RICE LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Investigator Chad Thompson has announced that Rice Lake Police Department has joined a statewide crime alert network. The Wisconsin Crime Alert Network will enable the Rice Lake Police Department to quickly alert the community about a crime or criminal that may affect them.

The system, which is coordinated by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, uses email, SMS text, and broadcast fax technology to send alerts directly to people most likely to be affected by a particular crime or most likely to be able to provide information to solve a crime.

"Our goal is to more quickly identify suspects and apprehend them, as well as provide crime prevention advice to the community," said Investigator Chad Thompson. "The Crime Alert Network allows us to simultaneously send thousands of emails, faxes, and SMS text messages to destinations across the region or even across the state. Alerts may be used for crime preventing, apprehending criminals, recovering stolen property, and improving security measures within participating organizations. I believe this will be *a* valuable communications tool for our community."

Investigator Thompson, who will be coordinating the project for Rice Lake Police Department encourages all businesses, organizations and others with a fax machines, email account, or text capable cell phone to sign up now. The cost of membership is only $12.00 per year. Applications can be picked up in the lobby of the Rice Lake Police Department, or you may call the Crime Alert Network Office at (608) 240-3597 for more information.

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