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## PRESS RELEASE

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### JURY FINDS CLEMENTS MAN GUILTY OF SALE OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

A Redwood County District Court jury found Darin James Sell, 41, of Clements, guilty of the Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, County Attorney Jenna Peterson announced Thursday.

The jury deliberated for approximately 25 minutes on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, before delivering the guilty verdict around 5:00 p.m.

According to the criminal complaint, evidence, and testimony at trial, on November 18, 2021, at approximately 5:00 p.m., Sell sold 5.248 grams of methamphetamine for \$200 to a confidential informant during a controlled buy which was supervised by Agents from the Brown Lyon Redwood Renville Drug Task Force. The sale was arranged earlier in the day via text messages between Sell and the informant. At approximately 4:46 p.m. the confidential informant arrived at Sell's residence located in rural Clements. Upon arrival, Sell's brother entered the vehicle and handed the informant a baggie containing a substance that later tested positive for methamphetamine. Sell entered the vehicle approximately 15 minutes later and the informant paid him \$200.

Peterson, who prosecuted the case, told the jury in her closing argument, "This was a controlled buy. An operation done under the direct supervision of Drug Task Force Agents. This operation was set up with every possible safe guard in place to insure the integrity of the operation. There was a specific plan and it was followed to a T."

Sell will be sentenced on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at the Redwood County Courthouse.