



****MEDIA RELEASE****

**BIG LAKE POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



790 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake MN, 55309

Incident Number: 16-11922

Date/Time: 1/3/2017

Suspect Arrested in Stolen Auto

On December 28th at 12:50 am Officer Norlin was on patrol when he was dispatched to an erratic driver complaint on County Road 43. The caller in this incident stated the suspect vehicle was traveling north, in the southbound lane of County Road 43. Officer Norlin located the vehicle sitting in a driveway of a residence on County 43 in Big Lake. As Officer Norlin approached the running vehicle, he found Lucas Melara (Age 23 – Big Lake) in the drivers seat. As Officer Norlin spoke with Melara, he noticed indicators consistent with intoxication. Following the administration of field sobriety testing, Melara was placed under arrest driving under the influence of alcohol. While authoring a search warrant for a blood draw, Officer Norlin was advised that the vehicle Melara was driving, was being reported as stolen. It was later determined that Melara had left a liquor establishment in Big Lake, and had taken this vehicle without permission that was in the parking lot.

Melara was arrested and transported to the Sherburne County Jail. Melara was charged by criminal complaint with; Theft of a Motor Vehicle (Felony), Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol (Misdemeanor).