

https://www.bhpioneer.com/local_news/deadwood-city-commissioner-charged-with-open-container-in-vehicle/article_69bbb849-01c0-4788-afc8-9c7dd546b846.html

Deadwood city commissioner charged with open container in vehicle

Pioneer staff reports
Aug 13, 2025



Blake Joseph

 GIFT THIS ARTICLE

DEADWOOD — A Deadwood City Commission who has already been charged with two misdemeanors, was cited Aug. 7 with possessing an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

According to court reports, Blake Joseph was pulled over shortly before 1 a.m., near 68 Main St. by Officer Keegan Holzapfel. He was allegedly driving 58 miles per hour in a 45 mile per hour zone.

Joseph was given a warning for his speed and cited with a Class 2 misdemeanor for possessing the open container. It comes with a \$132.50 fine.

A Class 2 misdemeanor is punishable by up to 30 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Joseph, according to the citation, must pay the fine or contest the charge before Sept. 8.

This marks his third criminal charge since becoming a city commissioner.

In July 2024, he was charged with careless driving and traveling through a roadblock, after he allegedly struck a Deadwood firefighter manning a roadblock with his vehicle during the Days of '76 Parade. The traveling through the roadblock charge was dismissed in May 2025; however, on July 2, Joseph failed to appear for his trial for careless driving. A bench warrant for his arrest was issued.

He paid the \$132.50 fine that day.

The careless driving charge is a Class 2 misdemeanor, but the failure to appear charge is a Class 1 misdemeanor, punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$2,000 fine.

He is scheduled for both those charges at 1 p.m. Sept. 29.

Since 1876, the Black Hills Pioneer has been a locally owned & operated newspaper.

To read all of our stories

[Click Here](#)

Or call our office in Spearfish, SD at (605) 642-2761 to subscribe. We offer an All-Access Pass (including hard copy), or Digital Only Pass