

# Union County State's Attorney

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July 14, 2015

## Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Vanessa Perez  
Age: 32  
City and State of residence: Sioux City, IA  
Criminal File Number: 14-050  
Offense Occurred On: February 26, 2014  
Indictment: March 26, 2014  
Arrestment: May 5, 2014  
Plead Guilty On: June 8, 2015  
Convicted of: Ct. 1: Possession of Schedule III or IV Controlled Substance, (F6), 22-42-5  
Ct. 2: Possession of Unauthorized Articles in Jail, (F6), 22-11-47(1)  
Sentencing Date: June 8, 2015

### Case Synopsis:

On February 26, 2015, a North Sioux City officer was dispatched to the Alorica parking because an employee reported that co-workers were currently taking their breaks in a specific car and doing drugs. The reporting party stated that he knew this to be true, because the same co-workers would come back to work from their break regularly and brag about their illegal drug use activities. The officer had trouble locating the car in the parking lot. It became clear that the reporting party was watching from some vantage point inside or around the Alorica property, as the reporting party called dispatch and directed the officer to the specific vehicle. The vehicle in question was making its way to the McDonald's parking lot when the officer caught up to the vehicle. The vehicle had an inoperable taillight which gave the officer a reason to stop the vehicle. The driver and the two passengers were telling the officer conflicting stories. Vanessa Perez admitted that she had marijuana in her purse. Perez was arrested for the marijuana in her purse and transported to the Union County Jail.

Once at the jail, Perez was asked prior to entering the jail if she had any prohibited items, such as alcohol, drugs, and / or weapons. It should be noted that the officer asked the same questions of Perez. Perez told the officer and the jail staff that she did not have any of these items in her possession. Even after Perez was informed that what might be a misdemeanor to have in her possession out-side of the jail, that as soon as she entered the jail it would be a felony. Perez entered without declaring any items. Upon searching Perez's property two Hydrocodone pills were discovered. Perez did not have a valid prescription for these pills and because she did not disclose them, she then entered the jail and committed another felony by bringing the pills into the jail.

### Sentencing Synopsis:

As to count 1, possession of a schedule III or IV controlled substance, a class 6 felony, the Court ordered that the Perez serve a two-year sentence to the penitentiary. The Court ordered that the sentence begin immediately.

The Court further ordered that Vanessa Perez pay the following:

- \$104.00 in Court Costs;

- \$10.00 in Prosecution Costs; and
- Court Appointed Attorney Fees in the amount of \$369.00.

As to count 2, possession of unauthorized articles in jail, a class 6 felony, the Court ordered that the Perez serve a two-year sentence to the penitentiary. The Court ordered that the sentence begin immediately. The Court also ordered that the two sentences shall run concurrently.

The Court further ordered that Vanessa Perez pay the following:

- \$104.00 in Court Costs;

**Criminal History:**

This is Vanessa Perez's second and third career felony convictions.