unlicensed angler his binoculars and explained that he had watched the subject fishing for approximately ten minutes before launching his patrol boat. A ticket was then accepted without further arguing.

CO Greg Patten of Muskegon County obtained a felony animal cruelty warrant for an individual who is also a felony habitual offender. CO Patten became aware of a posting using Facebook where the subject shook a young raccoon from a tree allowing his dog to maul the raccoon when it fell to the ground. During the incident, the dog was bitten by the raccoon as the owner stomped and beat the animal with a pipe. Bystanders recorded the event which was then posted to the suspect's Facebook page.

CO Greg Patten patrolled Grand Haven State Park during the fourth of July. During this patrol he contacted and took enforcement action against four persons for possession of alcohol in the state park or minor in possession of alcohol. Two minors were hospitalized due to excess alcohol consumption with one 16 year old having a blood

alcohol content of .26. Two other park patrons were injured by an outboard motor when they attempted to board a vessel off the beach and required medical treatment. CO Patten also had to disperse teens who were throwing bottles and trash at park employees as they attempted to clean the beach.

CO Greg Patten responded to a brush fire which escaped after the homeowner was using an improper burn barrel to burn household trash. The fire was brought under control after burning a couple of acres and the property owner was ticketed for a violation of the solid waste law.

As a part of stepped up enforcement at Grand Haven State Park, CO Greg Patten, CO BJ Goulette and Sgt. John Jurcich worked with state park officers to ticket 12 persons for alcohol violations during a several hour patrol of the beach area. Officers found park patrons using a variety of techniques to smuggle beverages into the park after heat indices during the week exceeded 100 degrees. During the patrol, a swimmer was rescued by others after a rip tide swept him a quarter mile down the beach. The following day seven swimmers had to be rescued by state park officers and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) at the Holland State Park Beach after well publicized warnings of rip currents that day.

CO BJ Goulette and Sgt. John Jurcich conducted patrols of Lake Michigan off Muskegon and Muskegon Lake during a fireworks event on July 4th. The officers ticketed one subject for trolling with too many lines and responded to take action along the shoreline after numerous fireworks complaints. After witnessing a firework launch through a crowd of spectators and observing fireworks directed lakeward at moving and moored vessels, COs issued two tickets for use of fireworks in a public place. Those involved were launching fireworks from a very busy City of Muskegon boat launch site.

CO Gary Raak was working illegal ORV activity in the Barry SGA when he observed ORV tracks through prohibited areas and down roadways. He followed the tracks until he caught up to the two subjects on ORVs. CO Raak attempted to stop them but they fled. After a short pursuit one of the riders stopped and the second continued to flee. The first operator was arrested for operating while intoxicated and the ORV violations. A follow-up investigation determined the identification of the second operator. Arrest warrants are being obtained for flee and elude, driving while license suspended and other ORV violations.

CO Patrick McManus patrolled for illegal ORV activity in the Allegan SGA and reports a higher than normal amount of illegal activity. Tickets included operating vehicles off-road, open intoxicants, no helmets and operating on roadways.

CO Chuck Towns responded with the USCG and county marine patrol agencies to several boats in distress on Lake Michigan near Holland. The lake conditions turned rapidly dangerous for small vessels and several were caught too far from the harbor. Four vessels were assisted through the day.

CO Chuck Towns and Lt. Tim Robson conducted a marine safety patrol in Holland and Saugatuck Harbors. They assisted one vessel that had run out of gas and was drifting in the shipping channel. They were able to transport the boat and single occupant two miles back to her slip. Later they assisted a kayaker who had fallen out of his kayak approximately one-half mile from shore. He was unable to re-board and was attempting to swim with it back to shore. The COs were able to take him aboard, drain the kayak of water and get him back under way safely.

CO Dave Rodgers was on patrol in Kent County when he observed a boat being loaded to a trailer after the occupants were fishing. The boat had improper registration numbers. A computer check of the owner revealed he also held no fishing license. CO Rodgers contacted the operator and found he had caught two pike, had no personal flotation devices (PFDs) aboard, and had recently been released from probation for a kidnapping conviction. Enforcement action was taken for the violations.

