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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 23, 2015

**Corey J. Becker, Fremont County Attorney, announces the following dispositions and activities in the Iowa District Court for Fremont County for the week of January 19, 2015. Before the District Court, the Honorable Richard H. Davidson presided. Before the Magistrate Division, the Honorable Dennis James presided.**

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Benjamin Alan Franks, age 33, Council Bluffs, Iowa, appeared with his attorney and entered a plea of guilty to an amended charge of Gatherings Where Methamphetamine Unlawfully Used, in violation of Iowa Code Section 124.407, a Class D Felony. The defendant was sentenced to five (5) years in prison with credit for any time served. A fine of \$1,500 was suspended. The defendant was ordered to pay all associated court costs and court appointed attorney's fees. An accompanying charge of Possession of Methamphetamine was dismissed with costs taxed to the defendant.

Hatem Bennour, age 42, Omaha, Nebraska, appeared by his attorney and plead not guilty to the charges of Ongoing Criminal Conduct and two counts of Fraudulent Practice in the Second Degree. A pretrial conference is set for February 16 at 1:30 pm and trial is set for March 17, 2015 at 9:30 pm. All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Thomas Aaron Ingram, age 34, Farragut, Iowa, appeared by his attorney and agreed to a continuance of his trial date to March 17, 2015 at 9:30 am. Pretrial conference is set for February 23, 2015 at 1:30 pm. Thomas Ingram is charged with two counts of Sexual Abuse in the Third Degree, two counts of Lascivious Acts with a Child, and two counts of Indecent Contact with a Child. All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

**ALL PERSONS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT  
OF LAW.**