

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Report
11/4/2018 – 11/17/2018**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officer (CO) Brett DeLonge received complaints regarding a hunter who was placing an excessive amount of bait on state land in northern Dickinson County during previous deer seasons. CO DeLonge was patrolling the Marquette/Dickinson County line for hunters when he decided to patrol to the complaint area to try and locate the suspected over-baiter. As CO DeLonge approached the location, he noticed a truck parked near the suspect's blind. CO DeLonge walked to the blind and observed the suspect cut several trees including multiple seven-foot spruce and balsam trees and dump a large bag of sugar beets, a large bag of apples, and a 50-pound bag of corn. CO DeLonge made contact with the suspect and addressed the violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge conducted a presentation for 120 college students at Northern Michigan University discussing the career of being a conservation officer. Several students were very interested in the functions and responsibilities of a conservation officer and asked many questions about preparing for the application/hiring process.

While patrolling Marquette County, CO Josh Boudreaux came across a camp with two untagged deer hanging on the buck pole, one of which had already been caped out. Upon making contact with the occupants, they stated one had been shot two days prior and the other the day before. CO Boudreaux asked why they hadn't tagged the deer and they replied, "I guess we hadn't gotten to it yet." Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Marquette County, CO Josh Boudreaux observed a youth, dressed in hunter orange, run across the road carrying a rifle into the woods. CO Boudreaux stopped and talked to the enthusiastic individual who was just getting ready for the evening hunt. After talking with him, it was discovered the individual was only 12-years old and therefore not be able to hunt unsupervised. CO Boudreaux gave him a ride back to his grandpa's, a short distance down the road, and educated the grandfather on the safety requirements for youth hunters.

CO Josh Boudreaux stopped a side-by-side ORV after observing it operating on a public roadway without an ORV sticker. Upon contacting the driver and inquiring about where his sticker was, the driver stated it was in his wallet. When CO Boudreaux asked why it wasn't attached to the back of the ORV as required, the individual stated, "I carry my ORV sticker in my wallet so I don't have to buy one for each of my machines." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Sergey was patrolling Oak Hill Road when he asked a hunter in a side-by-side how his hunting season was going. After a short conversation, CO Sergey told the individual he looked very familiar. The individual said, "That's because you wrote me a

ticket for fishing without a license a few months ago.” CO Sergey remembered the individual and then asked to see his hunting license. After searching for his hunting license, the individual told CO Sergey he could not find it. CO Sergey then asked to see his firearm. The firearm was loaded. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO John Kamps was on patrol opening day of deer season when he located an illegal ORV trail cross country on state land. CO Kamps followed the ORV trail and located four 55-gallon drums full of bait with a large bait pile nearby. The CO made contact with the hunter later in the afternoon and law enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson and Sgt. Brian Bacon were following up from a complaint this fall regarding several ORVs operating within a Grouse Enhanced Management Site in Iron County. CO Ferguson and Sgt. Bacon located the ORV and followed a trail to his tree stand. The COs made contact and found the hunter was operating an ORV in a closed area, no helmet, over-baited, and no name and address on his tree stand. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson, while on patrol in Dickinson County, noticed a single vehicle track exiting a two-track road which he knew was a dead end. CO Ferguson followed the track on foot back to a tree stand that had a hunter in it. CO Ferguson discovered that the hunter failed to obtain a hunting license and didn't have a name and address on the tree stand. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen contacted a snowmobiler enjoying the nearly fifteen inches of snow that fell in Houghton County. A check found the operator to not have a valid trail permit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jenni Hanson assisted MSP Trooper Rick Sebring with the investigation of a canine theft. A woman found a lost dog and made no effort to return it to the owners or the police. With the help of Holiday gas station security cameras and a facial recognition program, the officers were able to identify the woman and return the dog safely to its rightful owners.

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CO Doug Hermanson contacted a hunter at a camp in Ontonagon County. The hunter advised that nobody had gotten a deer. When CO Hermanson pointed out the deer parts visible on the floor of the garage, the hunter admitted that there were two deer in the shed. One of the deer was found to be untagged. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brian Lasanen, Jennifer Hanson and Zach Painter contacted a group of hunters in relation to a violation found earlier by CO Lasanen. After talking with two of the hunters, it was determined that another subject staying at the camp had shot an 8-point buck. A check of the license system revealed that the hunter had not purchased a 2018 deer license. A search warrant was obtained for the residence and the search revealed an 8-point buck hanging in the garage with a 2009 deer kill-tag attached to it. An interview with the suspect was conducted and it was determined he shot the buck on opening day. The subject stated he felt he did not need a license because of the laws of

nature and the deer was on his property and therefore it belonged to him. Enforcement action was taken for two illegal 8-point bucks from the camp.

COs Jennifer Hanson and Zach Painter were the closest law enforcement units when an accident involving a firearm occurred in Ontonagon County. A thirteen-year-old boy was loading a firearm in his home when it fired, striking a fifteen-year-old boy in the chest. The investigation is ongoing with the Ontonagon County Sheriff's Department.

DISTRICT 2

CO Michael Evink was patrolling through state land and checking hunters during an evening hunt. The first hunter contacted at his blind was issued a ticket for no hunter orange and was also educated and warned for driving his truck cross country and failing to properly label his hunting blind. A little further down the road CO Evink walked in on a second hunter whose vehicle was blocking a two-track road. CO Evink contacted the hunter who was not wearing hunter orange either. When asked why he blocked the two-track, the hunter stated that last year every time he hunted, trucks would drive through. CO Evink suggested that hunting ten feet off a two-track might be the reason why. A citation was issued for blocking the roadway.

CO Robert Freeborn responded to a one car accident along Highway US 2. The vehicle had spun out on the slippery roads and crossed the centerline before coming to a rest in the opposite ditch. Luckily no one in the vehicle was injured. CO Freeborn stayed on scene until the wrecker arrived.

CO Robert Freeborn and US Forest Service (USFS) Officer Dave Tembruell responded to a complaint of a possible over-baiting complaint. The officers located the subject sitting in his pop-up blind. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the subject had been arrested the night before and was currently out on bond. The subject's bait was over the two-gallon limit, no name was on his blind, and he did not have a helmet for operating his ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink checked on a location that was marked during a surveillance flight which located a large bait pile behind a residence. Upon arrival, the COs located the pile directly behind the house as indicated. When talking with the subjects, the COs also located a spike horn that was tagged with a combo tag. Enforcement action was taken.

During a routine patrol CO Robert Freeborn checked an area that was frequently road hunted and observed a camp that had an untagged deer lying in front of a garage. CO Freeborn pulled into the driveway and contacted a subject still inside the camp. The subject stated that he had just shot the deer and that his tag was still inside the camp. As the subject was placing the tag on the deer, CO Freeborn noticed blood buried under the snow leading to the garage. CO Freeborn asked the subject if he had more deer in the garage. The subject opened the door of the garage to show CO Freeborn a 6-point hanging from the rafters that was tagged with a single tag that belonged to the subject.

CO Freeborn then asked the subject whose tag was on the spike outside. The subject stated that it was his wife's license. The subject immediately realized what he had told the CO and quickly stated that his wife had just shot the deer. CO Freeborn reminded him that he had initially told him that he had shot it and that his wife wasn't even at camp. The subject eventually confessed to shooting both deer and using his wife's tag for the spike. CO Freeborn issued a citation to the subject for taking a deer without a license and using a tag of another. The subject's wife received a citation as well for loaning a tag to another. The subject's rifle and the spike deer were seized.

COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink checked a hunter that was walking back from his blind carrying a rifle and wearing hunter orange. When asked what he was doing, the subject stated that he was just scouting the area and went for a walk. CO Evink followed the only footprints back to a blind that had been there for years that was still warm from the heater. CO Evink also located a large bait pile as well. After a brief interview, the hunter admitted that it was his blind and he had been hunting it. CO Evink issued citations for the violations.

COs Robert Freeborn and Michel Evink located a blind with a hunter that was set up overlooking a large pile of sugar beets, corn, and silage. The hunter also did not have hunter orange with him and was smoking marijuana while hunting. The hunter also admitted that he built his tower blind 18 years ago. CO Evink issued several citations to the hunter for his violations.

CO Mark Zitnik responded to a complaint where a hunter was hunting Commercial Forest land that had specific rules set in place by the landowner which included no baiting, no blinds, and no cutting of trees. The hunter had a bait pile and was shooting across the landowner's camp road. The CO followed foot tracks and located the hunter a half mile away. CO Zitnik addressed the violations and made the hunter pick up the litter that was left behind.

COs Colton Gelinis and Mark Zitnik received a complaint of a hunter who had shot a buck on prison property in Marquette County. Apparently, the hunter would be dropped off in the morning by his wife and he would hunt the prison property all day. The COs informed Marquette County CO Brett DeLonge and then followed up by locating the hunter's tracks that were trespassing into the prison property. CO Gelinis set off on foot and within minutes had located a faint blood trail. After approximately 30 minutes of tracking the small drops of blood, CO Gelinis located a quartered out and headless deer. After several hours of searching the COs located the subject and the 8-point head. The hunter confessed to trespassing, shooting the deer, and not tagging the animal. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch received a complaint of a hunter who had shot a deer while trespassing and possibly didn't have a deer license. COs Chris Lynch and Steve Butzin responded to the area in attempt to locate the hunter, who they discovered had already left. Evidence was collected at the scene and two suspects were located. The COs interviewed the suspects and received confessions from one suspect for loaning two

deer licenses to another. The second suspect confessed to taking an 8-point and a 9-point without a license, borrowing two deer licenses, and trespassing. Both deer and the rifle were seized. A report will be turned into the Delta County Prosecutor's office for review.

CO Justin Vinson was on patrol in Luce county several days before the firearm deer opener when he observed two hunters in the woods and made contact with the men who were coyote hunting. It was found that one of the men had did not have a hunting license and had never purchased one despite hunting in Michigan for several years. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Vinson and Sgt. Mark Leadman located a father and son deer hunting near Newberry. Their vehicle had been observed several weeks earlier blocking a road on state land. Now the pair was found to be hunting in two illegal blinds placed on state land and not wearing the required hunter orange clothing. Fresh litter was located under the snow near their blind and near their vehicle. Enforcement action was taken on both individuals.

CO Justin Vinson and Sgt. Mark Leadman were patrolling state land near Curtis when they located a truck parked with the remnants of a load of sugar beets in the bed of the truck. A pop-up blind could be seen off in the woods and the CO's contacted the hunter inside. The hunter quickly admitted that he had driven to his bait pile and unloaded the entire truck load of beets and dumped a bag of apples. The license plate on the truck also came back to the hunter, but not the correct vehicle. It was determined that his vehicle had broken down and he decided to swap the license plate onto this older pickup truck without notifying the Secretary of State. Enforcement action was taken, and the subject loaded the beets back into his vehicle until the proper two-gallon limit was met.

COs Calvin Smith, Colton Gelinas, Justin Vinson, and agents with the United States Custom and Border Patrol worked a joint Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) patrol at the International Bridge targeting illegal transportation of cervids into Michigan. No illegal transportation of game was found over the two-day operation but, one search of a vehicle turned up over 30 pills of Ecstasy. Enforcement action was taken by Border Patrol agents.

