

## Union County State's Attorney

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September 17, 2011

### Press Release - For Immediate Release

Elk Point, S.D. – State's Attorney Jerry A. Miller announced today that Ronnald Coffelt, age 45, a Yankton, SD resident, was arraigned and sentenced on Friday September 16, 2011 in the 1<sup>st</sup> Circuit Court on one count of Driving While Intoxicated (5<sup>th</sup> offense), a class 4 felony. Coffelt received a sentence of ten years in the South Dakota State Penitentiary; and a fine of one thousand dollars. The State requested a lifetime revocation of the Coffelt's driving privileges; however, the Court revoked Coffelt's driving privileges for three years following his release. Coffelt, as with every defendant who is sentence, is required to pay court costs, prosecution costs, and court-appointed attorney's fees as well. The maximum sentence Coffelt could have received was a ten-year sentence to the SD state penitentiary, or a twenty thousand dollar fine, or both. The court was required to revoke Coffelt's driving privileges for three years but could have revoked that privilege for life.

Coffelt's was observed speeding 85 in a 75 mph zone on Interstate 29 south bound at about MM 30. Coffelt's BAC was .139%. South Dakota Trooper Trent Heuertz investigated this case. All four of Coffelt's previous DUI convictions in the past ten years were all felony convictions. This sentence marks Coffelt's tenth DUI conviction.