

Fraud Alert - Michigan Ditch Witch Loader & Trailer

Late in the day April 2nd, 2019, a female subject and a very overweight male accomplice rented a Mini Loader and a Trailer from a business in Hamburg, Michigan. The equipment was not returned when due, and the renter cannot be located.

Information presented by renter:

- Bessie Watkins
- 2015 Webb Street, Detroit, MI 48209 (this is a homeless shelter)
- Phone 313-424-2414 (now disconnected)

Earlier in the day, a subject using the name Jason called the business to inquire about rental rates and availability of a similar machine, and is assumed to be connected to the fraud. Phone 248-242-0891 (now disconnected).

It's possible this fraudulent rental is connected to the surge of fraudulent rentals committed by Detroit based offenders since last summer. See the NER advisory here:

[Rental Fraud Alert - Michigan fraud ring still active](#)

Please forward this alert to anyone that may encounter the equipment, and investigators working on similar thefts. Report any theft to NER at www.ner.net/solutions/report-a-theft

Hamburg Township Police case: 19-00267

Machine Details

Ditch Witch SK-800 Mini Tracked Loader
Product Identification Number: **DWPSK800PJ0000640**
Owner applied Number: 2 (reflective decal on both sides of machine)

Trailer Details

2015 Cronkhite Tandem Axle Trailer,
black, with fold up ramp
Trailer VIN: **473221620F1000261**

Pictured is a similar Ditch Witch SK-800. The machine PIN decal is above the right loader arm, to the right of the control panel.



Law Enforcement - For access to NER's equipment ownership registration and theft records, and for machine identification assistance, call NICB: **800-447-6282**. For online access, click "[Log in](#)" at www.ner.net

Industry – Report suspicious activity involving equipment – **Dial 911**

Register to receive NER's email alerts at: www.ner.net/theft-alerts.html