



# Big Lake Police Department

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

## Press Release

**Incident Number: 20003520**

**Date/Time: 03/20/2020 8:00am**

### **Suspect Arrested with Possession of a Controlled Substance**

On 03/13/2020 Officer Tyler Sinclair, who was off-duty but on his way in for his assigned shift, was behind a white Pontiac which was weaving within its lane and had crossed the center and fog lines. Officer Sinclair called Sergeant Tom Kucala and advised him of the vehicle.

Sergeant Kucala remained on the phone with Officer Sinclair until he saw the vehicle. Sergeant Kucala ran the license plate on the vehicle, which showed the registered owner had a driving status of revoked. Sergeant Kucala continued following the vehicle and observed it weaving, so he stopped the vehicle.

The driver was unable to provide a driver's license to Sergeant Kucala. The driver was later identified as Michael Gray (Age 31 – Big Lake, MN). Gray's driving status was revoked.

Sergeant Kucala advised Gray to exit his vehicle for Standardized Field Sobriety Testing. While Gray exited the vehicle, he admitted to Sergeant Kucala he had a marijuana grinder in his pocket. Gray performed the SFST's, which he failed. A preliminary breath test showed Gray did not have alcoholic in his system.

Officer Sinclair, who was now on-duty and a certified Drug Recognition Expert, responded to the scene. Officer Sinclair spoke to Gray while Sergeant Kucala searched the vehicle. Sergeant Kucala located the following items:

- A scale
- Broken glass pipe, which appeared to be from a bong
- Torch lighter
- Small round pink pill with "K56" imprinted on it

The pill was later determined to be Oxycodone Hydrochloride, a schedule II Controlled Substance.

In speaking to Gray and administering additional testing, Officer Sinclair determined Gray to be under the influence of a stimulant. Gray was placed under arrest and transported to the Big Lake Police Department.

Gray provided a mirandized statement and denied the pill was his and claimed it had been planted in his vehicle. Gray was very uncooperative and belligerent with the officers.

After obtaining a search warrant for Gray's blood or urine, Sergeant Kucala informed Gray it was a crime to refuse to provide a sample. Gray initially agreed to provide a sample, but then refused while he was being transported to the hospital.

Gray was charged by criminal complaint with; Felony 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Controlled Substance, Gross Misdemeanor DWI Test Refusal, and Misdemeanor Driving after Revocation.

