

Former Roseau County sheriff's Deputy sentenced

By **Roseau Police Report** - June 11, 2016



A former Roseau County sheriff's deputy was sentenced Thursday, June 9 for shooting his service gun numerous times into an unoccupied rural Roseau County hunting cabin.

Joshua McGurran Olson, 34, Roseau, entered guilty pleas and was sentenced at the same time for felony first degree criminal damage to property and misdemeanor falsely reporting a crime. Sentencing was held in Thief River Falls due to Judge Kurt Marben's schedule. Marshall County Attorney Donald Aandal served as a special prosecutor in the case.

For the felony charge, Olson received a five-year stay of imposition. He was ordered to serve supervised probation for five years. If Olson successfully completes probation and the required time period passes, he may apply for the felony charge to be expunged. He was ordered to write a letter of apology to his victim. Olson was ordered to complete a chemical dependency assessment and comply with recommendations from his mental health provider. He was ordered to supply a DNA sample. Olson was ordered to not use or possess firearms, ammunition or explosives. Olson was ordered to pay \$135 in fees and fines, and \$2,960 in restitution.

For the misdemeanor charge, Olson was sentenced to 90 days in jail stayed for one year. The same conditions apply.

In court, Olson said he deeply regretted his actions. He thanked his family and friends for their support. His attorney, Jade Rosenfeldt, said the incident was fueled by alcohol and Olson's struggles with mental health issues. Olson has since admitted himself into alcohol treatment.

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension began investigating the incident March 2. According to the complaint, a Roseau man said someone had fired numerous .223 caliber

rounds through his hunting cabin. He suspected Olson since the two of them had a disagreement about Olson's hunting party trespassing on the man's property last fall.

A search warrant was executed for Olson's property. He admitted to shooting the cabin and destroying the service gun by burning it in an outdoor wood stove. Olson provided the charred fragments, including the barrel, to law enforcement.

Olson also falsely reported that law enforcement had stolen a personal firearm, a Winchester rifle with a Swarovski scope, from his home. The following day, he said that he had found the rifle.

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Roseau deputy placed on leave after being accused of 'shooting up' cabin

By [Becky Jacobs](#) on May 24, 2016 at 5:25 p.m.



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ROSEAU, Minn.—A Roseau County deputy sheriff has been accused of "shooting up" a hunting cabin and burning the gun.

Joshua McGurran Olson, Roseau, was charged in Roseau County District Court with first-degree damage to property, a felony, and falsely reporting crime, a misdemeanor.

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension began investigating the 34-year-old on March 2 after a man reported his hunting cabin in rural Roseau County had been damaged when someone fired numerous .223 caliber rounds into it, according to a complaint.

The cabin owner told law enforcement he suspected Olson did it because they previously had a disagreement about "Olson's hunting party trespassing on his property" last fall.

Olson was questioned and "eventually admitted shooting up" the man's cabin and destroying the firearm by placing it in an outdoor woodstove, according to the complaint. He turned over charred fragments and the barrel of the gun to law enforcement.

The cost to repair the cabin is \$2,960, and the firearm replacement cost is between \$600 and \$800.

Olson also made a false claim to Roseau law enforcement that one of his personal firearms, a Winchester Rifle with a Swarovski Scope, had been stolen from his home, but he later recanted the claim and said he found the rifle, according to the complaint.

Olson faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine on the felony and 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine on the misdemeanor.

The 34-year-old has been placed on administrative leave, according to Roseau County Sheriff Steve Gust.

Marshall County Attorney Donald Aandal said he is handling the prosecution of the case to prevent a conflict of interest.

Olson's first court appearance is 11 a.m. June 9 in Thief River Falls before Judge Donna Dixon. He is being represented by attorney Jade M. Rosenfeldt of Moorhead.

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Former northern Minnesota deputy charged with stalking BCA agents

By Grace Pastoor / Forum News Service on Apr 20, 2017 at 9:36 p.m.



ROSEAU, Minn. —A former Roseau County sheriff's deputy has been charged with stalking after allegedly harassing two Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension agents through text messages, letters and other venues.

Joshua McGurran Olson, 35, was arrested April 5 in Clearwater County and is currently being held in the Roseau County Jail after being officially charged Wednesday.

According to a criminal complaint, the stalking began after two BCA agents, listed as D.N. and N.A., investigated Olson in 2016 after he was accused of "shooting up" a cabin in Roseau during a dispute over access to a road. After he was convicted of a felony and lost his job as a deputy, Olson "appeared to harbor resentment" against the BCA and his former employer and began harassing the two agents, the complaint said.

The stalking included "disturbing" text messages sent to the spouse of N.A. implying that the family was being watched and that they should "make sure the kids are safe," and that N.A. "should be eliminated."

Olson is also accused of posting fliers around Roseau claiming that D.N. was a sex offender and was wanted by authorities. D.N. also allegedly received letters at home and at work criticizing his appearance.

According to the complaint, Olson was arrested after an April 5 incident, during which D.N.'s son was at home and heard two noises that sounded like gunfire. The son and a friend saw a blue Chevrolet Trailblazer driving down the road, the complaint said, and called police.

Law enforcement eventually found Olson at his father's house in Clearwater County and saw a blue Chevrolet parked outside the home. Olson eventually left the residence after an hour of negotiation and was arrested.

The complaint states that Olson said he had been near D.N.'s house, but that he did not fire a gun at the home. He later said he hit the agent's mailbox with a shovel.

Olson's next court appearance had not been scheduled as of 3 p.m. Thursday.