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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Joshua Nygaard
Age: 30 (05/19/84)
City and State of residence: Beresford, SD
Criminal File Number: 14-060
Charged with: Ct. 1: Grand Theft (F4) 22-30A-17
Ct. 2: Third Degree Burglary (F5) 22-32-8
Date of Offense: November 8, 2013
Indictment Date: February 26, 2014
Arraignment Date: August 25, 2014
Change of Plea Date: September 15, 2014
Sentencing Date: November 3, 2014
Original Arresting Officer: Sheriff Dan Limoges - Union County Sheriff's Office
Chief Deputy Mike Bucholz - Union County Sheriff's Office
Bond: 2,500 Cash and / or Surety
Defendant's Attorney: Mike McGill - Appointed

Case Synopsis:

On or about November 8, 2013, the manager of Sun Terra Farms at a Union County facility reported that approximately 75 head of 230 pound pigs were missing from the confinement unit. The estimated price of the missing pigs is \$165.00 a piece @ 75 pigs totaling \$12,375.00. As the investigation continued, Lyon County, IA identified that on November 8, 2013 that Joshua Nygaard had sold 76 head of hogs at Sioux Center Iowa in which each pig weighted about 200 pounds each. Lyon County advised the Nygaard confessed to the stealing those hogs. Nygaard also admitted that he that he rased 76 hogs at his father's house near Beresford and he purchased them at Kramer's Livestock in Sioux Falls. Kramer's Livestock has no record of Nygaard purchasing any hogs from them. Deputy Bucholz interviewed Nygaard at the Lyon County Jail and after Nygaard waived his Miranda rights, he freely admitted that he stole the 76 head of pigs from a rural Beresford confinement facility. Additionally, it was determined that Nygaard used a stolen stock trailer to transport the hogs that he stole in Union Co. SD, Lincoln Co. SD, and Lyon Co. IA.

Sentencing Synopsis:

On the charge of Third Degree Burglary, Joshua Nygaard received a five (5) year sentence to the South Dakota State Penitentiary concurrent with the Grand Theft charge and concurrent with Iowa Penitentiary sentence.

On the charge of Grand Theft, Joshua Nygaard received a five (5) year sentence to the South Dakota State Penitentiary concurrent with the Third Degree Burglary charge and concurrent with Iowa Penitentiary sentence. Nygaard was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$12,358.13 for the stolen pigs that he sold. Nygaard received credit for the eighty (80) days he spent incarcerated prior to being sentenced. Nygaard was ordered and required to pay all, restitution, fine, court costs, and prosecution costs, as well as his court-appointed attorney fees. Nygaard shall be released to Iowa to start his sentence in Iowa, however, in the event that Nygaard is paroled from Iowa prior to his being paroled in South Dakota, then Nygaard will be transported to the South Dakota State Penitentiary to complete his sentence.

Criminal History:

This is at least Nygaard's fourth career felony conviction. Nygaard has yet to be sentenced in Lincoln County for a similar offense.