
January 13, 2017

Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Esther Godfrey
Age: 35
City and State of residence: Sioux City, IA
Criminal File Number: 16-151
Date of Offense: April 4, 2016
Date of Information: April 19, 2016
Date of Arraignment: April 25, 2016
Offense(s) Charged: Ct.1: Ingestion of a Schedule 1 or 2 Controlled Substance, 22-42-5.1, (F5)
Ct.2: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, 22-42A-3, (M2)
Change of Plea Date: April 25, 2016
Convicted of: Ct.1: Ingestion of a Schedule 1 or 2 Controlled Substance, 22-42-5.1, (F5)
Date of Sentencing: August 15, 2016
Officer: Deputy Stephanie Ryan – Union County Sheriff's Office
Officer Jon Feller – North Sioux City Police Department
Andrew Ryan – North Sioux City Police Department
Defense Attorney: Katie Johnson
Prosecutor: Alexis Tracy

Case Synopsis:

On April 24, 2016, Deputy Stephanie Ryan with the Union County Sheriff's Office, stopped a vehicle with no license plates. The driver was identified as Vincent JONES. JONES admitted that he had recently consumed alcohol. JONES' license was also revoked due to a recent offense in court. JONES indicated that he may have a warrant for his arrest because he thought that he missed a court appearance. JONES also admitted that he smokes marijuana and that his urine would test positive for marijuana. JONES provided a urine sample that tested positive for marijuana (THC) at 455 ng/ml and amphetamine at 26,031 ng/ml and positive for methamphetamine at 240,180 ng/ml.

Kayla MOSSER was a passenger in the vehicle. MOSSER had a warrant for her arrest and admitted that she has a history of methamphetamine and marijuana use. Emily GOODTEACHER was another passenger in the vehicle who admitted to the officer that she last used methamphetamine earlier in the day before the officer stopped them. GOODTEACHER was arrested. The officers searched the vehicle and found .7 grams of methamphetamine, marijuana, and paraphernalia.

GODFREY was the last passenger in this vehicle. GODFREY admitted that she too had used methamphetamine, and that her urine would test positive for methamphetamine. GODFREY provided a urine sample that tested positive for amphetamine at 2,601 ng/ml and positive for methamphetamine at 40,705 ng/ml.

Sentencing Synopsis:

On August 15, 2016, the Court sentenced Esther Godfrey 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 GODFREY should be sentenced to a suspended 5-year sentence to the penitentiary with an order to complete a 4-year term of supervised probation. GODFREY was further ordered to serve 133 days with 133 days credit for time GODFREY spent incarcerated prior to sentencing. GODFREY was ordered to pay \$104 in Court Costs; \$112.50 dollars to the South Dakota Drug Control Fund; and \$671.60 to the county for his Court Appointed Attorney Fees.

Criminal History:

This is GODFREY's second career felony conviction. GODFREY was convicted of a felony drug offense in Iowa; a misdemeanor weapons charge in Iowa; has had other misdemeanor offenses dealing with violence and drugs.