
November 10, 2016

Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Brandon Staum
Age: 34
City and State of residence: Elk Point, SD
Criminal File Number: 16-064
Violation Date: January 16, 2016
Indictment Date: February 10, 2016
Charges: Ct. 1A) Aggravated Assault (F3); and
Ct. 1B) Simple Assault, (M1);
Ct. 3) Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, (M2)
Arresting Officer(s): Trooper Kayne Weaver; Deputies Robert Albertson and Josh Bridenstine
Defendant's Attorney: Jason Rumpca
Prosecuting Attorney: Alexis Tracy

Case Synopsis:

Ryan Kayl and Diana Densberger were with Brandon Staum on January 16, 2016. Staum become upset with Densberger and Kayl and jumped out of the vehicle without a coat on. When Densberger and Kayl went back to check on Staum. As they approached Staum, he threw his cell phone at their vehicle. Kayl got out of the vehicle and checked on Staum, when Staum attacked Kayl and began to strangle Kayl. Densberger attempted to calm Staum down without success. Staum did let Kayl up for a brief moment and then went after Kayl by strangling him a second time.

Kayl was able to get away from Staum. Kayl and Densberger quickly left in the vehicle they were driving. Per the report, Staum threw a bottle of whiskey at their vehicle and yelled at them that if they came back again, he would have a weapon. Densberger told law enforcement that Staum was strangling Kayl "like a grown ass man, choking something." Densberger said that Kayl could not speak while Staum was choking him. When Staum was asked about the incident, he indicated that it was nothing and that he and Kayl got into it over a girl.

Original Sentencing Synopsis:

On May 23, 2016, the Court sentenced Brandon Staum to 300 days in the Union County Jail with 295 days suspended on the term and condition that Staum not have any violation of Federal, State, or local laws for the following year. Staum was further ordered to pay all of his financial obligation by July 22, 2016, or he would also be subject to serving the suspended time.

Criminal History:

Brandon Staum's history shows involvement with multiple assaults, DUI's, possession of marijuana and controlled substances, as well as obstructing a police officer. On this file, Brandon Staum was offered a misdemeanor Simple Assault charge because the victim, Kayl, had returned to Colorado and had expressed that he was agreeable to the reduction of the file to a simple assault. Kayl is Staum's cousin.

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