

Union County State's Attorney

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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Zachariah Garrett
Age: 27
City/State of residence: Vermillion, South Dakota
Criminal File Number: 13-390
Convicted of: Identity Theft as a Felony 22-40- 8(1) & 22-40-9(1) & (2) (F6)
False Impersonation to a police officer 22-40-1 (m1)
Speeding 32-25-7 (m2)
Date of Sentencing: May 5, 2014
Arresting Officer: Trooper Trent Heuertz – South Dakota Highway Patrol (DRE / K9)

Case Synopsis:

On August 1st, 2013 Zachariah Garrett was stopped for speeding on I-29, when the officer asked for his information. Instead, Garrett provided Trooper Heuertz the name of one his high school friends. A warrant was issued for the person that Garrett provided. This innocent victim that lived in the state of Oklahoma provided proof of his whereabouts on August 1, 2013. The victim in this case was able to identify his class mate and Garrett was found to be living in Vermillion, SD. A warrant was issued for Garrett's arrest for false impersonation to a police officer, turning a simple traffic offense into a serious felony offense. On March 3, 2014 a tip was received from a confidential informant that Zachariah was traveling north bound on I-29, after proper identification that it was indeed Zachariah Garrett, the Trooper stopped and served the arrest warrant upon Garrett.

Sentencing Synopsis:

On the charge of Identity theft, Zachariah Garrett received an eighteen (18) month suspended sentence that requires Garrett to serve two (2) years of supervised probation. Garrett must satisfy the conditions of probation set out by the court. The court further ordered that Garrett serve a sentence of three (3) days in the Union County Jail with credit for the three (3) days already served prior to the disposition of this case. The court further ordered that Garrett pay all, restitution, fine, court costs, and prosecution costs.

Criminal History:

This is Zachariah Garrett's second career felony conviction.