



Big Lake Police Department

790 Minnesota Ave, Suite 100 · Big Lake · MN · 55309

Press Release

Incident Numbers: 20011977

Date/Time: 09/28/2020 10:00am

Suspect Arrested for Fleeing Police

On September 23, 2020 at approximately 11:15pm Officer Silas Reek observed a vehicle travel through a red light without stopping. The vehicle turned into a convenience store parking lot where Officer Reek activated his emergency lights to initiate a traffic stop.

The vehicle accelerated at a high rate of speed through the parking lot. Officer Reek pursued the vehicle. The vehicle turned onto Eagle Lake Road, traveling southbound in the northbound lanes. The vehicle then turned onto Hwy 10 traveling eastbound in the westbound lanes. Officer Reek continued to pursue the vehicle in the eastbound lanes while the suspect vehicle continued in opposite lanes. The vehicle accelerated to speeds around 100mph. Due to the safety of other motorists, officers terminated the pursuit.

Elk River Police set up stop sticks in the westbound lanes of Hwy 10 and observed the vehicle approach his location. The driver slammed on the brakes and turned the vehicle around and crossed over in the eastbound lanes of Hwy 10. The suspect vehicle continued eastbound in the correct lanes of traffic.

An Elk River officer monitored Hwy 10 and observed the suspect vehicle approach his location. The officer observed there was a single occupant in the vehicle as it passed his squad car. The suspect vehicle began to accelerate to a high rate of speed and switched to the opposite lanes of traffic traveling eastbound in the westbound lanes. Elk River police later found that the vehicle crashed into the ditch of Hwy 10, south of Main St.

Elk River officers responded to the scene of the crash, but the driver of the vehicle had fled on foot. A short time later dispatch notified the officers that a resident nearby reported a suspicious male running through yards in her neighborhood. Officers responded to the area and located an individual in a wooded area near the caller's residence. The suspect was arrested and identified as Nicholas Briski-Smith (Age 24 – Minneapolis, MN).

A search of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of a fake Minnesota ID card. The photo on the fake ID card matched that of Briski-Smith. Officers learned Briski-Smith had several warrants for his arrest, including 2 felony warrants for 5th degree controlled substance violations.

Officer Reek took custody Briski-Smith and transported him to the Sherburne County jail. Briski-Smith was charged by criminal complaint with; Felony Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle and Misdemeanor Fleeing a Peace Officer on Foot.