CO Dave Rodgers observed a group fishing in Kent County that included several children and CO Rodgers was certain the group had retained fish during this period. Upon contact, one subject began to speak Spanish to a child in the group and denied having caught any fish to CO Rodgers. After a brief search and listening to the children talk, Rodgers located bass and catfish concealed in tall grass that were otherwise legal but the angler was unlicensed. A computer check revealed this person was a wanted parole absconder with a warrant having just been entered for his arrest at midnight on this date. CO Rodger arrested the subject and lodged him at the Kent County jail while ticketing him for fishing without a license.

CO Jeff Robinette was requested by local deputies to assist at a domestic disturbance involving a knife. CO Robinette was first on scene and was unable to locate any of the subjects involved. CO Robinette waited until back-up arrived, and a search of the residence led to the discovery that a homicide had just occurred and that the subject had fled the scene on foot moments before CO Robinette's arrival. CO Robinette assisted with securing the scene, warning the local public, and in the ensuing manhunt. The suspect was apprehended later in the evening without incident and charged with homicide.

## **DISTRICT 8**

CO Kyle Bader wrote a ticket to a motorist who passed him on a blind hill and double yellow lines. When CO Bader asked him what his hurry was, he said, "No reason, I just drive this road all the time and I didn't think there would be any cars coming."

CO Brian Fish responded to a call of a deer being killed by a shot to the face while in a farm field. The animal was dead for some time before CO Fish was called. The investigation continues.

CO Derek Miller worked with local deputies during a fireworks show in northern Washtenaw County. The officers provided a secure area around the fireworks barges

and contacted numerous boaters throughout the night. The officers issued tickets for registration violations and personal flotation device (PFD) violations. The officers worked into the night and contacted a boater operating through congested traffic. After a stop on the water, the officers found the operator to be intoxicated who was almost twice the legal limit of intoxication. The operator was arrested and lodged in the Washtenaw County Jail.

COs Derek Miller and Mike Drexler patrolled lakes in the Washtenaw/Wayne County line area. The COs contacted occupants of a vessel fishing on the north shore line of Belleville Lake and found the anglers did not have fishing licenses or a sufficient number of PFDs. Enforcement action taken. Later in the day, the COs contacted two anglers fishing from shore. The COs asked for fishing licenses and the two subjects were not able to present ID or fishing licenses. After file checking the two subjects, it was discovered they both had warrants out of Washtenaw County. Both subjects were lodged for their outstanding warrants and enforcement action was taken for the fishing license violations.

COs Derek Miller and Mike Drexler contacted a subject fishing on shore and asked the subject to hold up his fishing license. The subject advised he forgot it in his car and that he would be right back. The subject left his fishing equipment behind and ran to his car. The subject returned 15 minutes later with a fishing license, and stated that he lost his first license, so he had to run and buy a new one, but that he had purchased one earlier in the year. A computer check revealed the subject did not have a license earlier in the year and that he hadn't purchased one in five years. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Pete Purdy and Derek Miller worked together on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday on Whitmore, Pleasant, Zukey and Strawberry Lakes. The lake patrols resulted in 123 contacts, four tickets issued for fish w/o license, three unregistered watercraft, and 11 warnings were given for 10 marine violations and a fishing violation.

CO Pete Purdy and Derek Miller worked together on PWC patrol on Highland Lake to address complaints of unsafe boating. The patrol resulted in 37 contacts, three tickets issued for fish w/o license, fail to provide PFD, fail to provide fire extinguisher, also two marine warnings were given.

While headed out for marine patrol, CO Rich Nickols contacted two anglers headed back in to the boat launch. CO Nickols asked if they had any luck fishing and they said they had one pike. When CO Nickols asked to see it they retrieved it from a plastic grocery bag and showed it to him. The pike measured 18 inches. A ticket was issued.

CO Rich Nickols conducted a livery inspection on a small "semi-private" lake in Clinton County. All of the boats had expired registrations, half of the available PFDs were torn and some had the stuffing hanging out. A couple boats had insufficient anchor ropes and none of the boats had capacity tags. A warrant request is pending.

CO Todd Thorn, while patrolling the Grand River in Lansing, observed a subject standing on his bass boat waving his arms to get CO Thorn's attention. As CO Thorn got closer he could see smoke coming from the subject's boat motor and then flames shooting out of the gas line leading to the motor. CO Thorn threw the subject his fire extinguisher and after shutting off the gas line and using the contents of two fire extinguishers, they were able to get the fire out with minimal damage to the vessel or it's motor.

