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March 10, 2016

## Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Michael McDougald  
Age: 33  
City and State of Residence: Brenton Harbor, MI  
Criminal File Number: 15-325  
Incident Date: February 22, 2016

And

Defendant's Name: Brittany McDougald (Schertenleib)  
Age: 29  
City and State of Residence: Brenton Harbor, MI  
Criminal File Number: 15-326  
Incident Date: February 22, 2016

### **Case Update:**

On or about February 22, 2016, Michael McDougald drove his wife Brittany McDougald (Schertenleib) from Brenton Harbor, MI to Elk Point, SD in time for her sentencing hearing on February 22, 2016. It was later discovered that Brittany and Michael had used controlled substances prior to Brittany's sentencing hearing. After the sentencing hearing Brittany was sentenced to spend some time in the county jail in which she began the detox process for the second time. Within a day of sentencing, the Court, the State and the Jail was notified that Michael McDougald was found in Michigan in his vehicle, dead from and overdose.

A motion was made on Brittany McDougald (Schertenleib) behalf by her attorney that she be released from custody for Michael's funeral. The Court authorized Brittany McDougald (Schertenleib) motion to be released for her husband's funeral over the objection of the State's concerns about her fragile mental state and her issues with addiction.