CO Calvin Smith observed an ORV. Upon spotting his patrol truck, quickly turn around and go back the way it came. CO Smith followed the ORV back to a camp and observed a deer that was hanging on a buck pole. He contacted the ORV operator and asked who the successful hunter was. The subject stated his son had shot the deer on the opener. After a quick check of the deer, CO Smith asked where the son was now. The father stated, "He just ran out to my blind to put some more bait out for me." Correctly thinking there was more to the story, CO Smith walked back to the blind in question and contacted the son who was seated in the blind and hunting over an illegal bait pile. CO Smith asked the son why he was still hunting when he had tagged out

already and the son replied, "I'm just trying to help my dad fill his tag, I know I shouldn't be out here." Law enforcement action was taken for hunting deer without a license. CO Calvin Smith and Cpl. Kevin Postma contacted a hunter with and asked him how his season was going. The hunter replied, I haven't shot one yet, but my wife shot one on the opener at 7:45 a.m. The COs checked on when the license was purchased and discovered it was bought at 8:14 a.m. on November 15th. After a quick conversation the hunter admitted to shooting the buck and having his wife purchase the license after the fact. Law enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 3

COs Duane Budreau and Adam LeClerc encountered a subject hunting in violation of the hunter orange requirement. The subject was wearing orange pants, a brownish gray jacket, and a gray hat. CO Budreau inquired if the hunter had taken hunter safety and if he knew the hunter orange requirements. The hunter responded that he had taken hunter safety and knew the pants were not approved apparel. As CO Budreau was issuing the citation, the hunter's father approached the vehicle and engaged in civilized conversation with CO LeClerc. Once the hunter's father learned CO Budreau was issuing a citation for the hunter orange violation he erupted into a fit of rage, shouting at CO Budreau stating that he did not agree with the law. CO Budreau had written tickets to both subjects in the past.

CO Ethen Mapes received a complaint through the RAP hotline that there had been a deer taken off private property without the land owner's permission. CO Mapes contacted the land owner and two key witnesses and was able to track down the suspect. The timely reporting of the incident allowed Sgt. William Webster and CO Mapes to conduct an interview shortly after the incident had occurred. When Sgt. Webster and CO Mapes arrived at the suspect's residence, there was an untagged 7-point buck hanging in the garage. A confession was obtained, and the deer was seized. The violations committed were recreational trespass, ORV trespass, taking a deer without a license, exceeding two gallons of bait, and breaking and entering. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes was looking for shiners on the second day of deer season when he happened to pass by the Boyne River. CO Mapes noticed lights along the river and one person in the water who appeared to be fishing. CO Mapes parked his patrol truck and walked back to the river where he watched one individual netting fish with a net that was four-feet in length. Contact was made, and the subject confessed to netting three fish out of the river. Enforcement action was taken for using a prohibited device to take fish in a trout stream.

CO Ethen Mapes received a complaint on opening day of the firearm deer season that an individual had corralled a deer along a fence using an ORV. The complainant said the subject then shot the deer that was lying along the fence. CO Mapes investigated and found the subject to be in possession of a deer without a license, chasing wildlife with an ORV, and not wearing hunter orange. The subject stated that they were trying to

remove the deer from inside of a fenced in area when the deer became injured and was unable to jump the fence. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes was patrolling the Chandler Hills area when he contacted two subjects dragging a deer out of private land. The deer was untagged, and the individuals did not have written permission to be on the private property. The subjects stated that after they gutted the deer their lights were dead and that was why they were unable to tag the deer. CO Mapes reminded the hunters that they must have permission to retrieve downed game on private property and the deer must be tagged immediately. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. William Webster and CO Jessica Curtis worked Alpena County for the firearm deer season opener. They were following up on a RAP complaint of bait located almost a mile in on state land. Sgt. Webster was familiar with the area, so the COs walked almost a mile into the woods when they contacted a subject who was hunting out of a ladder stand and had about 10 gallons of bait on the ground. The hunter said he didn't think anyone would walk that far back into get him. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Albert was dispatched to a hunting incident in Antrim County. When she and EMS arrived on scene they located an unresponsive male. CPR and first aid were administered but the victim did not survive. The victim had been shot by another hunter in the area. CO Albert along with the MSP and Antrim County Sherriff Department are collecting evidence, conducting interviews, and preparing a report for the prosecutor's office.

CO Chad Baldwin was returning to Charlevoix County from Belle Isle during inclement weather when he came across several vehicles in the median of I-75. CO Baldwin activated his emergency lights and was able to close traffic in the left lane while he assessed the individuals in the vehicles. Luckily no injuries were sustained other than a few scared kids in the backseat of one of the vehicles. Apparently, the car which was towing a trailer tried to swerve to miss a deer. The deer did not hit the car but instead ran into the small trailer and sent the car out of control on the snowy and icy conditions. The vehicle and the trailer, along with all its contents, somehow stayed upright and came to a rest in the median. CO Baldwin, with the help of another bystander, was able to get the car and trailer unstuck and back out onto the expressway.

CO Chad Baldwin received a complaint in Antrim County that an individual had trespassed onto private property to retrieve a deer he had shot during the opening weekend of firearm deer season. CO Baldwin arrived at the scene and was escorted onto the property by the owner. CO Baldwin observed tracks, a blood trail, and drag marks through the snow coming from across the property line back onto the suspect's property. The deer was still lying on the ground and was gutted but not tagged. Furthermore, the deer did not meet the Antler Point Restrictions (APR) for the area. CO Baldwin seized the deer, located the suspect, and an interview was conducted. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Chad Baldwin and Ethen Mapes responded to a deer carcass complaint in Charlevoix County. The complainant stated he had spoken with what appeared to be an inexperienced hunter setting up his blind and bait pile practically on top of where the complainant had his blind already set up. After a few days had passed without seeing the inexperienced hunter, the complainant walked over to where the blind was located and saw that everything was packed up and hauled out of the woods except for a deer that was laying on top of his bait pile. The COs checked the deer and found that it was a "spike horn" which does not meet the APR in the area. The COs donated the deer and are continuing the search for the suspect.

On the opening day of deer season, CO Andrea Erratt followed fresh ORV tracks on state land by Sand Lake past "No ORV" signs and cross-country. CO Erratt found the hunter using an assault rifle with a 30-round magazine. He thought it was okay to hunt with the rifle if he only put five rounds in the magazine. CO Erratt ticketed him for operating the ORV across country in a closed area on state land and warned him for hunting with a rifle capable of holding more than six rounds and operating the ORV during prime hunting time hours at 10:00 a.m.

CO Andrea Erratt received a trespassing complaint on the opening day of deer season. CO Erratt talked to the complainant and hunter who had parked his truck in front of a gate and was dragging out a buck. The hunter thought he had shot the deer on his friend's property but the line was not posted. When CO Erratt checked the buck it was a 4-point tagged as a 5-point. CO Erratt explained the less than half inch bump did not count as a point. CO Erratt ticketed the hunter for possessing the deer with an improperly validated deer kill-tag and warned him for trespassing and taking a buck in violation of the APR.

CO Andrea Erratt received a RAP complaint from a landowner who had located a gut pile and a drag mark leading back to a neighboring property. The complainant had followed the drag mark to a hunting camp and talked to the hunter who had loaded the untagged deer in the back of his truck. When CO Erratt arrived on scene, the hunter had pulled the 4-point buck out of his truck and attached his kill-tag. The hunter told CO Erratt he thought the deer was a 6-point. He said he knew he was on the neighbor's property when he tracked and gutted his deer. He said the neighbors arrived at the camp while he was watching the Michigan State University football game and he had not gotten around to tagging the deer he found more than three hours earlier. CO Erratt ticketed the hunter for possessing a buck deer in violation of the APR and warned him for trespassing and failing to immediately tag his deer.

CO Andrea Erratt received a RAP complaint about a hunter who was trespassing on posted private property for the second time. The hunter had been found in the complainant's tree stand on Friday morning and was back on Sunday morning walking down the road that was posted on both sides. CO Erratt contacted the hunter who is from California and admitted being in the tree stand but said he thought he was on someone else's property where his brother had put up a tree stand. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Erratt received a complaint about a woman who had posted a picture of herself on Facebook with a spike buck, a doe, and two larger bucks. CO Erratt talked to her husband who showed her all four deer that were shot on opening morning. He explained that on opening morning he and his wife were hunting together when she shot a doe that she thought was a buck and he shot a 9-point. He said she did not have an antlerless deer license, so he tagged her doe and used his wife's tag for his buck. Later while they were tracking her dad's 8-point, his wife shot a large spike buck and he accidentally put his tag on the deer. CO Erratt talked to his wife who verified the story. CO Erratt ticketed the husband for making use of his wife's deer tag on his 9-point and warned him for allowing her to use his tag and for using his tag on her spike buck. The wife was ticketed for take/possess a buck deer in violation of the APR and using another person's tag. CO Erratt warned her for taking an antlerless deer without a permit, loaning both of her combo tags to her husband, and no hunter's safety.

COs Tim Rosochacki and Kyle Cherry gave a presentation to a local homeschool group. The COs explained to the group the role that conservation officers play in protecting the state's natural resources and the individuals who use them.

CO Tim Rosochacki was on the scene of a car vs. deer accident in Cheboygan County. While he was taking information from the driver who hit the deer, another driver approached the accident scene and asked if anyone was taking the deer. CO Rosochacki advised the second driver that he could have the deer but would have to wait until the first driver was taken care of. After clearing the accident, CO Rosochacki approached the driver who had asked for the deer. After some conversation, it was discovered that the driver did not have a valid driver's license and had been convicted three prior times and had three out of area warrants. The subject was taken into custody and transported to the Cheboygan County Jail.

CO Tim Rosochacki was working with COs Kyle Cherry and Tom Oberg in an area of Cheboygan County that had received several shining complaints. The COs witnessed a vehicle deliberately turn using their headlights to light a field. A traffic stop was made, and the driver was cited for shining in the month of November.

CO Tim Rosochacki checked a camp in Cheboygan County; the first hunter located was a minor who was not wearing hunter orange and did not have an adult present. The father was located approximately half a mile away and thought he did not have to be with his son because they were able to text message each other. The father was reminded of the safety concerns allowing a minor to hunt unsupervised. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki responded to a trespassing complaint in Cheboygan County. The property owner, who was currently downstate, had observed someone carrying a firearm walk up the driveway and enter the property on the security camera system. CO Rosochacki followed the suspect's path and located the hunter who turned out to be a family member who had arrived unannounced and had not asked for permission to be there. The suspect was escorted from the property and advised not to return.

CO Matt Theunick received a complaint about excessive bait occurring in Cheboygan County. Upon investigation, the CO found a pickup truck load of beets on the ground. Contact was made with three hunters and the caretaker of the property who admitted to placing the bait. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Eric Bottorff, Matt Theunick and Tim Rosochacki contacted deer hunters on a property that had several large bait piles spotted from the air during bait flights in 2017 and 2018. Violations included multiple hunters hunting over an over limit of deer bait, not wearing hunter orange, and hunting without kill-tags in their possession. Enforcement action was taken.

While investigating information provided by Acting Sgt. Jon Sklba, COs Eric Bottorff and Matt Theunick located a large 8-point buck hanging at a deer camp that was shot on opening day by a hunter who only possessed an antlerless license at the time the deer was shot. The suspect had wrapped a 2018 waterfowl license around the antler and stated that it was his deer license when initially interviewed by the COs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff located a blind in the Pigeon River Forest that had an over limit of deer bait. When the hunter was contacted, he was also hunting in full camouflage. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tom Oberg received a complaint from Otsego County Central Dispatch referencing suspects dragging a deer up a hill without a tag on the deer. CO Tom Oberg went to the location and followed a blood trail that led to a deer hanging in a tree. CO Oberg observed the deer had been shot and did not have a tag on it. CO Oberg and CO Kyle Cherry contacted the suspects who were hunting nearby. After questioning, it was determined that the deer had been taken without a license. CO Oberg seized the deer and enforcement action was taken for possessing the deer without a license. CO Cherry issued a citation to the other hunter for failing to wear hunter orange while hunting.

