

Union County State's Attorney

Jerry A. Miller
State's Attorney
JerryMiller@ucsa.us

209 East Main Street ~ Suite 140
Elk Point, South Dakota 57025
Telephone (605) 356-2666 / Facsimile (605) 761-0199

Alexis A. Tracy
Deputy State's Attorney
AlexisTracy@ucsa.us

Tamara Nash
Deputy State's Attorney
TamaraNash@ucsa.us

February 29, 2016

Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Joseph Heyden
Age: 30
City and State of residence: Winchester, TN
Criminal File Number: 15-060
Date of Offense: March 2, 2015
Date of Indictment: March 25, 2015
Date of Arraignment: August 17, 2015
Change of Plea Date: February 8, 2016
Convicted of: Ct. 2: Possession of Marijuana (>1 lb. but <10 lbs.), 22-42-6, (F4); and
Ct. 3: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, 22-42A-3, (M2).
Date of Sentencing: February 1, 2016
Arresting Officer: SA John Barns - DCI & Trooper Trent Heuertz – SDHP
Court Appointed Attorney: Ryan Kolbeck

Case Synopsis:

On March 2, 2015 at about 14:35 a.m. Trooper Heuertz observed a vehicle traveling 78 mph in a 75 mph zone. The driver of the vehicle was identified as Joseph Heyden. Heyden was driving a rental vehicle with California plates. Expensive camera equipment was lying about the vehicle outside of its case. Heyden identified that he was coming from Washington state. Heyden first stated that he was doing photo shoots on this trip and then latter told the trooper that he had not taken any photos on this trip. Heyden described that he was taking a leisurely trip however, his rental agreement gave him three days to get from Spokane, WA to Nashville, TN. Trooper Heuertz deployed his canine partner around the rental vehicle, which both alerted and indicated to one of the substances that the dog is trained to detect. At this point, Heyden admitted that he had about six pounds of marijuana. Eight vacuum sealed bags were located.

Sentencing Synopsis:

The court sentenced Joseph Heyden on the charge of Possession of Marijuana, 1 to 10 pounds. The Court then ordered that Joseph Heyden successfully complete a two year term of supervised probation. Joseph Heyden was further ordered to serve sixty days with thirty days suspended. Joseph Heyden will serve the thirty remaining days unless he pays his monetary obligations immediately following sentencing. Joseph Heyden was ordered to start his county jail sentence on February 15, 2016. Joseph Heyden was also ordered to pay the following: On Ct. 2, a fine of \$2,300.00, and on Ct.3, a fine of \$100.00; On Ct. 2, Court Costs of \$104.00, and On Ct. 3, Court Costs of \$66.00; On Ct. 2, Prosecution Costs of \$10.00; and On Ct. 2, Fees to the SD Drug Control Fund of \$365.00. Joseph Heyden paid all monetary obligations immediately following his sentencing.

Criminal History:

This is Joseph Heyden's first career felony conviction.