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**ENTRY OF JUDGMENT
IN THE CASE OF**

United States v. Staff Sergeant Jacob R. Van Pelt

Date: 28 July 2026

Sentence/Acquittal Date: 2 July 2026

Name of Accused: Jacob R. Van Pelt

Grade: E-5

SSN: [REDACTED]

Organization: [REDACTED]

Convening Command: [REDACTED]

Court-Martial Type: Special Court Martial

Sentencing Forum: Military Judge

Enlisted Members: N/A

Findings and Sentence (as modified by the convening authority action or other court ruling, if any):

Charge(s)	Arraigned Offense(s)	P	F	Confinement			Fine
				Term	Concurrent with	Consecutive with	
CHARGE I	Art 112a	G	G				
Spec 1: 112AB1	Did, within [REDACTED] on or about 1 August 2025, wrongfully possess approximately 4.5 grams of cocaine a Schedule II controlled substance with the intent to distribute the said controlled substance.	G, except the words "with the intent to distribute the said controlled substance."	G, except the words "with the intent to distribute the said controlled substance." The excepted words withdrawn and dismissed with prejudice to attach upon the findings being approved upon appellate review.	9 months	Charge I, Spec 2 and 3	N/A	N/A
Spec 2: 112AB1	Did, within [REDACTED] on or about 1 August 2025 wrongfully possess approximately 14.7 grams of ketamine a Schedule III controlled substance with the intent to distribute the said controlled substance.	G, except the words "with the intent to distribute the said controlled substance."	G, except the words "with the intent to distribute the said controlled substance." The excepted words withdrawn and dismissed with prejudice to attach upon the findings being approved upon appellate review.	9 months	Charge I, Spec 1 and 3	N/A	N/A

Controlled by: Department of the Air Force

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POC: Appellate Records, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Charge(s)	Arraigned Offense(s)	P	F	Confinement			Fine
				Term	Concurrent with	Consecutive with	
Spec 3: 112AC4	Did, within the [REDACTED] on divers occasions, between on or about 1 August 2025 and on or about 24 March 2026 (amended after arraignment to withdraw the number and word "24 March" and add the number and word "22 April") wrongfully use cocaine, a Schedule II controlled substance.	G	G	7 months	Charge I, Spec 1 and 2	N/A	N/A
CHARGE II	Art 113	Withdrawn and dismissed prior to arraignment with prejudice to attach upon the findings being approved upon appellate review.	N/A				
Spec :	Did, within [REDACTED] on or about 1 August 2025, physically control a vehicle, to wit: a passenger car, while impaired by cocaine.	Withdrawn and dismissed prior to arraignment with prejudice to attach upon the findings being approved upon appellate review.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Total Confinement: 9 months

Total Fine: N/A

Days of Pretrial Confinement Credit: N/A

Days of Judicially Ordered Credit: N/A

Punitive Discharge: Bad Conduct Discharge

Reduction in Pay Grade: E-1

Forfeitures of Pay and/or Allowances: N/A

Hard Labor without Confinement: N/A

Restriction: N/A

Deferments: On 12 July 2026, the accused requested deferment of the reduction in grade and automatic forfeitures until the Entry of Judgment. On 21 July 2026 the convening authority denied these requests.

Waiver of Automatic Forfeitures: N/A

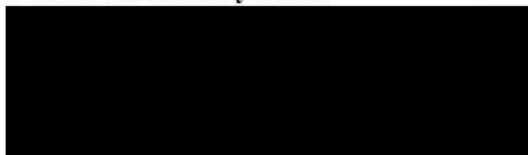
Convening Authority Action on Military Judge Suspension Recommendation: N/A

Reprimand: You are hereby reprimanded! Your actions are completely unacceptable and represent a severe departure from the standards expected of a Noncommissioned Officer. You were entrusted with maintaining multi-million dollar aircraft, ensuring the safety of our aircrews, and enabling the readiness capabilities of this Wing. You absolutely broke that trust. By engaging in the possession and use of illicit drugs, you compromised your integrity, compromised the safety of your peers, and severely degraded Wing readiness.

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I have zero-tolerance for drug use, and zero-tolerance for anyone that jeopardizes the readiness. I have zero-tolerance for drug use, and zero-tolerance for anyone that jeopardizes the mission of the Global Gateway. Your conduct is fundamentally incompatible with military service. You willfully and repeatedly violated the Uniform Code of Military Justice by testing positive for illicit substances on multiple urine tests. This sustained pattern of illegal activity only ceased once you were restricted to the base, proving a complete lack of self-discipline, judgment, and respect for authority. You will use your time in confinement to reflect upon your choices and commit to making better ones in the future.

This judgment reflects the result of the court-martial, as modified by any post-trial actions, rulings, or orders, if any, and is hereby entered into the record on 28 July 2026.



BRIAN M. THOMPSON, Colonel, USAF
Military Judge

Attachment:
Statement of Trial Results, dated 2 July 2026

Distribution:

Colonel Brian M. Thompson (MJ), JAT District 5, [REDACTED]

Capt Natalie D. Risch (TC), [REDACTED]
1st Lt Caleb B. Chadwell (TC), [REDACTED]
Capt Owen R. Field (DC), [REDACTED]

HQ AFSFC/FC, [REDACTED]
AF/JAT, Clerk of Court, [REDACTED]

AF/JAJM, [REDACTED]
HQ AFPC/ [REDACTED]
HQ AFPC/ [REDACTED]
DOD/AFPC, [REDACTED]
U.S. Army Criminal Investigations Laboratory [REDACTED]