



Department of Justice

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Dunseith Woman Found Guilty of Involuntary Manslaughter

MINOT - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced that on September 12, 2008, **Chelsey P. Amyotte**, 18, of Dunseith, North Dakota, was found guilty by a federal jury on charges of involuntary manslaughter and assault resulting in serious bodily injury. United States District Court Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland presided over the case.

On November 4, 2007, in East Dunseith Housing, **Amyotte** and co-defendant **Justin R. Beston** argued with and assaulted 49-year-old Danielle Baker. **Amyotte** and **Beston** struck the victim in the head and face with their fists. The victim died as a result of the assault and an autopsy indicated that she suffered a torn vertebral artery and severed brain stem.

Beston, 28, of Dunseith, North Dakota, pleaded guilty to second degree murder on August 28, 2008. The charge of second degree murder carries a statutory maximum penalty of life imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

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In **Amyotte's** case, the charge of involuntary manslaughter carries a statutory maximum penalty of six years of imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The charge of assault resulting in serious bodily injury carries a statutory maximum penalty of ten years of imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Bureau of Indian Affairs - Turtle Mountain Agency.

Sentencing for **Amyotte** and **Beston** has been scheduled for December 1, 2008, in United States District Court in Minot, North Dakota.

Assistant United States Attorneys David Hagler and Brandi Sasse Russell are prosecuting the case.

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