

Union County State's Attorney

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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Elk Point, S.D. – State's Attorney Jerry A. Miller announced today that Alan Skogen, 49, a rural Elk Point man, entered a plea of guilt on two counts of Inhumane Treatment of an Animal on July 1, 2010. Skogen was sentenced on the same day with a fine of \$350 and \$83 for court costs on each count. Skogen was also required to reimburse the County for the prosecution costs which included the costs for the necropsy on the animals and the time and resources utilized by the Union County Highway Department to secure and load a sampling of the dead herd for a necropsy to determine the cause of death. Necropsy finding determined that several of the sampled herd died of starvation.

Assisting agencies that contributed to this investigation include: Chief Investigator Mike Bucholz for the Union County Sheriff's Office, South Dakota Animal Industry Board, the Animal Disease Research & Diagnostic Laboratory – Veterinary Science Department of SDSU, and the Union County Highway Department.

This case was prosecuted by the Deputy State's Attorney Jeff Rarick.