



# Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Law Enforcement Section

Officer David Beveridge  
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## Public Information Release

Northern Region Office  
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### False Report To Conservation Officer

September 17, 2011

Davis County

On June 10, 2011 Utah Conservation Officer David Beveridge received information regarding the illegal stocking of walleye in a Davis County community fishery.

The reporting party told Officer Beveridge 6-8 walleye were stocked at Maybe Pond in Clearfield. After dumping the walleye into the pond, the suspect reportedly left in a small compact car. The reporting party also provided Officer Beveridge a license plate number.

While speaking with the reporting party, Officer Beveridge ran the license plate and found the registered owner's address and driver's license. The reporting party's description of the suspect matched the suspect's driver's license photo perfectly.

Officer Beveridge recognized the suspect's address as the reporting party's neighbor. When Officer Beveridge told the reporting party the suspect was his neighbor, he acted surprised. The reporting party said he does not see his neighbor much, so he did not recognize him. The reporting party asked if he could remain anonymous.

Officer Beveridge quickly responded and interviewed the suspect. The suspect denied putting any fish in the pond and asked if it was his neighbor who reported him. The suspect claimed he has had several disputes with his neighbor. The suspect also said he frequently sees his neighbor and could easily recognize him.

Officer Beveridge inspected the suspect's vehicle and found no evidence of transporting fish. The suspect vehicle also had a cold engine block.

Conservation Officers Mitch Lane and David Beveridge, later re-interviewed the reporting party. Officer Beveridge told him that several discrepancies existed between his story and the facts of the case. Officer Beveridge told the reporting party he believed that he made up the story and that he should be honest before the situation "snowballed". The reporting party admitted to making up the story as a means of retaliation against his neighbor for their previous and on-going disputes.

The reporting party was charged with providing false information to a law enforcement officer and fined \$623.00. The reporting party was also sentenced to 180 days in jail, all of which were to be suspended if the fine was paid in full.



### Additional Contact(s):

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