

Thomas B. Hood
Mayor

100 North O'Plaine Road
Gurnee, Illinois 60031-2630
www.gurnee.il.us



Brian M. Smith
Chief of Police

Administration 847.599.7050
Communications 847.599.7000

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 12/15/2022

RELEASE NUMBER: 2022-17

CONTACT: Public Information Officer Shawn Gaylor

E-MAIL: sgaylor@police.gurnee.il.us

PHONE: 847.599.7124

Gurnee Police Arrest School Bus Driver for DUI

Gurnee – The Gurnee Police Department arrested a school bus driver for driving under the influence of alcohol after he crashed into a brick mailbox in Gurnee. The bus was carrying students from St. Gilbert's School in Grayslake.

Ryan Vanheirselee, 36, of Gurnee, crashed the school bus around 4:30 pm on December 14, 2022. Based on the officers' investigation, the bus was driving in the 700 block of Sierra Place when Vanheirselee swerved off the roadway and hit a brick mailbox in front of a residence. No one was hurt during the incident, and another school bus assisted with safely transporting the students home.

Vanheirselee was taken into custody and had a blood alcohol level above the legal limit. The Lake County State's Attorney's Office approved charges for Aggravated Driving Under the Influence because Vanheirselee was operating a school bus at the time of the incident (Class 4 felony). He received additional charges, including endangering the life of a child, driving under the influence, and improper lane usage.

Vanheirselee appeared in bond court on Thursday, where a Lake County Judge set bond at \$40,000.

All suspects accused of a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.