



COUNTY OF KALKASKA

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

P. O. Box 1119 – 605 North Birch Street  
KALKASKA, MICHIGAN 49646  
(231) 258-8686

PATRICK J. WHITEFORD  
SHERIFF

DAVID L. WAGNER II  
UNDERSHERIFF

## IMMEDIATE USE PRESS RELEASE

**TYPE:** Multiple Offenses  
**DATE OF RELEASE:** July 23, 2019  
**DATE AND TIME REPORTED:** July 22, 2019 @ 3:18 pm  
**LOCATION:** Village of Kalkaska, Kalkaska Township and  
Excelsior Township, Kalkaska County, MI  
**SUSPECT:** 27 Year Old Male from Kalkaska

**INFORMATION:** Sheriff Whiteford reports that on Monday, July 22, 2019 at approximately 11:58 a.m. a bicycle was reported stolen from the Village of Kalkaska. At approximately the same time, Deputies responded to a Breaking and Entering on Tyler Rd in Kalkaska Township at which time they located the stolen bicycle for the Village Officers. Deputies then responded to another Breaking and Entering and Larceny of a Motor Vehicle at a residence on Motz Road in Kalkaska County.

Later this same evening, Deputies responded to a residence on Wagenschutz Road in Excelsior Township where the stolen vehicle occupied by a male subject was reported to be in a field. Deputies arrived on scene and approached the vehicle on foot at which time the vehicle fled the scene. By the time the deputies returned to their patrol car, they had lost sight of the vehicle. In an attempt to locate the suspect vehicle, Michigan State Police Troopers and additional Deputies were called to the scene to assist in the search.

A short time later, Kalkaska Central Dispatch received a call that the suspect vehicle was back in the same field on Wagenschutz Road. When the Deputies and Troopers arrived, the vehicle was not at that location. Kalkaska Central Dispatch then received a call that a truck had just driven into Crawford Lake at the access. Deputies and Troopers responded to this location to find that the suspect had driven the pick up into Crawford Lake. Subject attempted to flee the officers again by swimming in the Lake. This subject eventually swam to shore where Officers detained and transported him to the hospital for medical care.

Officers from The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) responded to the scene to evaluate the environmental impact of the truck being driven into Crawford Lake.

**RESPONDING AGENCIES:** Kalkaska Village Department of Public Safety, Michigan State Police, Michigan DNR and DEQ and the Kalkaska Sheriff's Office.

**STATUS:** Open pending further investigation and review by the Kalkaska County Prosecutor's Office.

**APPROVED BY:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick J. Whiteford", written in a cursive style.

PATRICK J. WHITEFORD, SHERIFF