



Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.

DATE: December 23, 2019

(Weeks of December 1 – 15, 2019)

This report represents some events the Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the OLE.

Northwest Zone – Captain Laura Petreikis

District 1 – Sgt. Tony Petreikis

(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)

CARROLL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HENRY COUNTY

CPO Posateri and Trainee were working firearm deer season and checked a hunter in the field. The deer he had in the back of the UTV was untagged and his FOID card was revoked. The hunter was issued multiple citations, the deer was seized, the gun and ammunition were seized.

JODAVIESS COUNTY

CPO Hoftender and Sgt. Petreikis were on patrol in Jo Daviess County. CPO Hoftender stopped the squad to go speak to a hunter who was preparing his blind for the next shotgun season. While speaking with the man it was discovered he had killed two deer and one of the deer was not checked in. Upon further investigation, the hunter was found to be in possession of an illegally taken deer, failed to report it, and never tagged it. He also had salt blocks behind his residence. The deer head was seized as evidence and the hunter was cited for illegal possession. He was issued warnings for his other violations. CPO Hoftender and CPO Klemme returned to the residence to get further information about another rack that was discovered on the property. After leaving the residence, the hunter later called CPO Hoftender and asked her returned. The subject explained he had also taken that deer illegally. He was cited again for illegal possession and the head was seized.

CPO Hoftender and CPO Peecher assisted CPO Doescher with a Ginseng Dealer Inspection. The Ginseng Dealer was cited for failure to maintain records. He had been purchasing ginseng since 2014 as a Dealer and never kept records.

CPO Hoftender, CPO Peecher and Sgt. Petreikis responded to a fatal hunting accident in Galena.

LEE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MERCER COUNTY

CPO McKune investigated an illegal dumping of deer carcasses case which led to multiple violations being discovered. The investigation led to an unlawful possession of a 9-point buck harvested during a previous year's firearm deer season. A 9-point buck mount was seized. Violations included unlawful possession of a whitetail deer, failure to tag immediately upon kill, illegal dumping of deer carcasses and the use of another's tag x2. CPO McKune also made an arrest on a suspended driver and issued a civil citation as well. A total of 4 citations and 11 warnings were issued for the reporting period.

OGLE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

During the 2nd firearms deer season CPO Francisko # 349 responded to numerous complaints to include: tripod feeder used to feed deer illegally, multiple complaints of hunting to close to an inhabited dwelling, deer being hunted with illegal assault rifles, felon with revoked FOID hunting deer with a firearm, illegally hunting deer in an Eagle Refuge, hunters fighting over a roadkill deer alongside the road. All of these complaints were investigated and most were found to be unfounded. Written warnings were issued for blaze orange violations, failure to sign deer hunting permits and hunting to close to an inhabited dwelling (less than 300 yards using either a muzzleloader or shotgun using slugs).

STEPHENSON COUNTY

CPO Hoftender and CPO Peecher interviewed a Lena man about his archery season. The Lena man was cited for illegal possession of deer and a package of deer meat was seized. He was issued warnings for no valid permit, failure to tag, and failure to report harvest.

CPO ALT was in marked uniform patrol off East River Road near Kinney Road when he observed fresh ATV tracks in the wet gravel road leading into a field to the South. Walking the field and timber lead to CPO ALT locating a camo colored side-by-side ATV and nearby deer hunter hunting w/o wearing blaze orange clothing required for deer hunting. The hunter admitted to driving the ATV on the roadway and taking off his blaze orange once in the field. Both violations were addressed.

WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPO Palumbo and CPOT Williams issued a Fulton man a citation and a written warning for running his trap line during the firearm deer season with no blaze orange on.

District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire

(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)

BOONE COUNTY

While on patrol, CPO Stanbary located a vehicle parked near Hormel Ponds in Bureau Junction during the firearm season. The CPO located a man exiting state ground wearing blaze orange, a deer stand and a firearm. The hunter admitted hunting on state land, which is prohibited at this location, for years and admitted shooting 2 deer during the 2018 season at the same location. The hunter was issued citations for hunting

without permission and unlawful attempt to hunt whitetail deer. Multiple warnings were issued for the illegal 2018 activities. The hunter has an upcoming court date in Bureau County

CPO's Stanbary & Wagner located a hunter in Miller Anderson Woods during the firearm season with an untagged deer. The hunter was issued a citation for the violation and issued written warnings for no hunting license and habitat stamp in possession.

CPO ALT observed a hunter driving a pickup truck around the edge of a field of partially picked/partially standing corn. CPO ALT walked into the field towards the individual driving who stopped. Further investigation revealed a shotgun not completely cased in the back seat of the extended cab truck. The violation was addressed.

CPO ALT received a call from a hunter who had found and removed the head of a 10 pt. Whitetail Buck deer found dead in the field killed by unknown methods before obtaining authorization and inspection by a CPO. A Salvage Tag and report was completed by CPO ALT after he was satisfied it was not a freshly killed/poached deer. The State Administrative Rule violation was addressed with the hunter and hunting digest provided.

BUREAU COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

DEKALB COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Filipiak was on patrol in La Salle County and identified two deer hunters hunting at Matthiessen State Park. These hunters were hunting with no hunting license. The individuals were located and issued citations for their offenses.

