



**** MEDIA RELEASE ****

**BIG LAKE POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



790 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake MN, 55309

Incident Number: 17-8012

Date/Time: 8/21/2017

Suspect Arrested for Theft of Sober Car

On August 19th at 1:25 am, Big Lake Police Officers were dispatched to Tootsies Tavern in regards to the theft of a vehicle. When the officers arrived, they determined the vehicle which had been stolen was in fact a van used to provide rides to customers; "sober cab." The driver of the van was in the driver's seat, parked in the parking lot with the vehicle running, the side sliding door open, and with two customers seated in it. At this time, a person identified as Alex Orcutt (Age 26 – Big Lake) knocked on a window and indicated for the driver to step out so he could speak to him. When the driver exited, Orcutt pushed past him, jumping into the driver's seat of the van. Orcutt closed the driver's door and rapidly accelerated recklessly out of the parking lot nearly striking a parked car, with the 2 customers still in the vehicle, and the sliding door still open.

Orcutt stopped the van near Shore Acres Drive and let the 2 customers out of the van. A short time later, a vehicle crash was reported in Monticello. Wright County Deputies found the missing van, it had been involved in a crash with a utility pole in the 700 block of 4th Street West, the driver of the van had fled the scene. The damage to this pole resulted in a large power outage to Big Lake Residents, and a section of Monticello. A couple hours later, Wright County Sheriff's Deputies located Orcutt walking, he was taken into custody at the time and custody was transferred to a Big Lake Police Officer.

Orcutt was known to several individuals who witnessed this incident take place, they positively identified him as the suspect. Orcutt was booked into the Sherburne County Jail where he was charged by criminal complaint with; Theft of a Motor Vehicle (Felony), Driving While Revoked (Misdemeanor).