
June 16, 2017

Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Jarrod DeGeorgia
Age: 42
State of residence: SD
Criminal File Number: 17-037
Incident Date: June 1, 2016 – January 8, 2017
Indictment Date: February 2, 2017
Offenses Charged: Ct 1: Aiding and Abetting Suicide, SDCL 22-16-37, F6; and
Ct 2: Stalking, SDCL 22-19A-1, M1 1/2
Arrestment Hearing: March 6, 2017
Change of Plea Date: April 24, 2017
Date of Sentencing: April 24, 2017
Convicted of: Ct 2: Stalking, SDCL 22-19A-1, M1 1/2

Criminal File Number: 17-041
Incident Date: January 24, 2017
Indictment Date: February 15, 2017
Offenses Charged: Ct. 1A: Driving Under the Influence, SDCL 32-23-1(1), M1 1/2
Ct. 1B: Driving Under the Influence, SDCL 32-23-1(2), M1 1/2
Ct. 2: Violation of a No Contact
Ct. 3: Contributing to the Abuse / Neglect of a Minor, SDCL 26-9-1,
M1 1/2
Arrestment Hearing: March 6, 2017
Change of Plea Date: April 24, 2017
Date of Sentencing: April 24, 2017
Convicted of: Ct. 2: Violation of a No Contact Order
Arresting Officer: Deputy T.J. North – Union County Sheriff's Office

Defense Attorney: Robert Tiefenthaler
Prosecution Attorney: Jerry A. Miller

Case Synopsis on 17-037:

Law enforcement investigated a case in which text messages and / or e-mails over the course of several months revealed a pattern of behavior by Mr. DeGeorgia in which the contact between him and his victim consisted of repeated contact that communicated no legitimate purpose. This constituted stalking as the communications were aggressive and abusive in the language used against the victim. During the same time frame, there were several communications that were found to encourage the victim in this case to end the victim's life through an act of suicide. Shortly after such a communication the victim in this case did make an attempt at suicide. The State brought charges for Aiding and Abetting Suicide and Stalking in this case.

Case Synopsis on 17-041:

On January 21, 2017, a No Contact Order was put in place as part of a Bond Condition for the case of State v. DeGeorgia, file number 63CRI17-037. It was a condition of the bond that Mr. DeGeorgia was not to have any contact victim in this case at all.

On January 24, 2017, at around 3:02 p.m., Chief Deputy Mike Bucholz, with the Union County Sheriff's Office was contacted by victim with a text message stating that Mr. DeGeorgia had contacted her using another person's phone stating with a message that stated that the "protection order was not in effect and the he could contact her all he wanted." Chief Deputy Bucholz then proceeded to go to Mr. DeGeorgia's apartment, in order to arrest him for contacting victim and to interview him in regards to the incidents that happened on this day. When Chief Deputy Bucholz arrived to the apartment and knocked on the door, Mr. DeGeorgia's son's answered and stated that their dad had just taken his sister to the Dollar Store. Sheriff's Deputy Todd North with the Union County Sheriff's Office and Sgt. Prouty, also with the Union County Sheriff's Office were instructed to stay on scene and arrest Mr. DeGeorgia once he arrived. As, Chief Deputy Bucholz left the scene and parked about a block away, Mr. DeGeorgia drove by and Chief Deputy Bucholz followed him back to his apartment. Once at the apartment Chief Deputy Bucholz asked Mr. DeGeorgia back to his patrol vehicle. Chief Deputy Bucholz smelled a strong odor of alcohol emulating from Mr. DeGeorgia's person when he got in the vehicle. Mr. DeGeorgia was read his Miranda Rights and was placed under arrest for the Violation of the No Contact Order. The kids were taken care of. The person who allowed Mr. DeGeorgia's the use of a phone so that Mr. DeGeorgia could call the victim admitted to allowing Mr. DeGeorgia use of the phone.

Field sobriety tests were conducted on Mr. DeGeorgia of which he did not pass portions of the sobriety tests. A blood test for Alcohol came back with a BAC level of .091. Mr. DeGeorgia was arrested for a Violation of a No Contact Order and Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol.

Sentencing Synopsis:

On file 17-037 the Court ordered that Mr. DeGeorgia pay \$84 in Court Costs; and a \$500 in fine with 30 days of county jail suspended under the following terms and conditions.

Mr. DeGeorgia was sentenced to the following terms and conditions. The Court ordered that Mr. DeGeorgia shall have 90 days in the Union County Jail suspended on the terms and condition that he obey all laws; complete an anger management course within 6 months the form the sentencing date; as well as a 'Boys Town' common sense parenting class within the 6 months of sentencing. DeGeorgia was ordered to pay \$84 in court costs; and a fine of \$500. The sentence in this case shall run concurrent to the sentence in file 17-037.

Criminal History Synopsis:

This is Mr. DeGeorgia's first violation of stalking, and for the violation of a charge of No Contact Order conviction. Mr. DeGeorgia did have two prior Driving Under the Influence convictions prior to these two cases.