

Union County State's Attorney

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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Randy Markee
Age: 30
City and State of residence: Jefferson, South Dakota
Criminal File Number: 15-443
Date of Offense: 12/04/2015
Date of Indictment: 1/11/2016
Date of Arraignment: 1/25/2016
Date of Change of Plea: 3/14/2016
Date of Sentencing: 4/25/2016
Convicted of: Possession of a Schedule I or II Controlled Substance (F5) SDCL 22-42-5
Arresting Officer: Trooper Cody Jansen – South Dakota Highway Patrol
Court Appointed Attorney: Katie Johnson

Case Synopsis:

On December 4, 2015 at approximately 11:00 p.m. Trooper Jansen was stationary in his patrol car on I-29 when a northbound vehicle went past with an obviously malfunctioning exhaust system. He also noticed that the rear window of the vehicle was completely fogged over and was unable to see through it. Trooper Jansen pursued the vehicle, which was weaving within its own lane. The vehicle took an unusually long time to stop. When Trooper Jansen asked the driver for license, registration and insurance, all three occupants of the car frantically tried to locate them. When the driver did produce his license, he was shaking almost uncontrollably, was breathing rapidly, and his carotid artery was noticeably pulsating in his neck. He frequently rubbed his face and legs. All of the occupants avoided direct eye contact. Trooper Jansen brought the driver, Randy Markee, back to the patrol car. Markee was overly nervous and continued to frequently rub his legs and face, his hands were shaky and his carotid artery continued to pulsate during questioning. The trooper also observed a green leafy substance on his pants. Markee refused to consent to a search of the vehicle, so Trooper Jansen radioed for a canine unit, which arrived three minutes later. The dog alerted to the stopped vehicle. All three passengers were handcuffed and detained (not arrested) in the trooper's patrol cars while the Markee vehicle was searched. The search turned up 2 marijuana pipes, a bottle of visine, a bic lighter, and a black case containing a clear methamphetamine pipe with residual methamphetamine, 2 snort tubes with methamphetamine residue, and baggies containing crystal methamphetamine. All three were arrested and transported to the Union County Jail.

Sentencing Synopsis:

Randy Markee was sentenced to five years in the South Dakota State Penitentiary with five years suspended. Markee was placed on four years' probation; required to obey all Federal, State, and Local laws; to not possess or use any alcohol, controlled or illegal drugs; and to waive his Fourth Amendment right against warrant-less random search and seizure by the probation officer and/or law enforcement; shall serve 60 days in jail; shall pay \$104.00 court costs, \$10.00 prosecution costs, \$587.50 Court Appointed Attorneys Fees, \$400.00 in fines.

Criminal History Synopsis:

Mr. Markee has some prior misdemeanor history on his criminal record. This is Mr. Markee's first career felony conviction.