COs Sidney Collins, Jessica Curtis and Montmorency County deputies searched for a hunter that went missing on November 14th. The officers worked together to gain more information and narrow down where the hunter was camping. The COs were able to find the subject without incident.

CO Sidney Collins received a complaint of a hunter's buck being stolen off a buck pole. CO Collins responded to the situation and realized the hunter had accidentally taken the wrong deer. The hunter was then able to make it back to the buck pole to return the deer.

COs Paul Fox and Sidney Collins received multiple trespass complaints from a private hunt club who had neighbors enter their property to recover deer without securing permission. The subjects crawled under a fence then dragged their deer back through the fence. Contact was made with both hunters who stated they did not receive

permission prior to entering the property. The deer were seized, and reports will be submitted to the prosecutor's office for the trespass violations.

CO Paul Fox received a complaint about a subject placing too much bait on his property. CO Fox checked the area and discovered several large bait piles well over the two-gallon limit. CO Fox located a subject hunting over one of the large bait sites. A citation was issued for hunting over an illegal bait. Upon attempting to leave the property, the property owner arrived. The owner became uncooperative and told the CO he could not leave his property and that he already "called the cops". CO Fox requested another unit which seemed to change the landowner's mind about the situation.

COs Sidney Collins, Jessica Curtis, Paul Fox, and Acting Sgt. Jon Sklba are investigating the killing of two bull elk in Montmorency County. Investigation is ongoing.

CO Jonathan Sklba was able to obtain a warrant on a subject for possibly shooting a sow bear with cub during the bear season. The warrant was executed, and the investigation continues.

CO Jonathan Sklba received complaints of subjects snagging fish at the 9th Street Dam in Alpena. CO Sklba was able to respond to the area and contact several individuals. The fish were thick in the river and CO Sklba observed multiple subject unintentionally snagging fish.

CO Jonathan Sklba stopped by a local sportsman's club during their firearms sight-in days and answered multiple questions from hunters.

CO Jonathan Sklba responded to a complaint of a hunter having shot a deer that was later shot by another hunter and kept by the second hunter. CO Sklba did his best to mediate the situation and help both hunters reach an agreement. The deer was returned to the hunter that first shot the deer.

CO Jonathan Sklba received a complaint of a likely illegal deer. CO Sklba spent several hours attempting to locate the hunter who shot a buck without a license. CO Sklba checked multiple addresses and multiple meat processors for the deer. After exhausting his search of all known addresses, CO Sklba had another CO do an internet search that suggested the subject was hunting in Cheboygan. CO Sklba contacted the Cheboygan County COs who were able to track down the subject in short order. The subject's buck had a waterfowl license attached to it and the subject admitted to shooting the buck without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 4

CO Rebecca Hubers overheard radio traffic that a Benzie County Sheriff's deputy had arrested a subject (on an unrelated charge) that she had been searching for over a

month reference a litter violation. CO Hubers interviewed the subject, who admitted responsibility for four bags of trash on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Dan Bigger and COs Patrick McManus and Amanda Lake performed a commercial processing facility inspection in Leelanau County. They noticed a tag that was purchased on November 15th and validated for the same day. CO Lake and Sgt. Bigger went to the individual's residence to speak with him regarding his hunt and he admitted to shooting the deer several hours prior to purchasing a tag. After conducting a follow-up investigation, it became apparent that the subject had also tagged a separate deer he shot with a family member's tag. This investigation is currently underway, and charges will be filed for numerous counts including taking deer without a license.

CO Patrick McManus along with *Wood's Cop* author Joseph Heywood observed a vehicle exiting a field well after hunting hours. After contact with the occupants, CO McManus noticed an uncased rifle laying across the backseat of the truck. Furthermore, he also noticed a single deer hair on the tailgate of the truck, but no other hair or blood was seen. Once the rifle and passengers were secured, CO McManus asked the occupants if they had any success this year with deer hunting, all the individuals stated they did not. After interviewing each occupant separately, it was determined that there indeed it was a deer killed earlier that morning, and the hunter who did it did not have a deer license. Enforcement action will be taken on the multiple violations of all the individuals involved.

During a routine inspection of a meat processor in Leelanau County, COs Patrick McManus and Amanda Lake located a deer that they suspected to be illegally taken. Upon interviewing several parties involved with the case, it was determined that one hunter killed an over limit of bucks, while a separate hunter bought extra deer licenses in attempt to cover up the violations. The case will be turned over to the Leelanau County Prosecutor's office for review and subsequent enforcement.

CO Justin Vanderlinde stopped a vehicle that was improperly passing vehicles and weaving in and out of the travel lane. On contact the driver of the vehicle held up a portable oxygen tank and informed CO Vanderlinde that he needed to replace the broken oxygen tank and was trying to get to town to do so. CO Vanderlinde offered to call EMS to respond and assist with the situation, the driver refused. The driver then handed the oxygen tank to CO Vanderlinde who immediately noticed that the oxygen tank was not turned on. CO Vanderlinde handed the oxygen bottle back and told the driver to turn the bottle on and start breathing. The driver then smiled, admitted that he was headed to the store to pick up another pack of "smokes" and apologized for driving that way, enforcement action taken.

CO Steven Converse received information about a deer that was believed to have been shot in violation of the APR. The reporting person explained that he watched a small spike horn walk across the property line and heard a shot ring out. CO Converse went to the location and located a drag trail and gut pile. CO Converse followed the trail cross-country to the back side of a residence. CO Converse located the spike horn

buck and recovered an antlerless deer that had been shot a few days prior to the season without a license. Charges are being sought through the Manistee County Prosecutor's office.

CO Steven Converse was on late night patrol on the third day of firearm deer season when he observed a vehicle shining a field. CO Converse conducted a traffic stop and discovered a bow in the truck along with several containers of open intoxicants. Enforcement action was taken.

On the opening day of rifle season CO Ryan Andrews and Sgt. Grant Emery were patrolling Lake County. The officers were checking a hunter alongside the road when another vehicle approached, as the COs contacted the vehicle they discovered two occupants. The front seat passenger was found to be holding a loaded and uncased 30-30 lever action rifle. The driver stated that he was dropping off a passenger to hunt, however the passenger was a minor and not old enough to hunt by himself. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ryan Andrews contacted the operator of a vehicle along a forest road. The subject stated he was just bringing out some bait to his hunters. A check of their weapons revealed an un-cased crossbow with the bolts within the drivers reach and four rifles in the backseat and one in the front passenger seat. Further investigation discovered a loaded .357 revolver between the driver seat and center console. Most of the guns were only partially cased and the driver had ammunition and loaded magazines in his pockets, laying on the front seat, and on the center console. The driver had an expired Concealed Pistol License (CPL). Enforcement action was taken.

Approximately an hour after legal shooting hours CO Ryan Andrews contacted a hunter who was just returning to his vehicle. The hunter was in possession of a rifle that was still loaded, and the hunter was not wearing any hunter orange clothing. While talking to the hunter, CO Andrews detected the odor of intoxicants coming from the hunter. Upon questioning the hunter, he admitted to having a mixed drink in his water bottle. CO Andrews ran the hunter through field sobriety tests and administered a Portable Breath Test to determine if the hunter was intoxicated while in possession of a firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

During the first several days of the firearm deer season CO Ryan Andrews responded to numerous complaints and even self-reporting of illegal deer being taken and APR violations. Each situation was investigated for facts and the truth surrounding each situation. Enforcement action was taken in numerous instances, ranging from illegal deer to tagging violations and even expired license plates and no vehicle insurance. Several additional charges are being requested through the Lake County Prosecutor's office.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, while on patrol, observed an ORV operating on the roadway. The ORV crossed the center line several times and when CO Killingbeck caught up to the ORV the ORV turned on flood lights attempting to blind CO

Killingbeck. CO Killingbeck stopped the vehicle and discovered an uncased bow next to the driver he also found that the driver was not wearing a seatbelt or helmet and was in possession of open intoxicants. CO Killingbeck explained ORV regulations to the subject and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck walked onto private property in Lake County where he had a tip that the property owner was hunting without a license. CO Killingbeck contacted a hunter in a blind who told CO Killingbeck that he had forgot his license at his residence. CO Killingbeck ran the subject through the state Retail Sales System (RSS) and was able to determine that the subject had not purchased a deer license since 2013. CO Killingbeck educated the subject on the deer hunting regulations and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck responded to a domestic violence in progress call with the Lake County Sheriff's Department. CO Killingbeck and deputies arrived to find a male and female fighting. The interior of the home was destroyed, along with the refrigerator and freezers contents with all items being thrown at the male subject. While on scene and assisting with interviews, CO Killingbeck observed a lot of frozen venison. CO Killingbeck asked the male subject if he had been hunting and the subject said that he had shot a spike horn the first week of archery season. CO Killingbeck determined that the buck was killed in Lake County which is an APR county. The subject admitted that he knew the deer was illegal but because he was hunting behind his house he figured he would not get caught. The antlers were seized, and charges are being requested through the Lake County Prosecutor's office.

CO Josiah Killingbeck received a complaint through CO Mike Wells of a subject that was over-baiting in Lake County. CO Killingbeck was able to contact the complainant who said he had watched the suspect shoot a spike horn. CO Killingbeck checked the suspect in his blind the next morning and was told that no deer had been killed. The suspect gave several excuses about why there was blood and drag marks leading away from his bait pile. CO Killingbeck finally asked the subject if he was done lying. The suspect said, "No, I'm not." CO Killingbeck then explained that a witness had called in that saw the him shoot the spike. The suspect hung his head and admitted to shooting a spike horn knowing it was illegal and not tagging it. The subject told CO Killingbeck that he rarely gets to see a buck and said, "The honest to God truth is that my wife wants deer meat and if I come home without any she'll get really mad at me." CO Killingbeck followed the subject back to a cabin where the deer was found hidden behind a house. The deer was seized, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck while at a local deer processor discovered an antlerless deer that had a CWD kill-tag attached that expired November 4th. The tag was notched out for November 15th. CO Killingbeck and Sgt. Grant Emery contacted the hunter and the subject said that he had not looked at the tag to see if there was an expiration date. CO Killingbeck explained how CWD over-the-counter tags work and enforcement action was taken.

COs Josiah Killingbeck, Ryan Andrews and Sgt. Grant Emery on opening day of the firearm deer season walked into an area of public and private land in Newaygo County in response to baiting complaints. The COs addressed numerous violations: baiting where prohibited, allowing a juvenile to hunt unsupervised, no hunter safety, improper license purchases, no hunter orange, illegal ORV operation on public restricted area, hunting from a permanent blind on public land, borrowed tags from another person, and hunting without a license. The 6 subjects were educated on regulations pertaining to hunting in the CWD area. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brian Brosky and Kyle Publiski check a complaint on private property where it was believed that the property owners were taking over limits of deer and using too much bait. Upon checking the property, a 13-year-old minor was in a tree stand hunting with a firearm, without adult supervision. It didn't take long to locate the parent because it was already known where he was hunting over an illegal bait pile. Upon contacting the parent, it was also discovered that he was in possession of an untagged buck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky was at a deer processor when an individual arrived to drop off a 6-point. When CO Brosky checked the deer tag it was noted that the license was purchased at 12:50 in the afternoon on November 15th. When CO Brosky asked the individual what time he shot the deer, the subject said he was hunting with his mother and she shot it around 11 a.m. on the 15th. CO Brosky questioned the subject further as to the time discrepancy and the subject admitted to shooting the deer but used his mother's tag as he had already shot a deer during the bow season. Enforcement action was taken.