PUTNAM COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO ALT received a Target Illinois Poacher Complaint from Springfield regarding two individuals who were observed unlawfully shooting a bedding 10 pt. Whitetail Buck Deer and Doe from a side-by-side ATV on property without permission. The individuals were then observed loading both deer w/o tagging before driving out of the field onto the roadway and to a nearby residence. CPO ALT arrived at the suspect residence w/in 2 hours of the incident occurrence and minutes of receiving the T.I.P. Report. A mud-covered ATV was observed parked in the front yard with muddy tracks in the road leading out of the field towards that residence. The man who answered the knock at the door was an individual who had been arrested multiple times by department officials in past years for deer poaching. The subject, who appeared intoxicated, refused to answer questions or cooperate with the investigation. CPO ALT obtained physical evidence of the poaching incident corroborating witness written statements, photographic line-up evidence to confirm suspect identities(s), and corroborating deer check station harvest records. Charges are pending Illinois State Police Crime Lab analysis of physical evidence recovered and state's attorney review for approval of charges.

District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery

(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)

FULTON COUNTY

CPO Thompson and CPOT Roundcount conducted an enforcement detail during the second firearm deer season. CPOs located a hunter not wearing blaze orange using thermal imaging equipment. CPOs issued citations for two counts of unlawful hunting by use or aid of baiting and a citation for failure to wear proper blaze orange.

CPO Thompson and CPOT Roundcount responded to a complaint of alleged hunting without permission. A landowner hunting his property said he heard shots coming from nearby his property line and suspected trespassing. CPOs patrolled on foot into the area and spoke with a hunter who had been hunting near the location of the shots. The man claimed he and a hunting partner each shot a doe that morning from a ground blind. The man said they recovered his partners doe but the other had run on to the neighbor. CPOs accompanied the man to the location of the blind. Upon evaluating the story and the evidence, CPOs uncovered issues with the man's claim of harvesting the deer on his land. CPOs located not only one but two freshly killed does on the neighboring landowner's property. The man confessed to having shot the second deer on the neighboring landowner's property without permission. CPOs issued a citation for hunting without permission and written warnings for additional violations. Venison from the deer was recovered and donated to feed local families.

HENDERSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

KNOX COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MARSHALL COUNTY

A Marshall County hunter was cited by Conservation Police during the 2nd firearm season for carrying an uncased firearm on an ATV. The hunter had uncased his firearm at his vehicle then drove it to his hunting site on an ATV.

MCDONOUGH COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PEORIA COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

STARK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO Finn Region 1 District 7 observed a man firearm deer hunting who was not wearing blaze orange. The man was also found to be hunting over bait and transporting a firearm on an ATV without a case. The hunter received three citations and two warnings. He has a mandatory court date in Tazewell County.

WARREN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WOODFORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

Northeast Zone – Captain Jed Whitchurch

**District 2 – Sgt. Eric Schreiber
(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)**

KANE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LAKE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MCHENRY COUNTY

CPOs Tom Davis and Chris Winters cited four waterfowl hunters for hunting with the aid of bait. Upon inspection of the hunting area there were approximately 55 husked ears of corn placed within a 20 foot radius of the pit blind. The hunters were also issued written warnings for failure to maintain separate bag limits.

CPOT Kiprono and CPO Semenik cited a DesPlaines man for unlawfully hunting white-tailed deer without required blaze orange and for unlawful possession of a loaded firearms after hours.

CPOT Kiprono and CPO Semenik cited a subject for unlawfully hunting white-tailed deer over bait and for failure to wear blaze orange during the firearm deer season.

CPOT Kiprono and CPO Semenik arrested a subject in rural McHenry county for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of cannabis less than 10 grams

**District 3 – Sgt. Dave Wollgast
(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)**

GRUNDY COUNTY

CPO Anderson presented two times to the Grundy County High School students at the Grundy Area Vocational Center Law Enforcement on the career of a Conservation Police Officer and Natural Resource Protection.

KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Farber and CPOT Iaffaldano responded to a hunting accident that occurred in October. The individual fell while climbing into his tree stand and fractured both legs. He was not wearing a safety harness and has 70 years of hunting experience.

CPO Farber and CPOT Iaffaldano were on patrol on the South end of the Kankakee Dam. 5 individuals were observed actively fishing. 4 were valid, 1 was revoked due to child support. This individual has been written citations by CPO Farber multiple times for the same violation. A citation was issued for fishing without a license.

CPO Farber and CPOT Iaffaldano responded to an illegal dumping complaint in Pembroke Township. After digging through the trash and finding receipts with a name and address located less than half a mile from the dump site, contact was made with a male truck driver at the residence. He confessed to dumping the trash and came back "wanted" on a warrant out of Kankakee county for failure to appear via dispatch. He was arrested and taken to Kankakee County Jail and given a citation for littering from a vehicle upon a roadway.

CPO Farber and CPOT Iaffaldano discovered a heavily baited property with multiple tree stands, box blinds, ground blinds, and trail cameras prior to the second firearm deer season. The property was checked daily until two hunters appeared. After waiting for the hunters to get to their blinds, they were confronted and the following violations were observed: No possession of hunting license, No habitat stamp, No blaze orange cap/vest, Unplugged shotgun, Buckshot, and hunting over bait. 7 Citations and 1 Warning were given to both hunters combined.

KENDALL COUNTY

CPO Bergland assisted the Kendall County Sheriff's Department and the Yorkville Police Department in a vehicle accident investigation as well as a man hunt for the driver who fled from the scene.

WILL COUNTY

CPO Prasun conducted a check on four waterfowl hunters in eastern Will County. During the check, it was determined that two of the hunters were keeping their harvested waterfowl on the same lanyard placing one individual hunter over the daily possession limit. Enforcement action was taken and both hunters were educated on the requirements pertaining to maintaining a separate bag of species separately and distinctly from other hunters.

