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Hansen-Lems Campaign Applauds Dismissal of Charges Against South Dakota Ranchers

Faith. Family. Freedom. South Dakota Will Lead the Way.

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. — The Hansen-Lems 2026 gubernatorial campaign commends the recent decision to dismiss all charges against Charles and Heather Maude, ranchers from Caputa, South Dakota. The Maudes had faced federal indictments alleging theft of government property over approximately 50 acres of federal land, a claim that has now been nullified.

"This outcome is a testament to the resilience of South Dakota's ranching community and the importance of due process," said Speaker Jon Hansen. "The Maude family has managed their land responsibly for generations, and we are relieved to see justice served."

The case had drawn significant attention from agricultural organizations and elected officials, many of whom questioned the federal government's approach to the dispute. Concerns were raised about the potential overreach and the impact on longstanding land management practices.

"This situation underscores the need for clear communication and fair treatment between federal agencies and local landowners," added Speaker Pro Tempore Karla Lems. "Our campaign remains committed to protecting property rights and ensuring that South Dakota's families are not subjected to unwarranted legal challenges."

The Hansen-Lems campaign continues to advocate for policies that uphold the principles of faith, family, and freedom, ensuring that South Dakota remains a leader in responsible governance and community support.

For more information about the Hansen-Lems 2026 campaign, please visit www.hansenlems2026.com.

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