City of Grand Blanc Police Department

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TO: Local Media

FROM: City of Grand Blanc Police

DATE: June 19, 2023

REPORT BY: Lt. Bryan Byarski

APPROVED BY: Chief Brian Lipe

SUBJECT OF RELEASE: Family Fun Fest Incidents

NARRATIVE:

On June 17, 2023 at approximately 5:30pm an incident occurred at the Family Fun Fest that has led to some misinformation circulation through the community. The misinformation is that a subject “pulled out a gun” and was involved in an altercation.

The correct information is that officers assigned to patrol the event were informed by a citizen that they believed they saw a gun in the waistband of a subject and pointed the individual out to officers. Officers approached the individual, who was accompanied by several others, and in an attempt to not cause panic, quietly asked if he had a gun. The subject was evasive with his answers, as a result officers began to pat down the subject. The officers located and seized the gun, at which point the subject began to resist officers. The other individuals that were with the subject began interfering and assaulting officers as they tried to arrest the subject. All juvenile subjects were taken into custody.

Later in the evening, several other small fights broke out between mutual combatants as the Family Fun Fest was closing. These fights caused a chaotic scene with individuals running to either watch the fight or to get away from it. Although there were people saying there was a gun involved, at no time after the initial incident was there any evidence of a gun being displayed or anyone that had firsthand knowledge of a gun.

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As police were clearing out the grounds of the Family Fun Fest, many of those that were causing the chaotic scene went to the surrounding businesses. Due to the vast majority of those individuals being juveniles from outside of the Grand Blanc community, they did not have rides to leave and were lingering in the area until they could get rides home. In order to keep those businesses from having the same issues as the festival, officers asked the businesses to clear out and lock the doors until people were dispersed.

The Family Fun Fest is a community event, which provided 4 days of enjoyment for families. Unfortunately, a small group of individuals tarnished a few hours of that with their behavior causing fear of those who were there to just enjoy the event. The City of Grand Blanc Police Department will continue to work with the Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce, and community supporters, to provide a safe and fun environment for families to come together and celebrate summer.