District 4 – Sgt. Mooi (Counties: Cook & DuPage)

COOK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

DUPAGE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

Central Zone – Captain Laura Petreikis and Captain Jed Whitchurch

District 9 – Sgt. Eric Myers (Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)

ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic issued the following citations for the 1st and 2nd firearm deer season in Adams County. Unlawfully feeding whitetail deer, Failure to wear blaze orange cap, Firearm deer hunting over baited area, Unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, unlawfully firearm deer hunting w/o a valid firearm deer permit, unlawfully firearm deer hunting w/o a hunting license, Unlawful transportation of an uncased gun in a vehicle. CPO Blazinic seized 2 shotguns and responded to a gunshot wound hunting accident.

BROWN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CALHOUN COUNTY

CPO Michael Goetten cited a subject for harvesting a buck without a permit.

CPO Michael Goetten stopped a vehicle occupied by two Alabama hunters. They were in possession of a buck tagged with a permit issued to a resident acquaintance. One of the hunters admitted to harvesting the buck and tagging it with the resident's tag. Three citations were issued and the buck was seized.

CPO Michael Goetten stopped a vehicle occupied by two Georgia hunters. CPO Goetten identified them and recognized their information from an active investigation into non-resident landowner permit fraud. It was confirmed a step child of a landowner lived in a different state than the landowner. He changed his last name to match the landowner's last name and completed an application claiming to reside with the landowner. Enforcement action is pending further investigation.

GREENE COUNTY

CPO Olroyd issued a citation for untagged trapping device.

HANCOCK COUNTY

CPO Wheatley was on patrol in the Basco area and found a Michigan plated truck parked near a cattle pasture. After identifying the owner, CPO Wheatley was able to find the hunter did not have a license or habitat stamp. CPO Wheatley met with the hunter and his hunting buddy near the truck. After a short field interview, CPO Wheatley was able to determine his findings were correct, and the buddy also did not have proof to show he had a valid license or habitat stamp. A computer search showed the buddy had a license and habitat stamp despite the man not having it on him. CPO Wheatley cited the unlicensed hunter a citation for no hunting license and a written warning for no habitat stamp. The buddy was issued written warnings for not having his license and habitat stamp in possession. On December 10, 2019, CPO Wheatley received a text from the truck owner/hunter that included a photo showing the citation was paid in full.

JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Michael Goetten was walking private property searching for illegal hunting activity. He discovered a large dead buck suspected to have been shot the firearm deer season. He photographed the buck and maintain GPS coordinates of the location discovered concerned a legal hunter may have been unable to locate and recover the harvest. In the following days, CPO Goetten identified the hunters leasing the property. One of the hunters claimed to have shot a large buck during the first firearm deer season. He was unsuccessful in recovering the buck. He sent CPO Goetten trail camera photographs of the buck he had shot. CPO Goetten confirmed the trail camera photographs were the same buck discovered. After confirming the hunter was legally firearm deer hunting in Illinois and had harvested no other bucks, CPO Goetten provided the hunter with the location the buck had been discovered and authorized him to tag the buck with his firearm deer permit. The hunter was exceptionally excited with the opportunity to claim his buck.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Olroyd issued citations for Hunting without a hunting license and violation regarding firearm permits.

PIKE COUNTY

CPO Blazinic issued the following citations and for the 1st and 2nd firearm deer season in Pike County. 3 citations for firearm deer hunting over baited area, Falsification to obtain & use firearm deer permit and 2 citations for unlawfully deer hunting / harvesting deer w/o a valid firearm deer permit.

SCHUYLER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

District 10 – Sgt. William Gilmer

(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

CASS COUNTY

CPO Wahlbrink investigated a hunting without permission complaint in Cass County. CPO Wahlbrink seized four trail cameras and a ground blind on the property at the request of the landowner. A search warrant for the cameras was obtained and executed. The violator was discovered and cited for hunting without permission.

Sgt. Gilmer and CPO Wahlbrink discovered deer parts in a trashcan outside of a residence in Chandlerville. The home owner was interviewed, and a confession was obtained. The owner admitted to taking a deer with a cross bow at Jim Edgar Panther Creek (JEPC) while his hunting privileges were suspended. He also admitted to stealing two trail cameras and a tripod stand from JEPC. His crossbow and the stolen items were seized, and he was cited for his offenses.

A resident in the city of Beardstown discovered a neighborhood cat in a foothold trap (designed for coyotes) behind a residence within the city limits. The person responsible for setting the trap has not been discovered and the investigation is ongoing.

CPO Wichern cited (2) Tennessee firearm deer hunters for hunting 20 minutes after shooting hours, and failing to wear 400" of blaze orange clothing during a firearm deer season.

CPO Wichern cited a firearm deer hunter for failing to wear 400" of blaze orange clothing in the form of a vest and hat while hunting deer.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Wright and CPOT Williams issued a Decatur man a written warning for deer hunting using a shotgun capable of holding more than 3 shells.

CPO Wright issued a citation for hunting after hours to a Palmer man for shining deer with a flashlight from a vehicle. The man was in possession of a shotgun but it was unloaded and in a case. He was issued a warning for use of light to take white-tail deer.

CPO Wright and CPOT Williams are currently investigating 3 cases in Christian county. Two of which involve deer hunting and a third that involves a bobcat.

LOGAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MASON COUNTY

CPO Wahlbrink investigated a theft/hunting without permission complaint in Mason County. The complainant stated someone was hunting without permission on the property and had stolen multiple SD cards from his trail cameras over the past year. The suspect was identified and interviewed. He provided 12 SD cards to CPO Wahlbrink who returned them to the owner and took appropriate enforcement action.

