



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

**BIG LAKE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**



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790 Minnesota Avenue, Big Lake MN, 55309

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**Incident Number:** 17-11728  
17-11717

**Date/Time:** 12/08/2017

**Tis the Season for Drunk Driving**  
**Two Alcohol Related Crashes in 12 Hours**

**17-11728:** On December 7, 2017 at 3:50 am Officers Joe Kalla and Jarid Schmidt were dispatched to the 20000 Block of 177<sup>th</sup> St. NW (Custom Turning Precision Machinery) on a reported burglary alarm activation. On their arrival, the Officers found that a vehicle had been driven through an overhead door, and into a garage bay of this business. In searching the building and surrounding area, Officers located an individual laying on the ground near the building, on its exterior. This person was found to be heavily impaired, and determined to have been the driver of the vehicle. A 27-year-old Cold Spring MN resident was arrested and booked into the Sherburne County Jail. The suspect was charged by criminal complaint with; 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Property Damage (felony), 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Driving While Impaired (Gross Misdemeanor), and 3<sup>rd</sup> Driving with a BAC over .16 (Gross Misdemeanor). A breath test resulted in a blood alcohol content of .20. At the time this crash occurred, the building was unoccupied, there was heavy damage to the overhead door. Big Lake Police were assisted by the Sherburne County Sheriffs Office, and the Minnesota State Patrol.

**17-11717:** On December 7, 2017 at 4:00 pm Officer Nic Prigge and Chief Joel Scharf were dispatched to the Coborn's Parking Lot in regards to an impaired driver involved in a crash with 2 vehicles, and attempting to leave the scene. On their arrival, a witness directed Officers to the area of Little Dukes, where the driver was located. It was determined this driver, a 52-year-old Big Lake Resident had struck 2 vehicles near Trails, a 2013 Ford F150 and a 2015 Dodge Ram. The suspect nearly backed over one of the vehicle owners as he was attempted to stop him from driving away. The suspect then drove to the opposite end of the parking lot, left his vehicle and went into Little Dukes. It was determined the driver was heavily intoxicated. A preliminary breath test indicated a blood alcohol content over .20. The suspect was arrested and booked into the Sherburne County Jail. The suspect was charged by criminal complaint with; Test Refusal (Gross Misdemeanor), 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Driving while Imparked (Gross Misdemeanor), 2 County Failure to Report a Crash, Possession of Marijuana, and Open Container. The witness reporting this incident did an excellent job of keeping the suspect in sight and informing responding officers of what had transpired.

***The holiday season is one of the most active for impaired driving crashes, and arrests. If you partake in holiday festivities, please plan for a sober ride. If you observe suspicious driving behavior, please call 911 to report it.***

