

November 28, 2016

## Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Jerica Castro  
Age: 27  
City and State of residence: Jefferson, SD  
Criminal File Number: 15-107  
Date of Offense: March 2, 2016  
Date of Indictment: May 11, 2016  
Date of Arraignment: June 20, 2016  
Offense(s) Charged: Ct.1: Ingestion of a Schedule 1 or 2 Controlled Substance, 22-42-5, (F5)  
Ct.2: Poss. of Drug Paraphernalia, 22-42A-3, (M2)  
Change of Plea Date: July 11, 2016  
Convicted of: Ct.1: Ingestion of a Schedule 1 or 2 Controlled Substance, 22-42-5, (F5)  
Date of Sentencing: August 25, 2016  
Officer: Deputy James Prouty – Union County Sheriff's Office  
Defense Attorney: Katie Johnson  
Prosecutor: Alexis Tracy

### Case Synopsis:

On March 2, 2016, Deputy James Prouty with the Union County Sheriff's Office, responded to Jefferson residence for a hang up 911 phone call. Jerica Castro and her husband were arguing about her drug use. Deputy Prouty was at this residence in February of 2016 dealing with the issue of Jerica Castro's drug use. Jerica Castro's husband revealed that he had discovered needles stored under the sink a couple of weeks prior to this incident. In an interview with Jerica Castro, she advised that she had used two to four days which is when she was able to score some drugs from her dealer. Jerica Castro stated that she has not been able to get any more drugs because her dealer had been arrested. Paraphernalia was found in the residence and determined to be Jerica Castro's. Jerica Castro provided a urine sample that tested positive for amphetamine at 1,872 ng/ml, and methamphetamine at 22,380 ng/ml.

### Original Sentencing Synopsis:

On August 25, 2016, the Court sentenced Jerica Castro on the class 5 felony charge of ingestion of a schedule 1 or 2 controlled substance. The Court considered the arguments of the State and the Defense, and determined that Jerica Castro should be sentenced to a suspended 5-year sentence to the penitentiary with an order to complete a 5-year term of supervised probation. Jerica Castro was further ordered to serve 60 days with 30 days suspended and 3 days credit the days that she spent incarcerated prior to sentencing. Jerica Castro was ordered to pay \$104 in Court Costs; \$10 in Prosecution Costs; \$45 dollars to the South

Dakota Drug Control Fund; and \$846.40 to the county for his Court Appointed Attorney Fees.

**Criminal History:**

This is Jerica Castro's first career felony offense. Jerica Castro has had other misdemeanor offenses dealing with violence and drugs.