Following up on a bait complaint in Mason County from last year, COs Kyle Publiski and Brian Brosky used Google Earth to look over the area for blinds. A large spot with multiple trails coming off it was identified and followed up on the day before deer season. The location in question was a very large bait pile with multiple blinds overlooking it. On opening day of deer season COs Publiski and Brosky contacted three subjects hunting over the bait pile. The COs explained that their bait pile was big enough to be seen from space. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking an area on federal land for a large bait pile on opening day of deer season, COs Kyle Publiski and Brian Brosky came across three hunters walking back to their vehicle. CO Publiski was checking their licenses and noticed a combo tag missing from one of their recently purchased licenses. The three subjects all got quiet when asked again who shot a deer, one of the subjects stated they had shot a doe. Following the subjects back to where they shot the doe it was determined the subject shot a doe with a rifle on a combo tag license and failed to validate the tag. Enforcement action was taken for the illegal deer harvested.

Sgt. Michael Bomay responded to a complaint of subjects removing a beaver dam on State Game Area lands to drain a marsh to gain access to a flooded island of

hardwoods. The investigation has led to a few suspects who have harvested a deer off the island in the past.

CO Mike Wells dealt with a subject on a neighbor's property last year. The subject was apprehended for trespassing and taking a deer without a license. The subject was convicted and revoked on his hunting privileges. On the second evening of this year's firearm season CO Wells located this same subject in a tree stand with a loaded rifle and orange on. A citation was issued for hunting while revoked and his firearm was seized.

CO Mike Wells received a Newaygo County complaint of a subject that was seen shooting a deer down a roadway while resting the rifle on the door of his vehicle. The suspects were located field dressing the deer at their residence. A check of the deer revealed a public land Mecosta County antlerless permit on the deer. It was discovered that the son had shot the deer and that the kill-tag on the deer was issued to the father. Enforcement action was taken. A citation was issued, and the deer was seized.

CO Mike Wells was responding to a complaint when he observed a large plume of black smoke coming from the backyard area of a residence. Contact was made, and the owner readily admitted that he was burning an old seat from a car, a reclining chair, and old car parts. The subject pointed to several tires, proudly declaring that he removed those and did not burn them. A citation was issued for the open burning of solid waste.

CO Ben Shively conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in Oceana county for a driver who was not wearing a seatbelt and driving slowly along federal land before dusk. The driver was found to have a loaded rifle in a case in the passenger seat that he had frantically attempted to close while being stopped. The driver was cited for having a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

CO Ben Shively worked a bait complaint in Oceana County of a subject with large amounts of bait on the property. CO Shively was able to contact two subjects on the property on opening day of firearm deer season. The first subject was found to be hunting over ten-gallons of carrots and sugar beets and no hunter orange. The second subject was found to also be hunting over ten-gallons of carrots, had his hunter orange hat in his lap, and did not have his kill-tags in his possession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy Van Gelderen was working a bait complaint on public property when he arrived and found a truck load sized pile of carrots near a permanent box blind with no identification. CO Van Gelderen found a hunter in the blind and upon checking the hunters license, it was determined that he only possessed an assistance permit for a local farm that did not have any land nearby. Enforcement action was taken for the blind, bait, and not having a valid deer license.

CO Troy Van Gelderen encountered a hunting camp on federal land. At the camp, there were two trailers that contained ORVs. CO Van Gelderen told the hunters that ORVs were illegal on federal land, and that they better keep the ORVs on the trailers. The hunters agreed. The next day, CO Van Gelderen found one of the hunters from the same camp in one of the illegal blinds. He issued a citation and told him that he would meet him back at camp to talk to the rest of the hunters. On the way to the camp, CO Van Gelderen noticed several ORV tracks that had torn up the two-tracks and other federal land. Once at the camp, CO Van Gelderen found one of the ORVs off the trailer and two deer hanging with unvalidated hunting tags. Enforcement action was taken for the violations.

CO Troy Van Gelderen had been in contact with the local USFS officer about illegal campers. When the USFS officer went to look for the camp, he found two subjects coming out of the woods with an untagged deer. It was discovered that the hunters did not have a proper license for the deer, so the officer called CO Van Gelderen. CO Van Gelderen met the party and the USFS officer to take enforcement action on the illegal deer.

DISTRICT 5

The night before the firearm deer opener, CO Mike Hearn observed a vehicle shining in a remote area of Kalkaska County. A stop was made on the vehicle, and upon contact CO Hearn observed an uncased and cocked crossbow between the driver and passenger. The passenger was attempting to hide the crossbow bolt without success. A citation was issued for shining with a weapon in possession.

Sgt. Brian Olsen observed a four-wheeler come off a trail onto a main road after dark on opening day in Roscommon County. The ORV did not have any working headlights or taillights. Sgt. Olsen conducted a stop of the vehicle and noticed two individuals riding on the ORV that was designed for one person. Neither occupant was wearing a helmet and the passenger was carrying an uncased rifle. Further investigation revealed the operator to be under the influence of alcohol. The passenger who was carrying the rifle failed to purchase a hunting license and, like the driver, was not wearing any hunter orange. Sgt. Olsen asked the driver where his rifle was. The driver explained he leaves his loaded rifle in the woods overnight. Enforcement action was taken on multiple violations and Sgt. Olsen asked a sober member of the deer camp to retrieve the firearm from the woods.

COs Micah Hintze, Jeremy Cantrell, Matt Zultak, Ben McAteer, Mike Hearn, and Cpl. Sean Kehoe responded to a lost hunter on state land in the Dead Stream Swamp of Missaukee County. Working together with the MSP, Missaukee County Sheriff's Department, and the US Coast Guard, a rescue effort was mounted. The victim was located alive in a dehydrated and hypothermic state a long distance into the swamp. Responding personnel conducted first aid measures, built a fire to warm the victim, and assisted his lift into the Coast Guard helicopter. He was transported to the hospital for treatment and evaluation.

CO Casey Pullum checked a blind on private property with known baiting issues in Oscoda County on the evening of November 14th. CO Pullum contacted a subject in the blind who stated he was not hunting despite possessing a loaded .22 mag rifle. In addition, the hunter was not wearing hunter orange and had also spread some deer bait out in front of his blind. Through the interview, CO Pullum determined the subject to be hunting while intoxicated. The subject was lodged at the Oscoda County jail and charged with attempting to take deer with a rifle during the closed season, baiting deer in a closed county, and possessing a firearm while intoxicated.

CO Kyle Bader assisted Ogemaw County Sheriff's Department with a possible barricaded gunman. The man was involved in a domestic dispute with a female who he held captive overnight. The female was able to escape the following morning and was picked up by a passerby and called the police. Deputies blocked the road while law enforcement approached the house and attempted contact with the suspect. The suspect took his own life before they were able to contact him.

CO Brad Bellville observed a vehicle that appeared to be stuck along a power line in Ogemaw County after dark on opening day of firearm deer season. The vehicle was moving forward and backward multiple times but was not stuck when CO Bellville pulled up. He conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and found the driver to be intoxicated with a loaded rifle in the vehicle. The driver was arrested for OWI high BAC, possessing a firearm while intoxicated, and a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

COs James Garrett and Casey Pullum were at Subway in Oscoda County for lunch when they noticed an 8-point buck on the top of a car. CO Garrett inspected the single deer tag and found the tag to be suspicious as it was bought at 7:19 PM on November 16, 2018 and validated for November 17, 2018. The COs waited for the individual to arrive back at his car to question him further about the deer. The interview with the hunter revealed he had hunted on November 15th and 16th before ever obtaining a deer license for the 2018 hunting season. In addition, the man confessed to shooting the deer on November 16th and then buying a license after the fact. The deer and rifle used in the crime were seized. Charges are being sought through the Oscoda County Prosecutor's office.

CO Jeff Panich contacted a deer camp on private property regarding a baiting complaint in Alcona County. Two deer were hanging at the camp. CO Panich contacted the first hunter at a blind who was not wearing hunter orange and was hunting over bait. The hunter indicated he had shot the two deer hanging at the camp. CO Panich contacted a second hunter on the property who was also hunting over bait and indicated he shot one of the two deer hanging at the camp. Further questioning led CO Panich to a confession by the first hunter that he shot both deer without initially buying any licenses. The second hunter put his tag on one of the two deer and the first hunter went to town, bought a license, and put it on the second deer. Charges are being sought through the Alcona County Prosecutor's office.

CO Casey Pullum and Sgt. Bobbi Lively contacted a hunter on public land in Oscoda County who was hunting in a tree stand over bait. The COs located a blood trail from the bait pile and found an untagged, dead 8-point buck. The hunter did not admit at first to killing a deer, but his foot prints led straight to it. Further questioning led to a confession by the hunter. He admitted that he shot the deer over the bait pile, located it, and continued hunting without tagging it. The COs seized the deer and enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethan Gainforth received a complaint of a turkey shot illegally on opening day of firearm deer season with a rifle in northern Clare County. CO Gainforth arrived at the camp and knocked on the shed door. A man answered the door and CO Gainforth told him he was there about "the turkey." The man said that CO Gainforth would have to speak with his son-in-law, who was in the house. CO Gainforth asked the father-in-law if his son-in-law was the one that shot the turkey and he replied, "Yes," with a disappointed tone in his voice. CO Gainforth contacted the son-in-law at his residence and told him he was there about the turkey he shot. The young man looked him in the eyes and said, "What turkey?" CO Gainforth informed him that his father-in-law already spilled the beans on him. The young man just hung his head and said he shot the bird. He further stated he pitched it in a ditch because he was worried about the consequences. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Phil Hudson assisted CO Craig Neal with a trespass complaint where the complainant was very upset. The complainant stated that someone drove onto his property and was getting ready to go deer hunting. The complainant said that he was screaming and hollering at the suspects for quite a while before they decided to leave. CO Neal walked to the location where the complainant said the suspects were trespassing. After conducting a thorough search of the area, CO Neal could not find any tracks in the fresh snow. After advising the complainant there were no tracks, the complainant was adamant what he saw and looked for himself. He could not believe there were no tracks in the snow and apologized for taking up the CO's time.

DISTRICT 6

CO John Byars discovered a large bait pile spread in northern Gratiot County. CO Byars contacted the suspect and met with them at the baiting location. The suspect admitted to placing the bait for deer under his tree stands and blinds. A citation was issued for baiting deer in a restricted county and the hunter was directed to clean up his bait pile before the next day.

CO John Byars was on patrol in Gratiot County and noticed two hunters walking out to their hunting blind. The CO noticed one of the hunters was not wearing hunter orange. The CO made contact and the hunter admitted to leaving his orange jacket at home. A citation was issued for not meeting the hunter orange requirement.

COs Josh Jackson and Josh Russell were patrolling the Flat River State Game Area (FRSGA) and noted several ORV marks on the dirt roads. As the COs were patrolling,

an ORV came quickly over a hill in the roadway and a stop was conducted. The subject stated that he had ORV stickers, but they were on a different roll cage. He had just replaced some parts and was testing the new parts on the roadway. The subject admitted he was going too quickly and was responsible for some of the markings in the roadway. Enforcement action was taken.

In Montcalm County, COs Josh Jackson and Josh Russell responded to a baiting complaint that was observed by a pilot flying over the area. The pilot observed an individual broadcasting corn behind his house near a deer blind. The COs quickly responded to the suspect's house and noted the recently thrown corn. When the COs interviewed the subject, he admitted to knowing baiting was illegal and stated he had left over corn from last year. The subject was issued a citation for baiting in a closed county.

COs Josh Jackson and Josh Russell were patrolling a local state game area in Montcalm County during the evening hours. Several hunters were contacted after legal hunting hours. During one contact, the subject asked if he could unload his firearm at his vehicle. The contact was 15 minutes past legal hunting hours. During the investigation, the COs discovered the subject was driving with an identification card and did not have a valid driver's license. A citation was issued for carrying afield a loaded firearm during closed hours and the subject agreed to have a relative pick him up.

