

Felony Stop Possession of Stolen Property

On Saturday, 09/24/11 at approximately 12:10 a.m., a West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) Officer stopped a vehicle speeding 80 mph in the 55 mph zone at Highway 12 and Valley Road.

WHPS Officer approached the vehicle and observed 2 large flat screen T.V.'s in the back seat of the car. Contact was made with the driver, who was later identified as 26 year-old Philip Robert Novak of St. Louis Park. Novak stated he forgot his driver's license at home and gave a false name and date of birth to the officer. The vehicle was registered in Wisconsin and Novak stated the car belonged to his girlfriend and he was using it.

The passenger identified himself at 35 year-old Michael Todd Lundgren who stated he lives in Montrose and that is where they were headed.

The vehicle registration was checked and the vehicle was reported stolen out of Luck, Wisconsin. Polk County Sheriff's Office advised that two flat screen TVs were stolen from a home invasion robbery where a weapon was used and one person was assaulted. Novak's clothing matched the description given of one of the suspects at the time of the home invasion.

Director Ray McCoy commented, "This arrest is a result of the WHPS officer's dedication to keeping our communities safe, being observant and diligent while patrolling our roadways. If you are driving a stolen car with stolen property, you would think to drive the speed limit." Novak was arrested for Felony possession of stolen property, false info to police, speed and drive without a valid driver's license. Novak had several felony warrants from Minnesota and Wisconsin. Lundgren was arrested for possession of stolen property. Both were transported to Hennepin County Jail for formal criminal charges.