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Press Release - For Immediate Release

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Elk Point, S.D. – State's Attorney Jerry A. Miller announced today that Jeffrey Vore, age 62, a Dakota Dunes, SD resident, was sentenced in the 1st Circuit Court on April 9, 2012 on two separate criminal files. In the file stemming from an incident on July 22, 2011, Vore plead guilty to one count of 1st offense **Driving Under the Influence of a prescription drug**; and one count of **Reckless driving**. Both of these charges are class one misdemeanors. Vore was fined five-hundred dollars on each of these charges and his license was revoked for one year on the DWI charge.

On July 22, 2011 Vore was stopped on the interstate by Union County Deputy Sheriff, Jon Feller. Feller found Vore driving slow on the interstate in the construction area at about 3:43 p.m. Deputy Feller was able to walk up to Vore's vehicle, open the door, and put the vehicle in park. Deputy Feller removed the keys, secured Vore and called for medical assistance.

In the file stemming from an incident on August 19, 2011, Vore plead guilty to one count of 1st offense **Driving Under the Influence of a prescription drug**, a class 1 misdemeanor; one count of **Aggravated Eluding**, a class 6 felony; and one count of **Hit and Run Accident**, a class 6 felony. Each class 1 misdemeanor carries a maximum sentence of 1 year in the county jail and / or a fine of two-thousand dollars. Each class 6 felony carries a maximum sentence of 2 years in the state penitentiary and or a four thousand dollar fine. On this file, Vore received fines totaling four thousand five-hundred dollars. The court ordered a two consecutive two year suspended sentences (4 years total) to the South Dakota State Penitentiary and placed Jeffrey Vore on supervised probation for two consecutive three year terms (6 years total). The Court revoked Jeffrey Vore's license for two consecutive one year terms. One year each on the **DWI** and **Aggravated Eluding** charges. The Court ordered that Vore is to complete 50 hours of community service in addition to obtaining a mental health and chemical dependency evaluation. Vore will be required to complete any treatment and aftercare that may be required during his probation.

On August 19, 2011 the Jefferson Police Department responded to a reckless driver call south bound on interstate 29. Chief McKelvey identified the reported reckless driver and attempted to stop the vehicle driven by Jeffrey Vore. McKelvey's patrol car video captured the following events. Vore's vehicle swerved dangerously on the interstate in a construction zone with the north and south traffic reduced to one lane traffic on the northbound side. Vore's vehicle slammed into a vehicle in front of him, he lost control and drove into the median. Vore continued southbound, sometimes in the median and other times on the interstate. Vore caught up to the same vehicle as before and struck that vehicle a second time. This time the driver of the vehicle lost control of his vehicle and was forced across the northbound traffic and into the west ditch. Chief McKelvey discontinued his pursuit, called for medical assistance and provided emergency assistance to the victims now in the ditch.

Sgt. Headid, from the North Sioux City Police Department, made contact with Vore at the north end of North Sioux City on the Interstate just as the interstate construction was ending. Vore left the south bound lane of travel, drove in the median and eventually ended up driving south bound in the north bound lanes on the interstate. Vore struck two more vehicles before his vehicle was disabled. Five people were transported to the hospital for injuries including Vore. Four vehicles were totaled in the melee.

In both incidences, Vore was found to be **under the influence of a prescription pain medication** called SOMA. Since these incidents, SOMA (or one of the active ingredients in SOMA) has been classified as a Schedule IV drug. The misuse or the illegal possession of this prescription is now a class four felony.