

PAGE COUNTY ATTORNEY

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Page County Attorney, James L. Varley, reports the following activities in the Iowa District Court for Page County for the week of December 8, 2025. The Honorable Amy Zacharias, District Court Judge of the Fourth Judicial District presided. All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Jan Elder, age 47, Essex Iowa, was found guilty of the crime of Possession of Methamphetamine in Page County District Court on October 28, 2025. On December 8, 2025, the defendant appeared with counsel and was sentenced to 60 days of incarceration, with all but 5 days suspended. The defendant was placed on probation for one year and ordered to obtain a drug/alcohol evaluation and follow through with any recommendations. The defendant was ordered to pay court costs, surcharges and court-appointed attorney fees.

Frank Kephart, age 48, Westboro, Missouri, appeared with counsel and admitted to violating his probation. The defendant was sentenced to 30 days of contempt time in the Page County Jail. All costs were assessed to the defendant.

John David Stone, age 55, Braddyville, Iowa, appeared with counsel and pled guilty to Count II: Operating While Intoxicated- First Offense, Count III: Possession of a Controlled Substance- Methamphetamine and Count IV: Possession of a Controlled Substance- Marijuana. The defendant was sentenced to 90 days on each count, and the sentences will run concurrently. On Count II, a fine of \$1,250 was imposed and the defendant was ordered to obtain a Substance Abuse Evaluation, complete recommended treatment and complete the drinking driver's program. On Count III, a fine of \$430 was imposed and suspended. Count IV, the defendant was ordered to pay a fine of \$430 and any applicable surcharges.