



**** MEDIA RELEASE ****

**BIG LAKE POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



790 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake MN, 55309

Incident Number: 18-3153

Date/Time: 4/30/2018

Suspect Arrested in Stolen Vehicle

On April 25th, 2018, the Wright County Sheriff's Office received a report of a Lexus SUV stolen from a parking lot in the City of Monticello. At about 6:45 p.m. Sherburne County Dispatch received a report of a Lexus SUV driving recklessly on Hiawatha Avenue in Big Lake. The specific report was that the driver was passing vehicles on the right shoulder, and traveling at a high rate of speed. The caller observed the vehicle pull into a driveway on Hiawatha, and the driver fall out the driver's door.

Officers Tom Kucala and Tyler Sinclair arrived on the scene and found the suspect still in the vehicle. The person in the vehicle was confirmed by witnesses as the driver from the prior complaint, she was identified as; Valerie Fix (Age 31 – Big Lake). Officers also observed heavy damage to the front and rear of the Lexus, and a bottle of vodka near Fix. One witness told officers that he took the keys out of the Lexus so Fix could not drive away, while he was doing this she struck him and bit his hand. It was also confirmed the damage to the vehicle was not present prior to it being stolen.

Fix was observed to have signs consistent with intoxication. Following field sobriety testing, Fix was arrested for DWI. Fix later submitted to a breath test which indicated a blood alcohol content of .18, over twice the legal limit. Fix was booked into the Sherburne County Jail, she was charged by criminal complaint with the following offenses;

- Theft of a Motor Vehicle – (Felony)
- Driving While Impaired – Under the Influence (Gross Misdemeanor)
- Driving While Impaired – Blood Alcohol Greater that .08 (Gross Misdemeanor)

Fix has two prior DWI Offenses which occurred in 2014, and 2008. This case is a great reminder of the power alert citizens have in reporting suspicious/criminal behavior. A huge thank you to those who reported, and took actions to remove this very dangerous driver from our roadways. THANK YOU!