

Union County State's Attorney

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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Elk Point, S.D. – State's Attorney Jerry A. Miller said today that Christopher Tinjum, age 35, from Grand Forks ND, was sentenced today in Circuit Court this morning on the charges of possession of controlled substances (a class 4 felony) and driving under the influence (a class 1 misdemeanor). Tinjum received a suspended sentence of seven years in the penitentiary with four years of supervised probation. On the driving while under the influence charge, Tinjum was sentenced to a fine of five hundred dollars and a thirty day revocation of Tinjum's South Dakota driving privileges. Tinjum was also ordered to pay court costs, prosecution costs as a condition of satisfying his supervised probation.

Tinjum was originally reported to law enforcement by a concerned citizen as a potential intoxicated driver traveling northbound on Interstate 29. Tinjum was working for a construction company out of North Dakota, working on a project in Missouri and traveling back to North Dakota during this incident on March 15, 2010 at about 1:35 p.m.. Tinjum had a blood alcohol content of .220, with the presence of the active ingredient from marijuana along with the presence of cocaine in his system at the time of the arrest.

This case was investigated by Sgt. Richard Headid with the North Sioux City Police Department.