CPO Wright, CPO Thornley and CPOT Williams worked a shining detail in Mason County. One vehicle was pulled over for repeatedly using headlights to shine deer. The driver and his female passenger were not hunters. No firearms or bows were found in the vehicle. The driver was issued a written warning.

MENARD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MORGAN COUNTY

CPO Wichern cited a firearm deer hunter for placing corn where deer are present & hunting deer over the bait.

SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Wright and CPOT Williams issued a Springfield hunter a written warning for not having permits on person while deer hunting.

SCOTT COUNTY

CPO Wright and CPOT Williams issued a Michigan hunter a written warning for failure to immediately tag a deer. The deer was a mature 10pt. buck and the hunter had notched his tag and stated he was waiting to put the tag on the deer because he was going to write the confirmation number down before tagging it.

District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)

CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum and CPOT Roesch made a traffic stop on a vehicle in Clark County. The driver was issued citations for obstructed windshield and expired registration and a written warning for improper lane usage. The driver of the vehicle ran three vehicles including CPO Wellum's squad off the roadway. The windshield on the vehicle was covered with frost and the driver was driving in the wrong lane.

CPO Wellum and CPOT Roesch issued an Indiana resident a citation for hunting without a deer permit on person during firearm deer season. The hunter was also issued a written warning for not wearing a blaze orange hat.

CPO Wellum and CPOT Roesch made a traffic stop on a timber truck in Clark County. The driver did not have completed timber transportation paperwork. The driver was issued a citation for incomplete transportation paperwork and a timber motor carrier inspection was completed.

CPO Wellum and CPOT Roesch completed a deer decoy detail in Clark County. No citations issued during the detail.

CPO Wellum and CPOT Roesch recovered a dead Eagle on Interstate 70 in Clark County. Clark County had received several phone calls about someone hitting the Eagle with a vehicle. A State Trooper located and Eagle and contacted CPO Wellum. A Federal Fish and Wildlife Officer will be contacted and the Eagle will be transferred to his custody pending proper disposition of the Eagle to the Eagle repository in Colorado.

COLES COUNTY

CPO Mieure and CPOT Roesch issued a Humboldt man one citation for allowing his dogs to chase deer. The citations came after the subject had been warned on multiple occasions. CPO Mieure and Roesch issued a Chicago man one written warning for no habitat stamp. CPO Mieure issued a Mattoon man one written warning for failure to report deer harvest by 10 PM.

CPO Wellum and CPOT Roesch walked a timbered area looking for illegal hunting activity in Coles County.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

CPO Mieure issued an Indiana hunter one citation for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill and one written warning for illegal transportation of alcohol. CPO Mieure issued a Greenup man one written warning for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill.

CPO Wellum and CPOT Roesch arrested a Cumberland County resident on two warrants. One warrant out of Coles County and one warrant out of Clark County.

CPO Greuel cited a Neoga man for deer hunting without a valid Hunting License or Habitat Stamp in Cumberland county.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

CPO Hyatt met with resident who believes people have been trespassing onto his land and provided trail cam photos but no identification can be made.

CPO Wellum and CPOT Roesch walked a timbered area looking for illegal hunting activity in Douglas County.

EDGAR COUNTY

CPO Hyatt investigated a case of hunter harassment where an individual had been hanging aluminum pie pans on a hunter's deer blind.

CPO Hyatt investigated a deer that had been taken into a processor regarding a gunshot wound the owner thought was from a rifle.

CPO Hyatt helped hunters get permission to track their deer onto neighboring properties

CPO Hyatt met with a landowner that believes he has people trespassing onto his property.

CPO Hyatt met with hunter who believes people who have been road hunting near Baber Woods just south of Kansas.

MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Decatur man on the Wildlife Management Area. The man admitted to killing a six-point buck and a ten-point buck on the opening day of the first firearm season and using other people's permits to tag them. The man received citations and multiple warnings.

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man on the Wildlife Management Area for hunting during a closed season.

SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Hyatt began training to become the new Evidence Officer for District 11

CPO Barnes patrolled Shelby county during the second firearm season and issued several written warnings.

CPO Barnes checked several properties for baited deer stands.

CPO Greuel taught at a Hunter Safety Class at the Windsor Jr/Sr High School in Shelby county.

District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson

(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

CPO Miller issued an Urbana man a citation for hunting without permission, a citation for no blaze orange, and a written warning for no habitat stamp.

DEWITT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

FORD COUNTY

CPO G. Anderson and CPO Miller responded to a TIPS report of a possible poached deer. The suspects were confronted about the incident and explained they found the deer dead. The suspects had pictures of the deer when they found it and took just the head. After a brief investigation, the suspects had another deer head in possession. The suspects were educated on salvage deer reporting and 2 written warnings were issued for possessing a deer without a valid permit.

CPO G. Anderson issued a hunter a written warning for operating a UTV on the roadway. The hunter was educated on the laws regarding the operation of ATV/UTV use on roadways.

CPO G. Anderson issued a firearm deer hunter a written warning for not possessing a valid habitat stamp.

IROQUOIS COUNTY

CPO Graden patrolled Iroquois County. He issued two written warnings and two citations. The citations were for Unlawful Transportation of an Uncased Firearm on an ATV and Failure to Wear a Solid Blaze Orange Cap & Vest While Firearm Hunting Whitetail Deer.

