

Jury Trial Set in Local Drug Case

**(KNZA)--A June 15th jury trial has been set for a Hiawatha woman facing drug charges.**

**44-year-old Beth Mikita pleaded not guilty Monday in Brown County District Court to charges of possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, traffic in contraband in a correctional institution and misdemeanor theft.**

**Mikita and 25-year-old Kalan Pyle, of Hiawatha, were arrested January 6th in the Hiawatha Wal-Mart parking lot after the Brown County Sheriff's Department's K-9, Ari, alerted on their vehicle after a resident contacted authorities to report suspicious activity.**

**Pyle pleaded no contest earlier this month to a felony count of possession of methamphetamine and is to be sentenced May 22nd.**

**The misdemeanor theft charge against Mikita stems from the alleged theft of clothes from the Hiawatha Wal-Mart.**

**She is also accused of violating the terms of her probation in an embezzlement case. The probation violation case against Mikita was continued to May 26th.**

**Mikita was convicted of embezzling funds from the Hiawatha Chamber of Commerce between August 2014 and April 2015 while serving as Chamber treasurer.**

**Last June, she was placed on one year supervised probation on charges in that case and ordered to pay more than \$8,000 restitution.**

**Mikita remains in the Brown County Jail on a \$75,000 bond.**

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