



**\*\*MEDIA RELEASE\*\***

## **BIG LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT**



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790 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake MN, 55309

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**Incident Number: 18005496**

**Date/Time: 8/15/2018**

### **Suspect Charged with Assault on 7-Week-Old Infant**

On June 24, 2018, a report was made to Big Lake Police by a medical provider, that a 7-week-old child was being treated for a fractured femur. Investigator Rich Berg was assigned to investigate the circumstances surrounding this injury. During the course of Investigator Berg's investigation, the following was determined.

The injured child had been left in the care of Nathaniel M. Guthrie (Age 18 – Howe Ok), prior to the injury being discovered. In an interview with Investigator Berg, Guthrie initially denied knowing how the child could have been harmed. As the interview progressed, Guthrie disclosed that the following had taken place. Guthrie had become overstressed and aggressive as he was caring for children, losing his temper. Guthrie was manipulating the child's legs, when he became frustrated and angry with crying taking place. As Guthrie pushed on one leg, he heard it pop, saw it become red, and noticed the child was no longer moving it. Guthrie did not seek medical attention or tell anyone this had occurred. A family member noticed the leg was deformed and sought medical attention.

A medical professional determined the femur was recently broken, and the result of extreme bending and force. It was determined to be child abuse.

Guthrie was charged by criminal complaint with; Malicious Punishment of a Child -Substantial Injury (felony), and 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Assault – Substantial Injury (felony). A warrant has been issued for his arrest.