CPO Miller issued an Iroquois County man a written warning for having a loaded firearm in his vehicle.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MACON COUNTY

CPO Reeves received a report of 2 men archery hunting on lands without permission during the firearm deer season without blaze orange clothing as required. After a short investigation, the two men from Decatur were identified and enforcement action was taken.

MCLEAN COUNTY

CPO Graden patrolled McLean County during the statewide 2nd firearm deer season. No citations were issued. However, he is currently investigating an alleged unlawfully taken whitetail deer and hunting without permission complaint.

PIATT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

VERMILION COUNTY

Utilizing a citizen complaint, CPO Sanford located an individual who had harvested an antlered deer in Iroquois Co. with no valid E/S permit. The individual purchased a permit the following morning. The individual was issued a citation for unlawful take with no valid permit and a WW for failure to report harvest by 10 PM.

While on patrol in Vermilion Co., CPO Sanford observed a pickup hauling a trailer full of trash in an area known for unlawful dumping. Upon closer inspection, CPO Sanford discovered the trailer registration had expired in 2009. CPO Sanford conducted a traffic stop on the pickup/trailer and the driver was issued a citation for the expired trailer registration.

CPO Sanford and CPO Miller conducted surveillance on a property in Vermilion County known for unlawful hunting activity. Shortly after legal shooting hours, CPO Sanford and CPO Miller observed an individual operating an ATV and an individual on foot approaching their position. Once the ATV got closer, CPO Sanford observed an uncased firearm in the operator's hand. CPO Sanford also observed a firearm in the possession of the individual on foot. CPO Miller immediately contacted the individual on the ATV and CPO Sanford made contact with the individual on foot. When CPO Sanford announced himself, the individual on foot threw the firearm in the weeds and began to walk away. CPO Sanford ordered the individual to stop and proceeded to secure the firearm and conduct a hunting compliance check. The individual was found to be firearm deer hunting with no valid firearm deer permit. CPO Miller conducted a compliance check on the ATV operator and discovered the firearm to be loaded with 3 slugs. The individual on foot was issued a citation for no valid permit and the individual on the ATV was issued a citation for uncased firearm and another citation for possession of a loaded firearm after legal shooting hours.

While on patrol, CPO Sanford observed a hunter exiting the timber on State lands in Vermilion County, approximately 25 minutes after legal shooting hours. CPO Sanford made contact with the individual to conduct a hunting compliance check. Upon completion of the check, CPO Sanford discovered the individual did not have a valid, site-specific firearm deer permit and was in possession of a loaded firearm well after legal shooting hours had ended. The individual was issued a citation for the loaded firearm and written warnings for no valid permit and unlawful entry into a closed area.

CPO Miller issued a Chicago man a citation for uncased firearm and a citation for possessing a loaded firearm after legal hunting hours

South Zone – Acting Captain Eric Manker

District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

BOND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CLINTON COUNTY

CPO Macias was on a routine deer enforcement patrol when he came upon a hunter wearing orange flagging him down. The CPO met the hunter on a dirt road that led to a private forested area. The hunter told the CPO that there were trespassers on his land at the moment and he needed assistance. The CPO followed the well-worn tracks on the dirt road; he came upon a four-door sedan that was stuck in the mud. Inside were two females asleep and covered up with a blanket. The CPO awoke them from their slumber and had them step outside, they were obviously not hunters but they admitted to trespassing and getting lost the night before. When asked why they did not call a friend or 911 they said because they do not have a phone. The CPO noticed two different license plates on the vehicle; the plates came back to two different vehicles. A check in the police database of the two women revealed they each had separate arrest warrants in the county. Both women received several citations to include driving while suspended, trespassing, registration violations, and no insurance.

MADISON COUNTY

CPO Liebl was checking firearm deer hunters during the second firearm season. One hunter checked was found to be hunting without wearing the required blaze orange/pink clothing and was hunting over several piles of corn. The hunter also did not have a license or permits in possession in the field. Citations and warnings were issued for the violations.

MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner was foot patrolling a block of timber the day prior to gun deer season when he heard a gunshot. CPO Schachner located a poacher deer hunting with a scoped shotgun loaded with deer slugs. Additional searching revealed a second poacher just shot an 8-point buck with a scoped 30.06 rifle on property he did not have permission to hunt. They were also hunting with the aid of bait and one poacher did not have a hunting license nor habitat stamp. One poacher received four warnings and 3 tickets for gun deer hunting out of season and baiting deer and possession of freshly killed deer during closed season. The other poacher was cited for gun deer hunting out of season and hunting with aid of bait, and a warning. Both firearms were seized, the deer was seized and donated to charity and 3 salt blocks and 15 gallons of corn were seized/disposed.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Ray One arrested one subject for Illegal transportation of Alcohol.

CPO Ralph Sievers worked the firearm deer season and found violations of hunters hunting without valid permits, not wearing blaze orange, baiting deer, deer not checked in by 10 pm, and an outfitter not verifying that the clients were properly permitted.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

During the second firearm deer season CPO Ray arrested several hunters for failing to wear visible solid blaze orange while in the field hunting.

After receiving information regarding the possible unlawful take of two whitetail deer in Edgar County by a Belleville man, CPO Gerdes interviewed a Belleville hunter regarding the incident. After further investigation and an interview, the hunter admitted to using his father's landowner tag as well as his own Coles County tag to harvest an antlerless buck and an 8-point buck in Edgar County. CPO Gerdes later seized the 8-point buck from a local taxidermist and cited the hunter for the violations.