CO Josh Russell was patrolling the FRSGA when a vehicle stopped and pulled over in the roadway. CO Russell contacted the subject who stated he was taking his grandson squirrel hunting. The CO asked if there were firearms in the vehicle and the subject stated there was. The CO then located a squirrel and asked to see his hunting licenses. Neither subject had hunting licenses. Furthermore, it was determined the driver had a suspended license, the vehicle was not registered, did not have insurance, and had an improper plate. A citation was issued for possessing the squirrel without a license and the vehicle was towed.

CO Josh Russell was watching a blind for late hunting when he witnessed a subject get out of the blind. The CO contacted the subject who did not have a license and had a loaded muzzleloader 15 minutes after shooting time. The subject stated he was just target shooting and trying to shoot coyotes. The subject was run through LEIN and NCIC and it was determined the subject was a felon. When asked if there were more firearms in the residence the subject stated yes. COs Dan Robinson, Michael Haas and Josh Jackson arrived on scene and two more firearms were located in the house. Warrants are pending for felon in possession of firearm and the hunting violations.

In Saginaw County on the firearm deer opener, CO Quincy Gowenlock was working a complaint regarding excessive bait in the Gratiot-Saginaw State Game Area. Upon walking back into the section, CO Gowenlock observed a subject sitting in the stand without any hunter orange garments on. When contacted, the subject came out of the stand and turned his hat inside out, which revealed the hunter orange color and placed it back on his head. When asked why he wasn't wearing hunter orange the subject

stated his head was cold. This did not make much sense to the CO. The CO questioned the subject about the bait and he admitted to placing it there. Further investigation revealed the stand was not marked and the subject had screw in steps in the tree. The subject was issued citations for his violations.

On the firearm deer opener, Sgt. Ron Kimmerly observed two subjects on a John Deere tractor. The subjects were in a field coming up to a gate. Upon a closer look, Sgt. Kimmerly saw a set of antlers and deer feet in the bucket of the tractor. When contact was made, Sgt. Kimmerly observed the tractor bucket held a large 10-point buck with no kill-tag on it. The hunter that shot the deer advised the kill-tag was in his pocket and he was going to put it on the deer when they got back to the farm. Sgt. Kimmerly advised that was not the way to do it and enforcement action was taken.

CO Adam Beuthin was on patrol when he received a RAP complaint that there were two individuals taking an over limit of waterfowl in the Shiawassee River State Game Area (SRSGA). CO Quincy Gowenlock was also in the area and the two COs responded to the complaint. While checking duck hunters coming out of the managed area the COs contacted two individuals who were hunting in the suspected zone reported taking the over limits. After checking the hunters who both had their limit of ducks, CO Beuthin noticed a bag strap under a jacket in the truck and asked to see it. One subject indicated that it was his son's bag and that there might be waterfowl in it. The bag contained three hen mallards that were still warm. After further questioning the individual confessed to shooting three hen mallards over his limit. The other individual was in possession of 48 shotgun shells making him 23 over the possession limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Adam Beuthin was checking waterfowl hunters in the SRSGA with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife officer. The two officers contacted a vessel operating with no navigation lights. It was found that there was an uncased firearm in the vessel and one hunter had 32 shotgun shells in possession while the other hunter had 68 shells in his possession. Approximately 15 minutes into the contact CO Beuthin was talking with one of the hunters and it was discovered he had a CPL and was carrying. CO Beuthin informed the subject that it was the law to immediately notify any peace officer of a CPL. Due to the numerous violations, enforcement action was taken.

CO Adam Beuthin was patrolling the Gratiot-Saginaw SGA opening day of firearm deer season with CO Quincy Gowenlock when he observed an individual walking in the woods with a faded red vest on. After making contact the CO advised the individual even though he was trying to be visible in the woods, the color he had on was not the appropriate blaze orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Foerster was working the 2018 deer opener when he made a traffic stop on a vehicle. During the stop, a second vehicle came up behind the CO and after realizing that it was a CO it immediately started backing down the road in an attempt to get out of the area. CO Foerster quickly wrapped up the original stop and located the suspect

vehicle backed into a two-track. CO Foerster witnessed the suspect attempting to tag the deer that was in the back of the truck. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol for a bait flight in Gratiot County, CO Jill Miller and CO Adam Beuthin observed a golf cart with no ORV license driving down the road. A traffic stop was made to address the issues. Education and enforcement action were taken.

While on patrol in Bay County on the opening day of firearm deer season, CO Jill Miller contacted a hunter who had more than two gallons of bait out. Upon making contact with the subject, CO Miller noticed he was not wearing his required hunter orange outer garment. CO Miller asked for his deer license and he stated that it was in his vehicle. Education and enforcement action were taken.

While on patrol in Bay County on the opening day of firearm deer season, CO Jill Miller contacted a hunter who was riding his ORV without a helmet and no ORV license. He stated he was just going home from the morning hunt and he knew he needed a helmet. Education and enforcement action were taken.

While on patrol in Bay County, CO Jill Miller got a complaint from the RAP hotline about a subject who shot two deer and was out hunting again without a license. CO Chad Foerster assisted in the investigation. When contact was made, the subject stated that he had an untagged deer in the garage. While talking with the subject, he stated he shot the first deer without a license and then had his dad buy a license because it was cheaper. The subject shot another deer on property that he did not have permission to be on with an over limit of bait out. The second deer was not tagged and was also hanging in the garage. Education and enforcement action were taken. The father was also issued a citation for allowing another person to use his tag.

CO Jason McCullough contacted CO Mike Haas and passed along information concerning a deer camp in northern Isabella County. Someone at the camp was believed to have illegally harvested an antlered deer and the camp also had numerous illegal bait piles. COs Haas and Josh Russell visited the deer camp to contact the suspect. No one was at the camp when the COs stopped by, but there was visible evidence of baiting around the cabin as well as fresh deer blood and hair near the game pole. Days later the COs visited the camp again and contacted a hunter at the cabin. After a brief interview, the suspect eventually admitted to harvesting an antlered buck several days prior without purchasing a deer license. After further investigation it was confirmed the suspect had shot deer during the 2017 deer season and had not purchased any deer licenses. The suspect then took the COs around the property and showed them the numerous illegal bait piles. Enforcement action was taken to address the numerous hunting violations.

During the deer archery season, CO Mike Haas received a complaint from the RAP hotline concerning an illegal bait pile in northern Isabella County. COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson visited a nearby hunting blind on the firearm deer season opener and contacted three subjects. All three subjects claimed they were not aware of the bait

regulations and only one of them was hunting; the other two men were merely keeping the other hunter company. The COs thought it was odd that the other two gentlemen would wake up early, drive upstate, and make the effort to walk all the way out to the deer blind just to watch someone else hunt. The COs expressed their suspicion that all the men had been hunting and asked if there were any other firearms in the blind, but the two gentlemen insisted that only the one man was hunting and pointed out there was only one firearm leaning next to the hunter's chair. After further discussion and witnessing nervous behavior by the two gentlemen, the COs entered the deer blind to ensure there were no additional firearms inside. After a brief walkthrough of the blind, the COs located two additional hunting rifles hidden under the wall panels and insulation of the blind's walls. The two men stated they were scared and lied since they had failed to purchase their hunting licenses. Numerous citations were issued to address hunting over illegal bait, hunting without deer licenses, and hunting without wearing hunter orange garments.

COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson stopped and spoke with a family that had a large pile of sugar beets and corn behind their house in southern Isabella County. Upon closer examination of the bait area, the COs also located a corn feeder with a large quantity of corn on the ground and two additional piles of corn and beets near a hunting blind. The owner of the property admitted to putting the large quantity of food out for the deer and was cited for baiting in a restricted county.

On the third day of firearm deer season, COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson received multiple complaints concerning a shot and deceased deer found in the city of Mt. Pleasant. The COs arrived at the complaint location and inspected the antlerless deer that was lying in the middle of a residential area that had wounds consistent with archery equipment. The COs were able to follow the blood trail to a location near a duplex building. The numerous sets of shoe and boot prints in the snow made it difficult to distinguish the individual who shot the deer, but the COs identified a unique set of tracks they believed were made by hunting boots and made contact with residents of the duplex. Through interviews, the COs narrowed down their suspects to two different individuals and interviewed both gentlemen however, both men denied any knowledge of the deer. Later in the day the COs returned to the scene after receiving additional information from one of the complainants who had found the dead deer. The complainant described a strange interaction with an individual that matched the description of one of the suspects. The COs interviewed the suspect again and he admitted to shooting the deer with his bow from his front yard and provided the boots that in fact matched the prints made in the snow. The man had never purchased any type of licenses from the DNR, he shot the deer at 2:30 am with the aid of the street light and violated the city projectile ordinance. Charges are pending with the Isabella County Prosecutor's office.

While working Isabella County, CO Dan Robinson responded to a well-being check at a restaurant close to his location. The callers reported there were two people in the restaurant who were acting unusual and were having trouble staying awake before they got in their car and left. CO Robinson spotted the suspect vehicle and initiated a traffic

stop. Prior to the stop, CO Robinson was advised that the occupants were known heroin users and one likely had a warrant. Familiar with the suspects, the Sheriff's Department deputies conducted the roadside sobriety test. As a result, the driver was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of drugs; the car was searched, and several prescription and non-prescription drugs were located along with needles, and other paraphernalia. The second subject who was at the restaurant was not in the vehicle at the time of the stop and was later arrested at his residence on the outstanding warrants.

CO Dan Robinson responded to a house fire in northern Isabella County where the caller reported possible occupants. CO Robinson arrived to find a house fully engulfed in flames and gave an update to Central Dispatch. The owners arrived on scene and confirmed that there was no one in the house and that their dogs had escaped unharmed. CO Robinson assisted the first arriving firefighters before clearing the scene.

CO Dan Robinson was working some local cornfields for waterfowl hunters when a call came out that a subject was walking away from an accident just a few miles from his location. It was also reported that the subject appeared injured. The caller was a hunter in the area who heard the accident and went to investigate. Central Dispatch updated the units that the subject was at a nearby residence and was bleeding severely. CO Robinson was first on-scene and began providing care while giving an update to the incoming EMS units. After removing the material that the homeowners were applying to the wounds and cutting away the clothing, it was evident that the subject had attempted to hurt himself by severe cutting. EMS units arrived, and the officers on-scene assisted getting the patient bandaged and loaded for transport.

While working as a ground unit during a surveillance flight, COs Dan Robinson, Chad Foerster and Lt. Jeremy Payne were directed to a residence with two bait sites. The COs were advised that a truck had just left the driveway and Lt. Payne initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle, which had blood on the tailgate. COs Robinson and Foerster made contact at the residence and found a subject frantically trying to attach a kill-tag to an antlerless deer hanging which the subject said he shot earlier that morning. After asking the subject where he shot the deer, he led the COs to the wood line. CO Robinson broke off and checked the bait pile behind the house where a large amount of blood was located in the opposite direction from where CO Forester was being led by the subject. When asked about it, the subject said that he didn't shoot the deer over the pile, in addition he denied a second pile of bait on the property. CO Robinson requested a second flyby and the second pile was located at the back part of the property in front of a trail camera with a motion light that was wired to a light inside the nearby cabin. The subject at first said he had no idea where that bait came from, but after more questioning admitted to putting it there. Additionally, it was discovered that the subject shot the deer and tagged it with his son's tag which was purchased after the kill, the deer was shot over bait in a prohibited county, and that the subject was baiting deer in a prohibited county. Enforcement action was taken.

