



## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

### ADMINISTRATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2017

State Prison Inmate Benjamin Johnson Placed on Escape Status

YANKTON, S.D.- A state prison inmate has been placed on escape status after failing to report to his work release jobsite.

Inmate Benjamin Johnson, age 35, left the Yankton Community Work Center today to go to his work release job, but never reported to the jobsite.

Johnson is a white male. He is 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighs approximately 200 pounds. He has brown hair and blue eyes.

Johnson was serving a five-year sentence with 3 years and 6 months suspended for unauthorized ingestion of a controlled substance out of Butte County. Additional information is available on the offender locator on the Department of Corrections website at [doc.sd.gov/adult/lookup/](http://doc.sd.gov/adult/lookup/).

Anyone who sees Johnson or knows of his whereabouts should contact local law enforcement immediately.

Failing to return to custody following an assignment or temporary leave constitutes second-degree escape, a Class 5 felony, and is punishable by a maximum of five years in prison. South Dakota Codified Law 22-11A-5 states that any person who conceals any prisoner knowing that the prisoner has escaped is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

There are more than 200 minimum-security inmates statewide assigned to the work release program.

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Our mission is to protect the citizens of South Dakota by providing safe and secure facilities for juvenile and adult offenders committed to our custody by the courts. To provide effective community supervision to offenders upon their release and to utilize evidence-based practices to maximize opportunities for rehabilitation.