

## Former Richardson County Deputy Sentenced

(KLZA)-- A former Richardson County sheriff's deputy convicted of staging a shooting and then lying about it has been sentenced to three years probation and 180 days of community service.

26-year-old Joshua Nincehelter was handed the sentence Tuesday in Richardson County District Court.

Nincehelter told authorities he had been shot in June of last year by an unidentified assailant during a traffic stop. Days later he admitted to the Nebraska State Patrol during their investigation that he lied and had shot himself in the arm and fired shots into his patrol pickup.

Nincehelter pleaded no contest in November to a felony charge of criminal mischief and misdemeanor charge of false reporting.

According to the Lincoln Journal Star, Richardson County District Judge Daniel Bryan Jr. seemed perplexed that prosecutors did not ask for jail time as part of a plea agreement, asking if the state was "laying over on this one?"

Assistant Attorney General Kale Burdick served as special prosecutor in the case and did not answer the question.

Restitution was also not sought. However, Nincehelter's attorney, Bruce Dalluge, said he had placed more than \$2,200 in a trust fund to be distributed to the sheriff's office or some other county agency.

Nincehelter must also surrender his law enforcement certificate and will not be allowed to carry a firearm or serve in law enforcement again.

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