In Isabella County, COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas were working opening day when they located a deer hanging in a driveway without a visible tag. The COs stopped by to

talk to the hunter, who turned out to be a juvenile. The deer was tagged, but the tag was purchased shortly before the COs were there. The dad was interviewed and admitted to having his daughter out hunting without a license. He said that she went out in the morning with him intending to hunt with a .243. He said that she shot the 8-point deer and wounded it that morning and he then went back to the house and finished the deer with his shotgun. After killing it, they went out and purchased her deer tag to put on the deer. Education and enforcement action were taken.

COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas responded to a property where multiple RAP complaints reported that the subjects there were bringing in large amounts of bait for hunting. The COs contacted the subjects where they were hunting and had shot a deer. The bait sites were located, all of which were visible from one blind, and each pile was well over the normal two-gallon limit. The subjects there knew about the bait ban but admitted to being "old school" in their hunting tactics. A citation was issued for placing bait for hunting/feeding in a prohibited county.

CO Jay Person received a complaint of three untagged deer being loaded into a vehicle off state land in Midland County. The complainant was making small talk with the suspects and even mentioned they should get some tags on the deer. The suspects brushed him off, loaded the deer into the truck, and left the scene. The complainant was able to provide a direction of travel. Knowing this group from past issues, CO Person thought they might be headed to a hotel in Mt. Pleasant. CO Person contacted CO Dan Robinson in Isabella County to see if he could check the hotels on the eastside of the city. The first hotel CO Robinson pulled into, he found the suspects and the suspect's truck in the parking lot. Contact was made, and three deer were recovered from the suspect vehicle. Two of the deer had private land antlerless tags on them and one had no tag at all. The suspect stated it must have fallen off while dragging it out of the woods. None of the tags were validated. A lengthy investigation took place and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Sam Schluckbier investigated a trespass complaint and while walking the property, located a tree stand on the property boundary. The hunter had also placed an excessive amount of corn on the neighbor's property and appeared to be driving his ORV to the stand location illegally on Consumers Energy property. A follow-up patrol resulted in CO Schluckbier contacting the hunter while he was actively baiting the site and trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Carter Woodwyk was patrolling Allegan County when he observed an ORV being operated illegally on a seasonal roadway. The CO conducted a stop on the ORV and discovered the operator was under 16 years of age. CO Woodwyk advised the operator he needed to speak with a parent, which was determined to be back at deer camp. While attempting to make contact with the youth's father he observed an untagged deer at the camp. The subject stated his dad was deer hunting, so he and the CO walked into the woods to find him. While looking for his dad, the CO observed an

over limit of bait. When the CO located the subject's dad, it was discovered he was deer hunting with a 30-06 in the limited firearm deer zone. Throughout the investigation, multiple other violations were discovered. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Carter Woodwyk and Sam Schluckbier received a complaint of a possible illegally harvested deer. The COs interviewed the suspect who was adamant he did not break any laws while harvesting his deer. The COs left the suspect's residence to attempt to interview a possible witness. While attempting to make contact with the witness, CO Woodwyk spoke with the suspect on the phone who admitted to harvesting the deer without a license and purchasing it later in the day. Charges are pending with the Allegan County prosecutor's office.

CO Greg Patten received a complaint through the RAP hotline; the caller reported hearing a shot in the morning. The caller then started checking with the neighbors to find out if they heard anything. When the caller stopped at one of the neighbor's residence he saw that the person who lives there was covered in blood. The resident told the caller that he shot a spike buck that morning. The caller also said that the resident had been drinking. When CO Patten arrived, the suspect was not home. CO Patten checked the license sales system and found that the suspect did not have any deer licenses. CO Patten then made contact with the caller who directed him to the area where the suspect may have been hunting. CO Patten found a large bait pile and separate mineral block on the suspect's property in the no baiting area. There was a dead spike buck which was gutted but not tagged with a deer license. CO Patten seized the deer and waited at the suspect's residence. The caller told CO Patten what type of vehicle the suspect may be driving. While waiting CO Patten again checked to see if the suspect had purchased any deer licenses, the RSS showed that the suspect purchased a license after CO Patten arrived at his house. A short time later a vehicle drove by which matched the description of the suspect's vehicle. The driver was wearing camouflage clothing. CO Patten pulled out to catch up to the vehicle and the driver sped up. CO Patten caught up to the vehicle at an intersection, ran the plate through LEIN, and found that it was the suspect's vehicle. CO Patten stopped the vehicle and the first thing that the driver told him was, "I made a big mistake." CO Patten and the suspect returned to the residence. The suspect then confessed to shooting the deer without a license, with a crossbow, and then buying one. The suspect said that he thought that he bought his licenses. CO Patten confirmed that the deer was shot using a crossbow. A report was submitted to the Muskegon Prosecutor and a warrant was issued on 11/14/2018 for taking a deer without a license and illegal baiting.

CO Greg Patten responded to a hunter trespass complaint received from Muskegon Central Dispatch. The caller reported that he was hunting this morning on his property and came across tracks made by another unknown subject. The caller had trail cameras set up on his property and captured photos of the subject walking with a bow in his hand. The caller had photos of the same subject hunting on his posted property twice in October. The caller said that the suspect even sat in his blind and was "messing around" with his trailer parked on the property. The caller followed foot tracks to a residence near his property. CO Patten went to the residence and contacted a

male subject there. It appeared that it was the same person as in the photos. At first the suspect denied being on the caller's property until CO Patten told him that there were photos of him. The suspect eventually confessed to trespassing on the caller's property, hunting with a bow. The suspect admitted that he saw the no trespassing signs. The suspect did not have any hunting licenses. A report was submitted to the Muskegon County Prosecutor and a warrant for the suspect was issued on 11/16/2018 for Recreational Trespass and hunting without a license.

CO Ivan Perez responded to an anonymous complaint made by Ottawa County Dispatch of an untagged deer hanging in a garage. CO Perez responded to the residence and made contact with the home owner who stated that there was in fact a deer in his pole barn and led CO Perez to it. Within the pole barn was an untagged antlerless deer hanging from the ceiling. The homeowner stated that about a week and half ago, a friend of his asked to hunt his property. The homeowner stated that later that morning he had received a text from his friend stating he needed help retrieving a deer. The homeowner helped him bring the deer back and helped hang the deer. The homeowner's friend stated that he probably shouldn't be hunting because he was on parole. CO Perez observed that the wounds on the deer were consistent with wounds caused by an arrow. The homeowner stated that his friend was using a crossbow, which would not affect a felon from hunting. The homeowner stated that his friend was going to his residence to get his girlfriend's kill-tag to put on the deer, but never returned, and did not return repeated attempts by the homeowner to contact him. CO Perez was able to locate a possible address and departed for the residence. Upon arrival, CO Perez was able to make contact with the suspect. After a short interview, the suspect confessed to taking the deer without a license. A check of previous purchases showed that he had never purchased any hunting or fishing licenses, and there is no record of him taking a hunter safety class. A warrant is being requested through the Ottawa County Prosecutor's office.

COs Ivan Perez and BJ Goulette responded to a call from an Ottawa County deputy who was responding to a trespass case in the northeastern part of the county. Upon arrival to the residence, COs Perez and Goulette were met by the homeowner. The homeowner stated that he was watching over a neighbor's property for trespassing issues and had recently put up a trail cam. The trail cam showed a subject walking onto the property from the adjacent property where a ground blind had been built and was facing the private land in question. That morning the homeowner was hunting and heard a shot followed by a deer running in his direction and bedding down. After an hour of watching, and no one coming to locate the deer, he went to where the deer had bedded and found a dead 8-point buck. He followed the blood trail back to the point of kill to just 50 yards of where the ground blind stood with no one in sight. COs Perez and Goulette investigated the scene, took pictures and gathered evidence. The two COs and the deputy began to canvass the neighborhood asking who had been hunting that morning. They were able to get a suspect name. The suspect showed to have an address in the Grand Rapids area and the COs arrived there a short time later. After interviewing the suspect, he admitted to shooting the deer on the private property, but never went to look for it because he thought he had missed it. The suspect's shotgun

was still in its case in the back of the vehicle and upon removal showed to be loaded in both barrel and magazine with the safety off. The COs gathered evidence and will be requesting a warrant through the prosecutor's office.

CO Casey Varriale was responding to a trapping complaint in Kent County where he witnessed a hunter sneak into the woods as the CO drove by. CO Varriale made contact with the individual and asked how his hunt went that morning. The suspect stated he did not shoot any deer because all he saw were does. CO Varriale walked into the woods where the suspect was seen walking and located an untagged antlerless buck. After a short interview the suspect admitted to shooting the deer from an unlabeled tree stand on state land and not tagging the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg investigated a complaint of a deer being stolen by a neighbor. According to the complainant, he shot a deer and within minutes the neighbor came out, loaded the deer on a golf cart, and essentially stole the deer from the hunter. CO Ulberg contacted the suspect who advised that he had shot the deer and was unsure why he was being accused of stealing a deer. CO Ulberg followed the suspect to his stand and discovered a large, fresh blood trail leading to where the suspect recovered the deer. CO Ulberg then responded to the area where the complainant advised he had shot the deer and discovered a second blood trail. After a quick investigation, it was discovered that two different deer had been shot and the "suspect" did not steal the complainant's deer.

DISTRICT 8

COs Mike Drexler and Brandon Hartleben responded to a complaint where a subject shot a deer from a vehicle. Shortly after the COs arrived and were looking for the hunter, the subject walked out of the woods claiming he was just going for a walk. When the COs were speaking with him, CO Drexler noticed the subject's hands were bloody. The subject admitted he shot the deer and was nervous because he was not sure if he was trespassing to locate the deer. The COs found he had not validated and tagged his deer immediately after locating it and enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich received a call from a hunter who shot a wounded deer and was confronted by a hunter who had originally shot the animal. The hunter ended up giving the original hunter the animal but called to tell him that he didn't tag the deer. COs Monnich and Eric Smither contacted the hunter the next day at camp where they located the whitetail hanging in the barn with a tag on it that was bought at 10 pm on the night it was harvested. They were able to gain confessions and are seeking a warrant through the county prosecutor's office.

Sgt. Jason Smith and CO Pete Purdy observed a vehicle parked in a driveway with an untagged deer on the roof. When they pulled in to investigate a subject ran out advising he was just about to tag the deer. When talking with the subject it was established that he shot the deer, field dressed it, drug it out of the woods, fell at one

point dragging it out, loaded it to the roof of his SUV, and tied it down, then decided to tag it when he saw the conservation officers. Enforcement action taken.