While patrolling a local lake, COs Rich Nichols and Todd Thorn observed a subject on a PWC driving very fast through a slow, no-wake area where children were present. The operator was stopped and found to have just purchased the vessel and decided to operate it without ever having taken boater safety. The subject was within the age requiring that boater safety be taken before operating a PWC. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn stopped to talk to a boat operator on a busy lake during Independence Day. The operator appeared to want to speak to the CO, and while approaching the vessel, CO Thorn observed an open can of beer in a cup holder by the steering wheel. While speaking with the operator, it was apparent that he had been drinking and was possibly intoxicated. After conducting sobriety tests and performing a preliminary breath test, the subject was arrested for operating a marine vessel while intoxicated.

CO Shane Webster checked a local fishing bridge and observed several juveniles fishing. A check of their fishing bucket revealed one "keeper" as the youngsters put it. Unfortunately the fish was a 12" largemouth bass. An education was given on size limits and fish identification and the bass was released back into the water without issue.

## **DISTRICT 9**

While working marine patrol on Holloway Reservoir with Intern Chris Brown, CO Linda Scheidler observed a PWC operate within 60 to 80 feet behind her patrol vessel. The operator of the vessel was hailed and his friend on another PWC stopped also. The operator was asked his birth date and he said he was born in the 1990s. He was then asked if he had ever taken a boater safety class, and he admitted he had not. His friend on the other PWC admitted to the same. Enforcement action was taken.

While working on a northern Genesee County lake, CO Linda Scheidler heard a complaint over her radio from 9-1-1 of two subjects who had entered a closed state boat launch in southern Genesee County. The local police were dispatched and were able to apprehend the subjects attempting to launch their PWCs at the launch which was under construction and locked with a chain and clasp. CO Scheidler contacted state park personnel who promptly drove to the boat launch and secured the area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher and Intern Chris Brown conducted a marine patrol in northern Lake St. Clair and around Harsens Island. The pair observed two subjects fishing from shore and one of them caught a smallmouth bass. CO Lasher contacted the subjects who were brothers and said they were just helping their children fish. Unfortunately the children had left and the brothers did not have fishing licenses.

While on a marine patrol in southern St. Clair County, CO Ben Lasher and Intern Chris Brown observed two PWCs take off and get on plane in a slow, no-wake area, and violate the 100 ft. rule. The pair followed the PWCs into Muscamoot Bay and contacted the father and son operators. One of the vessels had an expired registration. An education was provided along with enforcement action.

While working his way home one evening, CO Ken Kovach had a vehicle pass him at an extremely high rate of speed. The CO caught up to the vehicle and paced it in excess of 80 mph. CO Kovach stopped the vehicle and contacted the operator who did not realize the CO's truck was a fully marked patrol vehicle. The subject had a felony warrant for drug possession and distribution with a statewide pick up. The warrant was confirmed and the subject lodged in the Lapeer County jail.

Lt. David Malloch, Sgt. Arthur Green, and COs Dan Walzak, Lacelle Rabon, Mike Drexler, Ben Shively and Brandon Kieft, with the assistance of Lt. Jason Haines, Detectives Robert Mills and Jason Niemi executed two search warrants simultaneously to take down an unlicensed animal control business that has been the subject of numerous RAP complaints. Both warrants were executed without incident and several pieces of evidence were seized. Thanks to the hard work and long hours put in by CO Drexler with the help of the WRPU Detectives, several charges will be sought through the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Lacelle Rabon responded to a RAP complaint of reported burning of deer skin and the taking of deer during the closed season. Upon arriving at the given address, CO Rabon observed animal parts in the backyard, sheep skin lying on the patio, and a cow skin stretched across a device and pulled tight for drying. CO Rabon contacted the resident and informed him of the reason for the visit. The subject informed CO Rabon that he and his family were celebrating the birth of his first son and were following a traditional cultural practice. The family had bought both a sheep and a cow from a farmer and the animal skins were to be dried, stretched and used for rugs. No further action was taken.

COs Mike Drexler and Dan Walzak worked a holiday marine patrol on Belleville Lake and made over 40 contacts. Fifteen verbal warnings were issued for marine violations and one subject was issued a ticket for failing to provide a fire extinguisher after his vessel was stopped for several marine violations.

