

# NEW LONDON POLICE DEPARTMENT

## PRESS RELEASE

**Incident type:** Deer loose in City

**Location:** City of New London

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, March 21 at about 3 p.m.

**Details:** A dispatcher working at the New London Police Department was startled by a loud crash Monday afternoon as a wounded deer attempted to run into the police department through a closed glass door. The deer left blood at the scene as it ran off.

A short time later, a TV-pliance Center employee reported that the deer had tried to run into the store, shattering two large glass windows and a glass door. The deer then continued running loose in the downtown area.

The deer was then spotted jumping a 4-foot high fence and landing on the ice of the Wolf River about 10 feet below. The deer ran across the ice and into the open water near the middle of the river. The deer then was unable to pull itself out of the water on the weak fringe ice.

New London officers tried several options for rescue, including contacting a local veterinarian, accessing the fire department rescue boat, and attempting to get a noose over the animal's neck and pull it to safety. As these options were being exercised, the deer lost strength and drowned. A small group of onlookers had gathered to watch.

Officers noted the deer had a large hole in its neck as it struggled against the ice. It is unknown if the deer would have survived if it had been rescued from the river.

**For further information contact:** Chief Kevin E. Wilkinson