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News Release

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Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2017, 2:10 PM

Deputies Involved in High Speed Chase Suspect was in a Stolen Car from Oneida County

[Special Attention: This release is being provided as a courtesy to our media partners so that you understand some of the background information regarding an incident that occurred today. We understand that there may be some inquiries from the public, and we do not want you to expend unnecessary time and energy running down a story that you may not use. It involves a suicidal person who did attempt to take his own life.]

On February 4, 2017, at approximately 10:47 AM, the Portage County Sheriff's Office received an alert from the Oneida County Sheriff's Office that a 30 year old suspect from their county had stolen a vehicle and was sending suicidal text messages to the car's owner. They believed that the suspect was intending to head to Maryland.

At 10:53, officers from the Stevens Point Police Department located the vehicle in the City. Upon spotting the officers, the suspect fled at a high rate of speed east on Highway 66. Officers lost the vehicle, but deputies located it traveling east on Highway 66 in the Town of Sharon at approximately 100 MPH. Deputies pursued the stolen car until the driver pulled over near Highways 66 and 49 in the Town of Alban.

With the assistance from officers of the Wisconsin State Patrol and Waupaca County Sheriff's Office, the suspect was ordered out of the vehicle, but he refused. Deputies then observed the suspect use a knife to cut his own throat. Officers immediately approached the vehicle, removed the driver, and began to apply life saving measures.

The suspect was transported from the scene by Portage County Ambulance Paramedics, and taken to Saint Michael's Hospital in serious condition. His current medical condition is not exactly known, but he is expected to survive the ordeal.

Due to the sensitivity of the situation, the suspect's name is not being released at this time. Charges in Oneida County are unknown, and any charges recommended in Portage County have yet to be determined.

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