New Section for General Information on Election Pamphlet and Secretary of State Website

Felony Convictions:

Under South Dakota law, a person convicted of a felony in federal court loses the right to vote if sentenced to a term of imprisonment in the adult penitentiary system and must complete his or her term of imprisonment, including supervised release, before becoming eligible to vote. SDCL 12-4-18. A person sentenced only to probation or only ordered to pay a fine or restitution for a federal felony does not lose the right to vote.

Under South Dakota law, a person convicted of a felony in state court who is sentenced to imprisonment in the adult penitentiary system loses the right to vote even if the execution of that sentence is suspended. SDCL 23A-27-35 and 12-4-18. A person so disqualified becomes eligible to register to vote upon completion of his or her entire sentence. A person who receives a suspended imposition of sentence or a sentence that does not include a term of imprisonment in the adult penitentiary system does not lose the right to vote.

[Exhibit A will also be included on the Secretary of State Website]