

SUMMARY STATEMENT
State of Idaho v. Laranda Ann Meyer
Docket Nos. 51039 & 51040

In these consolidated cases arising out of Lemhi County, the Court of Appeals vacated and remanded Laranda Ann Meyer's judgment of conviction and sentences for two counts of criminal conspiracy, affirmed her judgment of conviction and sentence for possession of a controlled substance, and affirmed her judgment of conviction but modified her sentence for introduction of major contraband into a correctional facility. While executing a search warrant, officers found Meyer in possession of fentanyl pills, methamphetamine, fentanyl powder, and drug paraphernalia. Meyer was arrested, charged, and taken to jail. Weeks later, an inmate reported that Meyer had drugs in her possession and that they had been using drugs while in jail. When deputies confronted Meyer, she admitted to previously hiding drugs inside her vagina. Deputies subsequently found a "snorting straw (tampon applicator) with powder residue" in Meyer's underwear and additional "tampon applicators" in her jail cell. Meyer pled guilty to two counts of criminal conspiracy, possession of a controlled substance, and introduction of major contraband into a correctional facility. Meyer moved to withdraw her guilty pleas before sentencing, but the motion was denied and she was sentenced to concurrent unified terms of seven years, with minimum periods of confinement of three years.

On appeal, Meyer argued the district court erred in denying her motion to withdraw her guilty pleas to both counts of criminal conspiracy. This Court agreed, held that the district court abused its discretion by failing to articulate and apply the relevant legal standards, and vacated Meyer's judgment of conviction for both criminal conspiracy counts. Because this Court vacated her judgment of conviction, it did not address her sentencing challenge. The Court affirmed Meyer's sentence for possession of a controlled substance, concluding she failed to show the sentence was excessive. However, the Court also held the district court erred by imposing a sentence that exceeded the statutory maximum penalty for introduction of major contraband into a correctional facility. As a result, the Court modified Meyer's sentence to a unified term of five years, with a minimum period of confinement of three years, to be served concurrently with her sentence for possession of a controlled substance.

*This summary constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court, but has been prepared
by court staff for the convenience of the public.*