While conducting firearm deer season enforcement in St. Clair County, CPO Gerdes observed three individuals dragging a deer out of the woods via ATV. None of the hunters were wearing blaze orange, and the hunter that harvested the deer did not have his hunting license on his person. Further investigation was conducted and the hunter that killed the deer was issued a citation for not wearing blaze orange.

CPO Schachner located 5 dogproof traps on the road right-of-way next to Kaskaskia Fish and Wildlife Area. Three additional traps were on the Fish and Wildlife Area. The trapper was cited for trapping from the roadway and warned for failure to change his address on trap tags/hunt license and no permit for the state site.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Buhnerkempe received an anonymous tip about an unlawfully taken 10-point buck killed near Irvington, IL. An investigation of the tip resulted in further intelligence leading to probable cause for search warrants. Search warrants were obtained on December 4, 2019 and the warrants were executed at approximately 4:45PM that day. Six CPOs carried out the warrant execution with assistance from the Washington County Sheriff's Department and Irvington Police Department.

The search warrants resulted in the discovery of the 10-point buck as well as 4 additional unlawfully taken bucks located on the property. The 10-point buck was located whole and not field dressed. All the meat from the deer was spoiled and rotting. An unlawfully possessed bobcat was located in a freezer in an outbuilding.

In addition to the wildlife offenses, CPOs also located numerous methamphetamine pipes and evidence of meth distribution. Two firearms and large quantities of various calibers of ammunition were located and seized due to the subjects revoked FOID status. A GMC Denali SUV, crossbow, and numerous trail cameras were also seized. A total of 63 items of evidence were documented and seized from the property.

The subject has been charged with multiple felony wildlife, drug, and weapon offenses in addition to numerous misdemeanor wildlife offenses. This investigation is still ongoing and additional charges may be added at a later date.

District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens

(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline & White)

FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Williams and CPOT Alvarez-Gerbino responded to a complaint of a deer hunter hunting too close to a residence. Upon arrival it was determined the hunter was approximately 114 yards from the complainant's residence (inhabited dwelling). The deer hunter was using a shotgun and wearing blaze orange clothing. CPO Williams had cited the same hunter first season for no blaze orange and a discussion was had about meeting the 300-yard requirements of the law.

CPO Williams and CPOT Alvarez-Gerbino checked a pheasant hunter returning to his vehicle at Wayne Fitzgerald State Park. The hunter had been the subject of complaints regarding taking too many pheasants during the controlled pheasant hunts. The hunter had 3 pheasants, (limit 2) in his game bag and a fourth concealed under the front bumper of their truck. The pheasants were seized and a citation issued.

CPOs Folden, Williams and CPOT Alvarez-Gerbino worked a fishing boat suspected of catching over the legal limit of crappie at Rend Lake. Upon return to shore it was found the 3 fishermen had taken 43 fish over 10" and a total of 73 fish, with an additional 15 "given away" on the water, bringing the total catch to 88. Citations were issued to each of the fishermen.

CPO Folden issued citations to three fishermen for unlawfully taking over limits of crappie on Rend Lake. All of the fishermen unlawfully took too many fish greater than 10".

GALLATIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Skelton issued 5 citations and 1 warning to a firearm deer hunter without licenses, or permits

HARDIN COUNTY

CPO Wilkinson investigated reports of illegally harvested deer. While obtaining information to a case, Hardin County Sheriff's Office received a call referencing a subject with a firearm in a vehicle under the influence of narcotics. CPO Wilkinson and Hardin County deputies set up a perimeter on the last known location of the vehicle. After an hour of waiting, Hardin County made a stop on the vehicle and it was determined that the firearm was an airsoft gun. Hardin County took care of the issue and CPO Wilkinson returned to investigations.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Jourdan cited a South Carolina resident for killing an 8-point buck with a valid deer permit. The man said the deer was taken with a bow. After examining the wound, it was discovered the deer was shot with a 20-gauge shotgun.

CPO Jourdan encountered numerous Waterfowl violations at Rend Lake. Those included unlawful take over the daily limit of Hen Mallards, possession of lead shot shells, unlawful gifting of Waterfowl in the field, and no valid hunting license.

POPE COUNTY

CPO Wilkinson was on patrol when he discovered two vehicles parked in a common hunting area. CPO Wilkinson made contact with one of the vehicles and it was determined that there was a potentially suicidal subject missing in the woods. CPO Wilkinson requested assistance from the Pope County Sheriff's Office. When the Sheriff arrived on scene, him and CPO Wilkinson made way into the woods to locate the subject. The subject was found approximately half a mile from the road. After a long period of conversation, CPO Wilkinson convinced the subject to walk back to the road and obtain assistance. The subject followed CPO Wilkinson out of the woods.

CPO Wilkinson conducted a traffic stop on a timber truck hauling logs in Pope County. It was determined that the operator did not have the proper proof of ownership. A citation was issued to the operator. CPO Wilkinson then observed a group of individuals fishing at the Lusk Creek boat ramp in Golconda. CPO Wilkinson made contact with the individuals and discovered that none of the individuals had a valid fishing license. While addressing the violations, CPO Wilkinson determined that one of the individuals had a warrant. An arrest was made and the subject was transported to Hardin County Jail.

During the second firearm season, CPO Wilkinson conducted several hunter compliance checks, worked spotlight details, and a road hunting detail. One hunter was observed pulling a deer out after dark. CPO Wilkinson made contact with the individual and it was discovered that the hunter had not yet tagged his harvest. CPO Wilkinson issued a written warning to the individual and helped properly tag the deer. CPO Wilkinson also assisted a citizen who discovered a road kill deer and wanted to salvage the meat. CPO Wilkinson provided a salvage tag to the individual.

