



****MEDIA RELEASE****

BIG LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT



790 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake MN, 55309

Incident Number: 18-3976

Date/Time: 7/26/2018

Suspect Charged with Criminal Sexual Contact Crimes

On May 18, 2018 Investigator Rich Berg received a report of a sexual assault having occurred in the City of Big Lake. The report involved a vulnerable adult disclosing having been transported multiple times in a shuttle for hire driven by James Helgeson (Age 58 – Big Lake). The victim stated on the date in question, Helgeson wheeled the victim in a wheelchair into their apartment. Once inside the apartment, the victim was subjected to talk in a sexual nature, attempted to be shown pornographic video, and encouraged to touch Helgeson in a sexual nature, which the victim did stating they were afraid. Helgeson also wanted to touch the victim, which was refused. During an interview with Investigator Berg, Helgeson admitted to the sexual contact, kissing, and having shown pornographic materials to the victim.

Helgeson was charged by criminal complaint with; **4th Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct** (contact with an individual that has reason to believe is mentally impaired, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless at the time of sexual contact), and **4th Degree Criminal Sexual Contact - Special Transportation Employee**. Both offenses are Felonies.