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Tuesday, May 1, 2007

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Police arrest flashing suspect

Web-posted May 1, 2007

By ANN ZANIEWSKI
Of The Oakland Press

ROCHESTER HILLS The man who Oakland County Sheriff's deputies suspect exposed himself to children recently and in 2005 is behind bars. Flint resident Jerry Lynn Wagner, 42, was arrested Saturday near Rochester and Avon roads in Rochester Hills, at the same shopping center where some of the incidents took place.



Wagner -

"I think we're all relieved," Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard said.

Wagner was arraigned Monday on three counts of indecent exposure. He is being charged as a sexually delinquent person, which raises the penalty for each charge to up to life in prison.

According to authorities, an employee of the Dick's Sporting Goods store at the shopping center saw Wagner and recognized him from media reports. The employee followed him while on the phone with a sheriff's office dispatcher. She pointed deputies to a PetSmart store.

They saw him leave the store in short shorts - which the flasher has donned before - and boots

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"I think it was very disconcerting that he would literally stalk these young kids who were in the presence of their parents. "Clearly, the fear was that he could escalate his behavior."

similar to those seen in a surveillance camera image that captured a man who flashed a young girl.

Police said he drove to the shopping center in a 1994 red Ford pickup matching the description of a vehicle witnesses gave after an April 21 flashing at Marshall's, one of the crimes with which Wagner is being charged.

In that incident, he is alleged to have flashed an 8-year-old girl in the store's children's section.

The other charges against him are for two flashings that happened April 12. In one, a woman was shopping with her daughters - ages 2, 3 and 8 - at Meijer when the 8-year-old spotted a man

with his penis exposed through the open fly of his pants.

The same day, a woman was at Borders near Rochester and Avon with her children, when her 10-year-old daughter told her a man showed his "privates" to her.

"He was aggressive. He was predatory," Bouchard said.

"I think it was very disconcerting that he would literally stalk these young kids who were in the presence of their parents.

"Clearly, the fear was that he could escalate his behavior."

The flasher often struck when the weather was nice. With Saturday being clear and sunny, extra uniformed deputies and deputies in plain clothes were stationed in the area of the shopping center and were close by when Wagner was spotted.

Wagner works in construction.

At his arraignment, a 52-3 District Court magistrate set bond at \$75,000 cash/surety. Wagner was ordered to wear a GPS tether and not have contact with anyone under 18 if he's released.

He is due back in court for a pre-exam conference at 10 a.m. May 8.

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