SALINE COUNTY

CPO Knop was investigating an area where a landowner was having problems with trespassers in Saline County during second firearm deer season. While walking through the area CPO Knop spotted a hunter in a tree without any blaze orange on the property. A citation for hunting without permission and no blaze orange was issued.

During firearm deer season CPO Knop was checking deer stands he knew to be baited in the Shawnee National Forest. Walking to the area CPO Knop found a four wheeler and soon thereafter observed a hunter without any blaze orange hunting over an area baited with corn. Further investigation revealed the hunter had harvested a buck several days prior and did not tag or call the deer in.

WHITE COUNTY

CPO Skelton issued one citation to a firearm deer hunter for no valid deer permit

CPO Haggerty and CPO Skelton investigated the unlawful hunting without valid firearm deer permits by 2 nonresident hunters. 2 hunters were each issued a citation for unlawfully hunting without a valid deer permit and the permits were seized as evidence.

District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt

(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion Richland, Wabash & Wayne)

CLAY COUNTY

CPO Smith recently walked a wooded area and found a mineral block of bait. CPO Smith drove by the wooded area several times and did not observe any vehicles there. On the 3rd day of the 2nd firearm season, CPO Smith observed a vehicle sitting at the entrance to the property. CPO Smith walked into the property a few hundred yards and observed a hunter sitting in a tree stand. CPO Smith identified himself to the hunter and told him to come down, and continued walking to the bait spot where he observed another hunter hunting within 20 yards of the bait. CPO Smith checked both hunter's credentials. CPO Smith explained to them that the entire area is baited and cannot be hunted until 10 days after bait removed. CPO Smith issued one citation to each hunter for hunting deer over bait, one citation to one hunter for feeding deer, and a WW for failing to complete deer permit.

CPO Smith was traveling on a public roadway and observed an ATV traveling toward him coming from a hunted area. The ATV operator was wearing orange and had a firearm case on the ATV. CPO Smith checked the hunter's credentials and the firearm. CPO Smith found the firearm to be loaded with slug in the chamber. CPO Smith issued 1 citation for uncased/ loaded firearm in vehicle, and 1 WW for failing to complete deer permit.

CPO Smith was patrolling an area and observed a deer camp. CPO Smith observed a deer loaded onto an ATV. The deer did not have a leg tag attached. Upon speaking with the hunter, it was determined the tag was there but blew off during the trip back to the deer camp. It did have a zip tie that was placed through the leg. Upon examining the firearm that was located on another ATV, CPO Smith found the gun to be loaded with slug in chamber. CPO Smith spoke with the hunter and determined he drove down the public roadway with it loaded. CPO Smith issued one citation for uncased/loaded firearm in vehicle, and 1 WW for ATV on roadway.

CPO Smith was traveling eastbound on Hickory Hill Lane and observed a pickup truck sitting on the south side of the roadway. CPO Smith checked the registration with IWIN and could not find any records of either owner for deer hunting credentials. CPO Smith waited in the area until he observed a hunter exit the wooded area wearing an orange vest and carrying a shotgun. CPO Smith checked the hunter's credentials and found everything to be valid except for his FOID card revoked. CPO Smith issued 1 citation to the hunter for that offense, 1 WW for blaze orange cap, and another WW for blaze orange to another hunter. The other hunter had a valid FOID and was given permission to keep the firearms.

CPO Smith conducted a follow up investigation of a dove hunting complaint that occurred October 4, 2019. The original complaint was not forwarded to CPO Smith until recently. On October 4, a dove hunter was witnessed by complainant shoot a dove off a high line in the middle of town. CPO Smith interviewed the suspect and was able to determine through confession that the allegations were true. CPO Smith issued 1 citation for shooting a firearm along/across the roadway, 1 citation for hunting without permission, and 2 WW for hunting on the roadway and shooting less than 100 yards away from a dwelling.

CPO Smith issued several WW to deer hunters for various wildlife offenses.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

CPO Willand received an anonymous tip from a citizen about an individual who was using a family members deer permits to tag and confirm harvested deer. On 12/08/19 CPO Willand was able to located the suspected individual's vehicle. Once the suspected individual returned to his vehicle from the woods, it was discovered the individual possessed a shot gun with no valid FOID Card. After a brief consensual interview with the individual, CPO Willand received a confession that this individual had harvested two does and used his family members permits. After speaking with the family member, it was discovered he willfully provided the permits to the suspect in order to fill the tags. Both individuals received citations for fraudulent use of another's permit, the suspected individual was also issued a citation for possession of a firearm without a valid FOID card.

CPO Taylor checked a hunter during shotgun deer season and found his shotgun can hold more than 3 rounds. Citation was issued for use of unplugged shotgun in the field.

EDWARDS COUNTY

CPO Skelton worked Waterfowl hunters and deer hunters

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CPO Smith responded to a complaint regarding gunshots fired near a dwelling. CPO Smith met with the complainant and had him show him where he observed the deer hunter shooting. CPO Smith estimated the distance from the dwelling to the hunter to be 200 yards or less. The hunter was not present. Complainant advised he walked west from the shooting location after he shot. CPO Smith drove around the block and observed several deer hunters participating in a deer drive. CPO Smith was able to identify the hunter responsible due to the cooperation from the hunting party. CPO Smith issued one citation to the hunter responsible for shooting his firearm less than 300 yards from an inhabited dwelling.

