218 1st St NW Aitkin, MN 56431 218-927-7435 / 1-888-900-2138 Emergency 911

Date: October 18, 2023

On October 17, 2023, the Aitkin-Itasca-Mille Lacs Violent Crimes Enforcement Team (AIM VCET) executed search warrants in the City of Aitkin pertaining to the trafficking of methamphetamine.

Through investigative measures, AIM VCET had identified Lucas Peifer, 44 of Sauk Centre as a source of methamphetamine to several Northern Minnesota communities in Aitkin, Itasca and St. Louis Counties. Over 2 pounds of methamphetamine were seized along with \$7,000 in cash.

Peifer was taken into custody without incident and is being held in the Aitkin County Jail on charges of 1st Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance and 1st Degree Sales of a Controlled Substance.

AIM VCET was assisted in the case by the Aitkin County Sheriff's Office, Aitkin Police Department, and the MN BCA.

The Aitkin-Itasca-Mille Lacs Violent Crimes Enforcement Team (AIM VCET) was created in January of 2022 and received State of Minnesota grant funding to investigate, identify, and disrupt illegal drug activity within the jurisdictions of the AIM VCET members.

The AIM VCET requests that if any citizens in the three county coverage area have concerns or information regarding ongoing criminal activity involving drugs or violent crimes to please contact their local dispatch centers or the AIM VCET office at 218-927-7449.