CO Eric Smither received a RAP complaint of road hunting near Sand Creek on opening day of firearm deer season. CO Smither checked the area and found where a deer had been killed and dragged to the road but was unable to locate the suspect's vehicle. CO Smither then contacted the caller who was able to give CO Smither a description of the truck and the license plate. CO Smither was able to find RSS information on the suspect that showed he only had an antlerless deer tag. The following day CO Smither and CO Andrew Monnich decided to patrol the area to see if they could locate the vehicle. While checking an area a few miles south of the location CO Monnich noticed a truck matching the description that had the correct Minnesota license plate. The COs contacted two individuals and found the head of the 9-point buck with a deer tag and a cooler full of meat. Upon further investigation the COs found that the suspect's firearm was still loaded in the bed of the truck. The suspect stated that he did not shoot the buck, however, he saw the buck in the field and it looked to have been wounded so he walked onto the property from the road and stabbed it with his knife to kill, gut, and drag it to the road. He then got a buddy of his to tag it with one of his tags because he did not have a buck tag. The COs seized the antlers and meat and a report will be submitted to the Lenawee County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Jeff Goss observed a vehicle towing a trailer with an untagged deer on the back. Upon initiating a traffic stop the driver told CO Goss that he was going to tag the deer when he got to the processor. CO Goss explained that the deer needed to be tagged immediately upon killing it. The veteran hunter claimed that he thought you just had to have the tag with you. CO Goss then asked the man's 10-year-old son if he completed a hunter safety course, the boy said yes. CO Goss asked the boy if he knew when a deer needed to be tagged and the boy replied, "before you move it." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Wellman was working a trespass complaint and interviewed two men who admitted to trespassing. CO Wellman recognized one of the subjects from a trail camera picture of him trespassing on another property several miles away. CO Wellman wrapped up both trespass complaints and a report will be submitted to the Branch County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Nick Wellman was on patrol with Sgt. Troy Bahlau in Branch County when they noticed a small buck skull in the front yard of a home. The COs noticed the deer was very fresh and didn't have a tag attached. Upon contacting a resident of the home, another large 8-point buck was located without a tag. Over the next couple of days CO Nick Wellman and CO Jeff Goss conducted several interviews regarding the two untagged bucks. It was determined both bucks were killed before gun season, from a vehicle, at night with the aid of a spotlight. The bucks were killed with a .223 caliber rifle. There was a total of four subjects involved in the poaching and charges will be sought with the Branch County Prosecutors Office.

CO Nick Wellman was on patrol in Branch County when a call for a man who had tipped his canoe on an icy lake came over the radio. The man was now stranded on an island, wet, and cold. CO Wellman went to his residence to retrieve his kayak and responded to the location of the call where firefighters, EMS personnel, and MSP were on scene. CO Wellman, with the assistance of two firefighters, broke ice several hundred yards across the semi-frozen lake out to the subject. CO Wellman was able to assist the stranded person into the canoe and paddle him back to the EMS personnel waiting on shore. The subject was beginning to show signs of hypothermia and was tired but was expected to recover.

CO Matthew Neterer received information in the fall of 2017 of an individual in Ingham County that was known to hunt with an illegal centerfire rifle and hunt under the influence of alcohol. CO Neterer ran the subject's hunting license history and discovered that he hadn't purchased a hunting license since 2015. CO Neterer and CO Todd Thorn located the suspect and a friend hunting in separate blinds behind the suspect's residence. Neither subject was wearing hunter orange, both were using illegal centerfire rifles, and neither had purchased 2018 hunting licenses. Citations were issued to both parties.

CO Matthew Neterer was patrolling Ingham County when he observed a subject in a pickup truck parked in a cut bean field a few hundred yards from a dead antlerless deer. CO Neterer approached the subject who claimed to have no knowledge of the deer. A few moments later, another subject from his hunting party exited the woods and he claimed that his friend had shot the deer. CO Neterer observed that the deer had been shot with a small caliber round and his friend was carrying a 12-gauge shotgun. CO Neterer also observed the deer's tracks in the bean field leading from a ladder stand on the edge of the woods the opposite direction of where his friend had been sitting. When confronted with the evidence, the subject gave a full confession and admitted that he had shot the deer and planned to borrow his friend's antlerless tag. CO Neterer noticed a strong odor of intoxicants coming from the suspect's breath and discovered a loaded .450 bushmaster rifle that was uncased on the suspect's back seat. CO Neterer ran the suspect through field sobriety tests and placed him under arrest for possessing a loaded firearm while intoxicated. The suspect was lodged in the Ingham County Jail and was found to have a blood alcohol content of .12. A report and warrant request have been submitted to the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office for review.

Sgt. Rich Nickols responded in the middle of the night to assist Bath Township Police Department with a hunter casualty investigation on state land. The victim was fatally shot on the second day of firearm deer season. The investigation is ongoing.

DISTRICT 9

CO Joseph Deppen assisted Ingham County COs with an illegal deer investigation. The subject shot a doe without a license, loaded it up in a hurry, and returned to Macomb County, where CO Deppen located the deer at a local processor. CO Deppen contacted

the hunter and confiscated the illegal deer. Charges will be handled through Ingham County courts.

While checking hunters on opening day of firearm deer season, CO Joseph Deppen was checking on a complaint of trespassing. CO Deppen contacted a hunter trespassing and hunting on the private property. CO Deppen asked the hunter for his hunting license, and the hunter said it was at his house on the dresser. CO Deppen walked the hunter back to his vehicle. The hunter was found to have multiple violations including hunting deer without a license, no hunter orange, hunt over greater than two gallons of bait, recreational trespass, unregistered ORV, and giving false information to COs. The hunter was escorted off the private property and enforcement action was taken.

While checking waterfowl hunters in Macomb County, COs Brad Silorey and Joseph Deppen received a complaint about waterfowl hunters shooting birds in a waterfowl refuge. COs launched their patrol boat and contacted the hunters. The hunters said they were from out of town and did not see the numerous buoys indicating they were hunting in a refuge. The waterfowl hunters picked up their decoys and enforcement action was taken.

CO Raymond Gardner responded to a complaint about pop-up blinds being left on state land overnight without any identifying markings. While being shown one of the sites, CO Gardner contacted one of the pop-up blind owners. He then explained the law to the subject and asked if he was using any bait. The subject said yes and showed CO Gardner where his bait was. CO Gardner noticed the amount of bait was over the allowed limit and asked the subject if he knew how much bait he could use. The subject said two and a half gallons per day. CO Gardner told the subject the correct amount allowed, and law enforcement action was taken.

CO Raymond Gardner and Sgt. Todd Szyska assisted the Lapeer County Sheriff's Office in locating an 87-year-old man who got lost on his way back to his hunting camp after dropping off his friends who were hunting. The subject had dropped off his hunting party at 6:30 am and never returned; when the others came in at noon. After driving around the vast farm lands, the COs returned to the farm and found that the subject had returned. The lost man had recounted how he had gotten turned around and drove for several hours until he eventually found where he needed to be.

CO Raymond Gardner and Sgt. Todd Szyska responded to a car accident where a car slid off the road and rolled over into a ditch. The driver was pregnant and unable to get the door open. CO Gardner and Sgt. Szyska worked together to get the door open and the woman out. The woman complained that her hip was hurting and that she was worried about the baby. The COs moved her into their patrol truck to warm up and asked if she wanted an ambulance. She stated that her dad was on his way and would take her to the hospital. After the dad arrived and took the woman to the hospital, CO Gardner and Sgt. Szyska left the scene while Lapeer County Sheriff's Office deputies waited for a tow truck to remove the vehicle from the ditch.

CO Raymond Gardner responded to a complaint about a hunter who shot a 9-point buck and bought his deer kill-tags afterwards. During the interview, CO Gardner asked the suspect if he had a deer license before he killed the deer and he stated that he didn't. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig and Sgt Todd Szyska checked waterfowl hunters on Lake St Clair. There were good amounts of ducks in the air. Violations noted included hunting with an unplugged gun, license and stamp violations, and marine violations such as not having a type IV Personal Flotation Device (PFD).

CO Kris Kiel was patrolling the back roads of northern Macomb County and observed a vehicle parked in a field near a blind on top of a flatbed trailer. The CO investigated and noticed what looked like red spray paint all over the snow in the field in front of the blind. Using binoculars, he could also see the tops of carrots and sugar beets sticking out above the snow. The CO walked up and peeked around the side of the blind, he saw two subjects inside, neither with any hunter orange on. As the CO checked for licenses, one subject had printed off his antlerless application. The subject stated that he thought that was his license. The CO explained that was only the \$5 application and that he still needed to purchase the actual license at the store. CO Kiel also checked the bait in the field and found four large piles, each with corn, sugar beets, carrots, and the red substance which was granular sugar beet bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel was patrolling along a back road in Macomb County, and observed a bunch of vehicles parked along the road belonging to workers harvesting cabbage from a field. Farther down the road was another vehicle parked on the side of the road. CO Kiel watched as a small subject exited that vehicle with a firearm and proceed to walk across the field without any hunter orange. CO Kiel pulled up and called for the hunter to come back to the road. When he arrived at the road, CO Kiel noticed the hunter was a young boy. CO Kiel asked where his hunter orange was. He replied in his pocket and did not think he needed it until he was in his blind. When CO Kiel asked for his hunting license, he replied it was in one of the trucks down the road. CO Kiel asked where his dad was. He replied on the tractor harvesting cabbage. CO Kiel asked the young boy to go and get his license while he contacted dad. The hunter's father was explained the requirements of an apprentice license and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was on patrol checking waterfowl hunters when he observed three individuals hunting from shore at a local DNR access site. While checking all the hunter's licenses and equipment, one hunter was found to be in possession and using lead shot. The hunter stated, that the store he purchased the lead shot from did not have any steel shot left; and that he knew he had to use steel shot. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Raymond Gardner, Patrick Hartsig, Ben Lasher, Brad Silorey, and Sgt. Todd Szyska conducted a hunter safety field day at the B&B Gun Club in Ray Township. The event was successful and a total of 33 students were in attendance and competed their hunter safety training and received their certificates.

CO Pat Hartsig and Sgt. Todd Szyska patrolled Lake St. Clair by patrol boat on Veterans Day working the multiple lay out duck hunters on the lake. Cold weather has pushed multiple red heads and blue bills down into the lake. Although, 2-3-foot seas were in the lake that did not stop the lay out hunters. Violations encountered throughout the course of patrol included: unplugged shotguns, PFD violations, and unsigned Federal Stamps. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig was checking duck hunters on Lake St Clair when he noticed a group pick up a downed duck. After they motored back to their spot, CO Hartsig checked their guns. They were found to be loaded and the hunters were also within the safety zone of houses on the shore. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig checked deer hunters during the opening weekend of firearm deer season. CO Hartsig contacted a group struggling to start a boat in the dark which they were going to use to retrieve the deer they shot earlier. CO Hartsig was able to get their outboard started. Before they left, CO Hartsig asked if the deer were tagged, ultimately the hunters admitted they were not tagged. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig and Sgt. Todd Szyska followed up on a complaint of hunters rallying of ducks in Macomb County. CO Kris Kiel had received a complaint from a hunter that subjects had been rallying ducks in front of him by boat and then their layout boat was getting ducks due to it. The complainant also stated they were chasing down ducks while underway shooting at them. CO Hartsig and Sgt. Szyska drove around the inner canals off the bay attempting to locate the hunters. After some time, the COs located the subjects and met with them. The subjects explained that they didn't think it was rallying and were only trying to get their cripples with their boat. The hunters produced their ducks from the day which were all buffleheads, and licenses were checked. The hunters were educated on rallying and fair chase and a warning was given for an unsigned Federal Stamp.

While patrolling through the city of Yale, CO Bobby Watson passed a vehicle travelling in the opposite direction pulling a small trailer with a dead buck strapped down inside of it; no deer licenses were visible. CO Watson quickly turned around to attempt to contact the driver. By the time CO Watson turned around the driver had pulled over and was exiting his vehicle with his kill-tag in hand. CO Watson explained why it's important to tag the deer before transporting to the processor. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobby Watson was patrolling on the opening day of firearm deer season when he was dispatched to a reported fire and active cutting of timber deep within a state game area. CO Watson responded with a St. Clair County Sheriff's deputy and met firefighters from Clyde Township who were already on scene. CO Watson spoke with a hunter who claimed to have a small clearing with natural log chairs and a natural brush blind to hunt out of further down the trail. CO Watson and the Sheriff's deputy investigated the site and were unable to find any violations. The subject failed to notify CO Watson of a camp site located further down the road which had a smoldering fire, beer cans, and tents which had been left out since the summer. CO Watson discovered the camp site

and trash; the subject admitted to being responsible for it. Enforcement action was taken.