FAYETTE COUNTY

CPO Roper was conducting a nighttime wildlife patrol when he observed a vehicle use its headlights to attempt to shine deer. CPO Roper followed the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. The driver of the vehicle was in possession of deer slugs and a shotgun in the vehicle. The drivers FOID card was also revoked, ad he was therefore unable to possess a firearm. CPO Roper placed the individual under arrest and transported him to the Fayette County Jail. The individual was issued 2 citations.

CPO Roper was conducting a nighttime wildlife patrol when he observed a vehicle use its headlights to attempt to shine deer. CPO Roper followed the vehicle and observed it use its headlights to shine deer another time. CPO Roper conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle was found to have a loaded uncased muzzleloader in the passenger seat of the truck, and a loaded uncased shotgun in the back seat of the truck. CPO Roper placed the driver under arrest and transported him to the Fayette County Jail. The driver was issued 4 citations and 1 warning.

CPO Roper was on patrol in Fayette County when he observed a vehicle parked in a wooded area. CPO Roper heard two shots while checking the vehicle. CPO Observed a hunter begin looking for a deer. CPO Roper Initiated a hunter compliance check on the hunter at this time. CPO Roper discovered the hunter did not possess a valid hunting license, the hunter did not have his deer permits on his person, his deer permits were unsigned, and the hunter did not possess an FOID card. CPO Issued the hunter one citation, and two written warnings. CPO Roper transferred the firearm for the individual and released it to an individual with a valid FOID card.

CPO Smith observed two pickup trucks leaving a wooded area. CPO Smith met the trucks before they entered onto the roadway. CPO Smith spoke with both drivers of the vehicles and determined they were deer hunting from the area they just left. Upon inspecting their credentials CPO Smith determined that one of the hunters did not have a firearm deer permit for Fayette County. He had a Marion County firearm deer permit and was hunting in Fayette County. CPO Smith issued one citation to the hunter and on WW to the other hunter for failing to complete deer permit.

JASPER COUNTY

CPO Hyatt worked Jasper County during second firearm season and issued one citation for unlawfully hunting deer without firearm deer permits.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

CPO Willard as well as CPO Taylor were on patrol in Lawrence county when they discovered a stolen vehicle to be parked on the side of a county road. Said vehicle was reported to Vincennes IN Police where the vehicle was listed as stolen from. After contact was made the stolen vehicle was recovered and removed from the scene.

CPO Taylor checked a subject rabbit hunting with no hunting license citation was issued for not valid hunting license.

CPO Taylor observed 3 hunters riding a UTV on a roadway during shotgun deer season with no blaze orange and 3 untagged deer in the bed of the UTV one subject admitted to killing the 3 deer. Multiple Citations were issued to the subject that killed the deer and the other 2 hunters received citations for not wearing blaze orange during shotgun deer season and the 3 deer were seized and the meat was donated

MARION COUNTY

CPO Roper received a complaint of a hunter hunting to close to a residence. CPO Roper found the hunter and initiated a hunter compliance check. CPO Roper found no other violations and issued the hunter a written warning.

RICHLAND COUNTY

CPO Smith observed a side by side UTV exiting a wooded area. CPO Smith stopped the UTV and determined the two occupants had been deer hunting. CPO Smith had checked their credentials and found them to be valid. CPO Smith checked the firearms and found a slug in the magazine. CPO Smith issued 1 WW for uncased, 1 WW license and permit not on person, and 1 WW for failing to complete deer permit.

WABASH COUNTY

CPO Skelton worked waterfowl hunters and deer hunters

CPO Taylor received a complaint from site superintendent of Beal Wood SP that two men were digging ginseng on the park. CPO Taylor contacted two subjects and each subject was issued two citations a piece for trespass to harvest ginseng and destruction of vegetation in a nature preserve.

WAYNE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor

(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)

ALEXANDER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Lewis issued two citations for unlawful possession of a rifle during the firearm deer season. The subjects were shooting at targets with their .556 rifles. They did not have a safe back stop behind their targets and hunters in the adjacent Kinkaid State Fish and Wildlife Area were complaining of bullets ricocheting by them.

JOHNSON COUNTY

While on patrol in Johnson County, CPOs Teas and Johnson pulled in a deer camp and located an untagged deer rack on the ground and an untagged deer head in the back of a truck. The owner of the property was later located on an ATV and was discovered to have been hunting without blaze orange. The subject admitting to killing the deer located in the back of the truck during archery season but never tagging it or checking it in. He stated he had found the other set of antlers dead during first season. The subject was issued three citations, two warnings, and both sets of antlers were seized.

CPO Spinka made contact with an individual that was believed to be hunting in Johnson county without a valid Johnson county firearm deer permit. CPO Spinka made contact with the subject and identified he had the correct permit. The subject was issued a written warning for failing to have his muzzle loader cased while in a kayak.

MASSAC COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PERRY COUNTY

CPO Lewis investigated a complaint of a man shooting at a deer with a firearm the day following the first firearm season. CPO Lewis located the subject who was in possession of a .243 caliber rifle. He denied shooting at the deer, but he had shot at a crow that was in a nearby tree. The shooter also confessed to being a convicted felon and added that he knew he was not supposed to be in possession of a firearm. CPO Lewis arrested and transported the suspect to the Perry County Jail. He was charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, attempting to take a migratory game bird with a rifle, and hunting without permission.

CPO Lewis charged two subjects for illegal dumping in Perry County. They were regularly dumping their household trash off a bridge into a large creek.

PULASKI COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

UNION COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CPO Johnson issued citations to 2 individuals hunting over baited deer stands in Williamson County