



## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **Lake Orion Woman charged after Intentionally Striking Multiple Pedestrians – Victims in Royal Oak, Clawson, Hazel Park, and Warren**

On 09/26/2025, law enforcement agencies from Royal Oak, Clawson, Hazel Park, and Warren responded to a series of hit-and-run incidents involving a black Jeep Compass and its driver, later identified as 30-year-old Rachele Ricklefs of Lake Orion. The incidents resulted in multiple pedestrians being intentionally struck by Ricklefs. Ricklefs was ultimately arrested by the Warren Police Department and arraigned on 18 felonies for her role in these incidents.

On 09/26/2025 at approximately 8:15 PM, Royal Oak Police were dispatched to 11 Mile and Main after an adult male cyclist was struck by a dark-colored SUV. The driver fled the scene, and the victim did not sustain serious injuries. Around 9:45 PM, Clawson Police had contact with Ricklefs, who was reported to be experiencing a mental health episode. During this interaction, Ricklefs reversed her vehicle into a Clawson patrol car, fled, returned, and struck another patrol car. She then drove toward an officer, who was able to avoid injury. Police pursued Ricklefs, who eventually left the scene with her 6-year-old daughter still inside the vehicle. Her 12-year-old son was able to escape from Ricklefs' vehicle during this portion of the incident. Later at approximately 10:51 PM, Hazel Park Police responded to 10 Mile and Dequindre for a pedestrian accident where Ricklefs was observed to have intentionally struck another pedestrian.

The most severe incidents occurred in Warren, where officers responded at 10:50 PM to a business parking lot on 9 Mile Road for another pedestrian struck by a dark colored Jeep. Ricklefs reportedly ran over an adult male in a parking lot and then quickly fled the scene. Approximately 10 minutes later, Ricklefs drove onto the grass near 14 Mile and Vandyke, where she intentionally struck two pedestrians before fleeing the scene. Minutes later, she entered the parking lot of a nearby business and ran over an employee. Ricklefs again fled the scene and traveled southbound on Van Dyke. On Van Dyke near Convention Blvd, Ricklefs struck an adult male pedestrian as he crossed the street. As Ricklefs continued south on Van Dyke, she was seen driving toward other pedestrians near the Walmart (12 Mile & Van Dyke) parking lot. Upon arrival to the Walmart parking lot, witnesses observed Ricklefs intentionally run over a Walmart employee. A Warren Police Officer arrived and attempted to stop Ricklefs with her fleeing from officers in her vehicle. Ricklefs then struck two additional pedestrians and their vehicles before being arrested. During her arrest, she resisted by attempting to bite and kick officers who were eventually able to take her into custody. Her 6-year-old daughter was present throughout the incident and was thankfully unharmed. Miraculously, as of the date/time release, all of the 10 plus victims in this incident are reported to be in stable condition.

The investigation has confirmed a mental health component to the case, suggesting that Ricklefs may have been experiencing a schizophrenic episode. Investigators are continuing to gather additional information and evidence regarding these incidents.

On 09/29/2025, the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office reviewed the facts of all of these incidents. Ricklefs was then charged with:

- 10 counts of Assault with Intent to Murder (life felony)
- 2 counts fleeing & elude 3<sup>rd</sup> degree (5-year felony)
- 2 counts Malicious Destruction of Police/Fire Property (4-year felony)
- 2 counts Malicious Destruction of Personal Property (5-year-felony)
- 1 count Assault with Dangerous Weapon (4-year-felony)
- 1 count Resisting and Obstructing Police (2-year-felony)
- 1 count Child Abuse 4<sup>th</sup> Degree (1-year-misdemeanor).

She was arraigned at the 37<sup>th</sup> District Court before visiting Judge Edward Servitto wherein a not guilty plea was entered. Her bond was set at \$750,000 cash/surety only. Her next court date is 10/07/2025. Ricklefs has no previous convictions.

**For further information, please contact Warren Police Commissioner  
Eric Hawkins @ 586-574-4803 ###**