

****MEDIA RELEASE****

BIG LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT



160 Lake Street North, Big Lake MN, 55309

Incident Number: 16-1089

Date/Time: 02-09-2016

Big Lake Police Squad Car Totaled in Crash

On February 7th at 5:00 pm, Big Lake Police Officers were dispatched to Highway 10 in regards to a reckless driver report. The report indicated that a white Buick was traveling westbound on Highway 10 with children sitting on adults laps, speeding, and possibly smoking marijuana. Officer Chris Hoard was stopped on Industrial Drive, off Highway 10 watching for this vehicle.

Heath Woods (Age 26 – Iowa) was traveling westbound on Highway 10 near Industrial Drive. Woods made an abrupt lane change, striking a vehicle in the inside lane. As a result of the initial crash, Woods vehicle made an abrupt change in course, striking Officer Hoard broadside. The Toyota van driven by Woods, and Big Lake Police Squad car came to rest in the adjacent ditch as a result of this high speed impact. Officer Hoard and Woods were transported by ambulance to CentraCare Hospital in Monticello. Officer Hoard was discharged, with minor injuries. Woods was discharged, then placed under arrest and transported to the Sherburne County Jail. Woods has outstanding felony arrest warrants in Iowa for burglary and property damage. In addition he was charged by the Minnesota State Patrol with; driving without insurance, no drivers license, fail to drive with due care, and felony possession of a controlled substance.

The 2015 Ford Explorer owned by the Big Lake Police Department, as well as all police equipment in it were determined to be a total loss by an insurance adjuster. The loss is estimated at \$40,000, which will be covered by the City's insurance through the League of Minnesota Cities Trust.