The last hour of opening day, CO Bobby Watson was patrolling an area known to have high deer hunting pressure in St. Clair County. A short time after dark, CO Watson was driving along a backroad and observed three men pulling an 8-point buck out of a field very quickly. CO Bobby Watson contacted the men and noticed they all seemed very nervous. CO Watson noted the deer had not been tagged yet. A quick investigation revealed the man claiming to have harvested the deer had shot over a property line. CO Watson contacted the landowner the following day and the landowner did not wish to press charges. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobby Watson pulled into a local gas station in St. Clair County after driving by and observing a vehicle parked with a buck in the bed of a truck. CO Watson became suspicious of the family after the son who allegedly shot the buck stated his mother's kill-tag was on the deer. CO Watson interviewed the family and the son explained his mother had shot this buck, and that his deer was at home which he had shot earlier in bow season. CO Watson then requested to see the son's base license and discovered the son did not have any valid hunting licenses. After a lengthy conversation, the son eventually admitted to using his mother's second kill-tag on his buck to save money. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobby Watson was patrolling backroads a few hours after legal shooting hours had ended in St. Clair County, when he was passed by a truck and noticed the vehicle lacked any tail lights. CO Watson turned around and followed the subject, eventually conducting a traffic stop. After a short investigation, it was discovered the Florida resident had an untagged doe in the bed of his truck, an uncased firearm in the front seat, a warrant out of Mackinac County, and was suspended from driving in Michigan. The nonresident showed no license purchases for this hunting season. The firearm was seized as evidence, the doe was seized and donated to a local food bank, and a report is being generated for submission to the local prosecutor for the illegal deer and other violations.

CO Ben Lasher assisted CO Robert Watson with checking some waterfowl hunters on Lake Huron. CO Watson watched as one boat motored around the area and then approached another party and unloaded their guns. CO Watson advised CO Lasher to check the subjects at the access site. CO Lasher found the subjects and advised them of the safety issues of having loaded guns while driving the boat. Enforcement action taken.

CO Christopher Knights received information from Sgt. Jason Becker regarding a possible illegal deer taken at Springfield Oaks golf course. CO Knights went to the golf course and located the opening in the fence near a residence, as well as some blood leading back to the home. CO Knights went to the residence and spoke with the home owner regarding a gut pile with a blood leading back to his residence. The individual stated his daughter shot a deer from the stand next to the fence and it ended up dying

on the golf course. The individual stated he took it upon himself to walk through the hole to retrieve the deer without permission from the golf course. CO Knights spoke with the golf course and they stated they didn't want to press charges for trespassing. CO Knights advised the property owner of this, but CO Knights did issue a citation for an over limit of bait. CO Knights also advised him and his daughter about the ramifications if he were to get charged for trespassing.

COs Jacob Griffin and Danielle Zubek followed up on a complaint regarding one subject commercially processing deer in a very unsanitary manner. While making contact with the subject at the processing location, the COs discovered multiple deer, deer meat, and deer parts that have remained exposed for a long period of time. The deer and meat were not refrigerated or placed in a freezer. Furthermore, the subject was not properly licensed and did not maintain the appropriate records as required by law. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin was following up on a complaint in Oakland County when he saw one subject hunting from a ground blind. CO Griffin conducted a routine hunting check and discovered the subject was hunting with two firearms. A closer look revealed one of the firearms was a large caliber rifle not legal to use in the limited firearm deer zone. CO Griffin educated the subject and enforcement action was taken.

While at a local deer processor, CO Justin Muehlhauser noticed a 9-point deer which was dropped off earlier that day. The purchase dates and times were questionable, so the CO started looking closer. When compared to the other deer at the facility which were supposedly taken on the same day, the CO noticed that the eye of the deer was dry, and the pupil was almost completely constricted. This would suggest that the deer had been dead prior to when the tag was validated. Further, the deer was dropped off by another party, and the owner of the tag had never taken hunter safety. The CO set out to interview the parties involved. After a thorough investigation, it was determined that the deer was not taken by the tag holder. The other party shot the deer without a license and asked his girlfriend to buy a tag while she was already at the store. Enforcement action was taken, and the deer was donated to the Eastern Michigan Food Bank.

CO Justin Muehlhauser responded to a complaint in Lapeer County regarding an ORV which drove around a locked gate onto the Lapeer State Game Area. The complainant advised that the vehicle was loaded with bait and possibly tending to a hunt site. When the CO arrived, the subject was gone. However, the complainant provided the license plate and video of the events. The case is currently under investigation.

CO Justin Muehlhauser received a request for assistance from the Clayton Township PD. A caller reported to Genesee County 911 that a mobile home was hit by a stray bullet that came from a nearby field which was being hunted. The callers were working on the house at the time and heard several gun shots. One complainant reported hearing three bullets flying through the air. One struck the house that they were working on. The workers crawled under the house for shelter and called 911. When CO

Muehlhauser arrived, he took over the investigation. It was determined that a group of hunters were conducting an opening day deer drive. One of the suspects observed a deer enter the field. The suspect admitted to shooting four times at the deer while it was on the run. Another suspect claimed that he shot once. The CO was able to recover spent shotgun shells from each location. Sgt. Jason Becker and CO Danielle Zubek arrived to assist in processing the crime scene. The COs were able to recover a slug from the nearby mobile home. The slug appeared to match the ammunition which was being used by one of the suspects. Two firearms were seized and sent to the MSP Crime Lab for analysis. Charges are being sought for reckless discharge of a firearm.

A call came into the RAP hotline regarding poaching in progress. The caller stated that a pickup truck was slowly rolling down the road. The caller observed the vehicle stop at an open field and heard a shot and believed that shot was taken from inside the vehicle. The caller observed the vehicle return to a nearby residence and reported the violation. CO Justin Muehlhauser arrived at the location and observed lights in the field. Metro Police Authority of Genesee County arrived and assisted in the investigation. The CO confronted the hunters and conducted a license check. The hunters claimed they did not shoot from a vehicle. Instead, they stated that they were tracking a deer which was legally shot on property in which they had permission. The CO discovered that the firearm present was loaded well outside of legal hunting hours. The hunter did not secure permission to track and was also not wearing hunter orange. Although CO Muehlhauser was unable to prove the discharge from the motor vehicle, enforcement action was taken for the multiple violations. The deer was unable to be located.

Sgt. Jason Becker responded to a RAP complaint of a subject that shot a deer with a firearm during the archery season. Sgt. Becker interviewed the subject who stated he shot the deer with his crossbow and then fired two shots with his pistol to put the animal down. Upon inspection of the carcass, Sgt. Becker noticed that the deer was not tagged. The subject stated that he purchased his license online and didn't know how to properly validate his tag. Sgt. Becker educated the subject on the laws on the use of a firearm during the archery season and how and when to properly validate and attach the kill-tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll received a complaint of an over limit of bait. The complainant stated that the bait was right next to his property and he watched a blue SUV drive back there and dump a truck load of bait. COs Ingersoll and David Schaumburger located the bait and observed the over limit. The COs were unable to locate any hunters but advised the complainant that if anyone came out to hunt to give them a call. Later that afternoon, the complainant watched the hunter head back to their stand. The complainant called CO Ingersoll who was able to respond. CO Ingersoll located the hunter and questioned her about the over limit of bait. She stated that she and her hunting partner had put the bait out, and knew they were over limit. The bait was cleaned up to a legal amount, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll and Sgt. Damon Owens were patrolling Petersburg State Game Area (PSGA) when they were sitting on a vehicle in one of the parking lots. The COs

observed two hunters exit the woods almost an hour after legal hunting hours had concluded. The COs contacted both hunters and asked if their firearms were unloaded. Both hunters stated that they were not. The COs advised the hunters that legal hunting hours ended almost an hour ago and they needed to be unloaded at that time. The COs stressed the importance of being unloaded when walking out of the woods in the dark, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll was patrolling PSGA when he observed a hunter exit the woods without a firearm approximately 20 minutes after shooting hours had ended. CO Ingersoll asked the hunter where his firearm was. The hunter stated he had left it in his blind due to the fact he was going back in the morning. CO Ingersoll asked the hunter to take him to his blind, and after a long walk through the woods, the hunter was able to locate his blind. CO Ingersoll asked to see his firearm that was in the blind, and the hunter advised CO Ingersoll that the gun was still loaded. CO Ingersoll asked the hunter if he knew when shooting hours had ended, and he stated that he did. CO Ingersoll advised the hunter that his firearm needed to be unloaded once shooting hours concluded and CO Ingersoll also advised the hunter that if he was to leave his ground blind on state land it needed to have his information attached to the blind. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger received a complaint of a trio of people who were target practicing on another person's property. The CO arrived and contacted three subjects who were shooting four high-powered rifles at targets approximately 100 yards away onto another property. One of the subjects owned a house that backed up to the complainant's property and thought it would be okay to shoot at targets from his property onto another's. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger arrived at the Brownstown Prairie Game Area and viewed a gun case in the back of a vehicle, however, the township of Brownstown has a local hunting control prohibiting the discharge of a firearm. The CO walked the woods and found the hunter up in a tree with his hunter orange on while hunting with a shotgun. The CO asked the hunter to come down from the tree and he advised him of the local hunting control.

CO Dan Walzak checked a subject coming in from waterfowl hunting who shot three birds. According to the hunter, he had taken a redhead, a coot, and a duck that he couldn't readily identify. Looking at the birds, the unidentified bird was a hen scaup. The coot, however, turned out to be a grebe. Further checking revealed that the subject's shotgun was unplugged. When asked why the shotgun did not have a plug, the subject responded that he had just purchased the shotgun and forgot to put the plug in. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 21

On November 4, 2016, A Department Environmental Quality Analyst (EQA) Air Quality Division (AQD), Asbestos National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants

(NESHAP) Inspector, conducted an inspection of a facility formerly known as Anaconda Wire and Cable in Muskegon. The facility had been demolished and asbestos had been discovered and disturbed. No notification had been made. The MDEQ had located and spoken to the demolition contractor who stated he did not need any type of notification and if he found asbestos he would just deal with it. The owner of Anaconda Wire and Cable hired Melching Demolition to remediate the asbestos from the site, so demolition could continue. The cost was \$74,400.00, paid for by the building owner. On July 10, 2018, one count of Air Pollution Control - Hazardous Release of Pollutant MCL 324.5531 was issued. On November 26, 2018, a guilty plea to Air Pollution Control – Attempted Release of Pollutant was entered. The subject was ordered to pay a \$500.00 fine, \$350 in court costs and \$2680.00 in restitution costs to the Anaconda Copper owner.

Detective Luce reports that a Houghton County woman pled no contest to one count of filling a wetland without a permit in the 97th District Court of Houghton County. The woman built a roadway connecting her property to a county road through a forested wetland, crossing the neighbor's property without permission in Stanton Township. The roadway was approximately 360 feet long and 10 feet wide. The woman refused to comply with orders to restore submitted by the Water Resources Division of the DEQ. The woman advised the Water Resources Division she was working with the surrounding neighbors on reaching a civil agreement, including an easement. This turned out to be false, and the case was referred to EIS for investigation in late 2017. The woman was given additional time to comply with the Water Resources Division's order to restore, but failed to restore the site within the allotted time period. The woman was charged with one count under Part 303 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, specifically MCL 324.30304, for filling the wetland without a permit. She was fined \$590.00 and given 12 months' probation as a delay of sentence. The judge in the case ordered that the property be restored as a condition of her probation. The restoration includes removing the fill, removing the unauthorized culverts placed under the road, and the planting of wetland vegetation at the direction of the DEQ Water Resources Division.