While on marine patrol on Belleville Lake, COs Mike Drexler and Derek Miller contacted three shore anglers on opposite sides of a bridge. The COs asked the subjects if they had their fishing licenses and the two anglers on one side did not have licenses while

the subject on the opposite side said he needed to grab it from his car. About 30 minutes later the subject returned with a freshly purchased fishing license, stating that he must have lost his license. A computer check revealed that the subject had never purchased a fishing license before and a ticket was issued. The two subjects on the opposite side were both arrested and lodged with local departments on outstanding warrants.

During the same marine patrol, COs Mike Drexler and Derek Miller contacted one vessel with four anglers on board. The vessel only had two wearable life jackets and no throwable PFD. One subject was also fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Kieft and Intern Brad Rolfe were on marine patrol on Tipsico Lake in Oakland County when they spotted a watercraft with a registration decal that had been expired for more than 10 years. When they contacted the three anglers aboard the small watercraft, they also determined that the subjects had no fishing licenses in their possession and no PFDs on the boat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Kieft and Intern Brad Rolfe were on a late night marine patrol on Pontiac Lake in Oakland County when they observed a watercraft with two occupants who appeared to be bow fishing. The two men were standing up with bow and arrows in hand on the small and narrow 10-foot watercraft. The watercraft was unregistered and no PFDs were on board. The owner of the watercraft was advised of the many safety issues that were present and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Kieft and Intern Brad Rolfe were checking a few anglers on Bridge Lake in Oakland County when they observed one of the anglers in possession of an undersized largemouth bass. Further questioning of the subjects determined that they had also driven a vehicle to the lake, but neither of the men had valid driver's licenses. The subject who admitted to driving that day also had a bench warrant for driving on a suspended license. A ticket for undersized bass was issued and he was advised and released on the warrant and given a verbal warning for DWLS.

CO Brandon Kieft and Intern Brad Rolfe assisted DNR Parks and Recreation officers with an illegal camp that was set up in the Bald Mountain Recreation Area. CO Kieft and Intern Rolfe had checked the camp earlier in the day, but they were unable to locate anyone in the area. However, a return visit to the illegal camp with a Parks and Recreation officer caught the men by surprise when they walked up and found one subject sitting naked outside of the tent. The subject was also known in the area for having had numerous law enforcement issues in the past. Enforcement action was taken by the parks officer who issued a ticket for camping in an undesignated area.

CO Ben Shively was checking shore anglers in Oakland County when he observed a subject acting nervous while being checked. After talking to the subject he stated he had a Friend of the Court warrant for child support. CO Shively checked the subject through LEIN and found that the subject did have a \$9,000 warrant for child support and

a felony warrant for possession of cocaine under 25 grams. The subject was placed under arrest and lodged at the county jail on the warrants.

CO Ben Shively responded to a RAP complaint of two ranch foxes that were left unattended in a garage for four days without any food and water, no bedding and were lying in their own feces with temperatures outside the garage reaching 100 degrees. CO Shively removed the foxes which were dehydrated and transported them to a sanctuary. A warrant is being sought on the owner for animal cruelty.

CO Linda Scheidler had entered into the Walleye-Pike Boat Launch at the Holloway Reservoir on the Fourth of July to warn some persons who were swimming at the launch. While there, a vessel started its motor and the officer realized it was too loud. The CO conducted a sound test of the exhaust and determined it was over the maximum of 90 allowable decibels. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Linda Scheidler and Intern Brad Rolfe worked a late night OUIL patrol on Holloway Reservoir. Early in their day they contacted a subject who was fishing without a license. After checking most of the boats on the lake they motored to the Holloway Dam and checked anglers. They encountered a non-resident in possession of a 10" walleye and an 11" smallmouth bass. Enforcement action was taken and bond was collected on the non-resident.

While on patrol, CO Ben Lasher observed two juveniles on a golf cart operating on a busy county road in St. Clair County. The CO stopped the pair and determined they were 12 years old. CO Lasher escorted the pair home and explained the violations to the mother of one of the subjects.

CO Al Schwiderson was driving on M-24 in Lapeer County when he observed an ORV being operated on the roadway at a high rate of speed. The operator was weaving in and out of traffic. CO Schwiderson was able to catch up to the ORV and stop it. Enforcement action was taken.

While working with Intern Chris Brown, CO Al Schwiderson responded to a barricaded gunman call in Metamora. A disgruntled employee who lived on the property was upset and had brandished a shotgun then retreated into his trailer. CO Schwiderson left the Intern with the vehicle in a secured location then took up a position on the perimeter along with other responding officers. After a few minutes the subject came out and surrendered without incident.