

# KEOKUK COUNTY ATTORNEY

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Summary of Notable Criminal Judgment Entries January – March 2023

Keokuk County, Iowa

**Ryan Schulte**, 32, of Harper, Iowa, was fined \$430 and sentenced to a one-year jail sentence, with all time suspended upon his probation to the Court for one year after pleading guilty to Assault Causing Injury, a serious misdemeanor. After being arrested in July 2022, Schulte remained in the Keokuk County jail for approximately 90 days before being transferred to an inpatient substance abuse treatment facility. A five year No Contact Order was further entered preventing Schulte from having contact with the victim.

**Laura Souer**, 38, of Sigourney, Iowa was fined \$1,025 and sentenced to 10 years in prison with all prison time suspended contingent upon successful probation to the Iowa Department of Corrections after pleading guilty to two counts of Delivery of Marijuana <50 kilograms, class D felonies. Souer was further ordered to serve 120 days in the Keokuk County Jail and granted the privilege of work release at the discretion of the Keokuk County Sheriff after pleading to two counts of Child Endangerment, aggravated misdemeanors. Souer's charges stemmed from an investigation by the Keokuk County Sheriff's Department upon receiving a report of minor children using marijuana wax provided by Souer at her residence and in the same residence as additional minor children.

**Avarie Smith**, 29, of What Cheer, Iowa was fined \$1,455 and sentenced to five years in prison, with all time suspended contingent upon successful probation to the Iowa Department of Corrections, after pleading guilty to Possession of Contraband in a Correctional Facility, a Class D Felony, and Unlawful Possession of a Prescription Drug, a Serious Misdemeanor. On July 15, 2022 Smith was charged by the Keokuk County Sheriff's Department with bringing controlled substances and electronic devices into the Keokuk County Jail while serving a jail sentence on an unrelated charge. Smith was eventually transferred from the Keokuk County Jail to substance abuse recovery community in August 2022. She remains on supervised probation with the Iowa Department of Corrections.

**Michael Stoner**, 38, of What Cheer, Iowa was fined \$1,710 and sentenced to four years in prison with all time suspended contingent upon probation to the Iowa Department of Corrections after pleading guilty to Criminal Mischief – Fourth Degree and Driving While Barred, both aggravated misdemeanors. Stoner was released from the Keokuk County Jail to inpatient substance abuse treatment while these charges were pending but later violated the terms of his pretrial release and was charged with Driving While Barred. Stoner's Criminal Mischief charges arose from damages he caused to his mother's vehicle while upset with her.

**James Townsend**, 36, of Ottumwa, Iowa was fined \$1,025 and sentenced to five years in prison after pleading guilty to Possession of Methamphetamine, Third or Subsequent Offense, a Class D Felony. Townsend's charges were filed by the Iowa State Patrol after stopping Townsend for speeding and locating illegal substances in his vehicle.

**Michael Townsend**, 21, of North English, Iowa was assessed a civil penalty of \$855 and granted a deferred judgment after pleading guilty to Operating Without Owner's Consent, an aggravated misdemeanor. Townsend's charges arose from a car theft investigation by the Keokuk County Sheriff's Department.

**Darian Medlock**, 24, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa was assessed civil penalties in the total amount of \$1,580, required to serve thirty days in the Keokuk County Jail and granted deferred judgments after pleading guilty to Burglary in the Second Degree, a Class C Felony, Domestic Abuse Assault, a simple misdemeanor, and Harassment – Third Degree, a Simple Misdemeanor. Medlock was placed on supervised probation to the Department of Corrections and a five-year no contact order was issued preventing him from having any contact with the victims. Medlock's charges were filed by the Keota Police Department after receiving reports that Medlock had, on two separate incidents, threatened and assaulted the victims at their residence or within a vehicle outside the residence.

**Gideon Goff**, 22, of Sigourney, Iowa was sentenced to a two-year prison term, with all time suspended contingent upon his probation to the Court for two years and payment of victim restitution after Goff pled guilty to Arson in the Third Degree, an aggravated misdemeanor. Goff's charges arose after an investigation by the Iowa Department of Public Safety – State Fire Marshall Division into a fire at Sigourney Housing, 104 North West Street, Sigourney.

Convictions were also entered on twenty-five other misdemeanor offenses including three Driving While Barred offenses, two Possession of Marijuana offenses, two Harassment – First Degree offenses, one serious trespass offense, one Assault While Displaying a Dangerous Weapon offense, two Possession of Methamphetamine offenses, one Criminal Mischief Third offense, one Violation of No Contact Order offense, one Interference with Official Acts offense, one Simple Assault offense, one Public Intoxication offense, one Disorderly Conduct offense, one Possession of Drug Paraphernalia offense, and seven Driving Under Suspension offenses.