



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

**BIG LAKE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**



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790 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake MN, 55309

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**Incident Number: 18-9994**

**Date/Time: 10/31/2018**

**Suspect Arrested for Narcotic Possession**

On October 20, 2018 at about 2:30 a.m., Officer Tom Kucala was completing a traffic stop on Highway 10 near Industrial Drive. Officer Kucala was parked on the right side of the westbound lane with his emergency lights activated. A vehicle driven by Gary L. Kittelson (Age 69 – Brainerd) passed by in the lane directly next to where Officer Kucala was stopped. Minnesota State Statute requires a driver to move over when passing a stopped emergency vehicle with its lights activated, in this case the lane to the left of Kittelson was not occupied.

Officer Kucala initiated a traffic stop with Kittelson for failing to move over. In running a status check of Kittelson's driver's license, Officer Kucala learned it was "Cancelled - Inimical to Public Safety." This is an enhanced level of cancellation for drivers with a history of serious offenses on their driving history. Kittelson was placed under arrest for this offense. During a search of Kittelson, a baggie of crystal substance was found in his wallet. This crystal substance field tested positive for methamphetamine. Also located on Kittelson were 46 tablets of diazepam, a Schedule IV controlled substance which he did not possess a prescription for.

Kittelson was arrested and booked into the Sherburne County Jail. Kittelson was charged by criminal complaint with; 5th Degree Controlled Substance Crime (methamphetamine) (felony), 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Controlled Substance Crime (diazepam) (felony) and Driving While Cancelled – IPS (gross misdemeanor).

