

Union County State's Attorney

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September 12, 2011

Press Release - For Immediate Release

Elk Point, S.D. – State's Attorney Jerry A. Miller announced today that Blaine Knutson, age 22, a Beresford, SD resident, was sentenced on Monday August 29, 2011 in the 1st Circuit Court on one count of Possession a Controlled Substance (Cocaine), a class four felony. Knutson received a sentence of one-hundred and twenty days in the South Dakota State Penitentiary; and a fine of five hundred dollars. Knutson also received a suspended seven-year sentence to the South Dakota State Penitentiary. Following Knutson's penitentiary sentence, he will be placed on five years of supervised probation. If Knutson fails the terms and condition of his probation, he could be sentenced to the penitentiary for the remainder of the suspended seven-year sentence.

Officer Michael Schurch, of the Beresford Police Department conducted a routine traffic stop of a vehicle driven by Knutson on December 3, 2010. Officer Schurch could smell that the driver had recently participated in the ingestion of an illegal drug. Upon further investigation, Knutson admitted to his own involvement with illegal substances, resulting in his subsequent arrest.