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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Charges Filed in Holiday Passenger Trolley Incident

ST. JOHNS, MI: The Clinton County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has authorized charges as a result of the Dec. 1 trolley incident in downtown St. Johns. A 40-year-old St. Johns man has been charged with two counts of moving violation causing serious impairment of a bodily function. This is a misdemeanor offense carrying a maximum penalty of 93 days in jail and/or a \$500 fine. The operator's name is being withheld pending formal arraignment or appearance.

At the St. Nick Parade on Fri. Dec. 1, a passenger trolley overturned with 21 riders on board. Police, fire and ambulance personnel, already there to support the event, quickly provided emergency medical services for the injured persons.

According to the St. Johns Police Department's investigation, 16 people sought treatment for non-life-threatening injuries. Riders received medical attention at Sparrow Clinton Hospital in St. Johns and Sparrow

Hospital Main Campus in Lansing. The SJPD investigation determined that alcohol was not a contributing factor.

“Offering safe, enjoyable downtown celebrations is part of what makes this a wonderful community,” says St. Johns City Manager Chad Gamble. “We continue to identify any and all ways to improve public safety at our events.”

SJPD Chief David Kirk reiterated the importance of safety. “In certain circumstances, it only takes a moment for something designed to be fun to become potentially dangerous. We will continue to identify and institute best practices for community events.”

The City of St. Johns, Michigan is a historic community founded in 1856. Known as the Mint City due to its unique agricultural heritage, St. Johns honors its roots while also planting the seeds for thriving small businesses and industry hubs. The best of both worlds, the city offers a charming, small-town feel with an easy commute to downtown Lansing. St. Johns serves as the Clinton County seat and provides a full range of municipal services to about 8,000 residents. Learn more at cityofstjohnsmi.com.

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For more information, please contact Chad Gamble at 989.224.8944.