

76°

**Pioneer**  
the Bemidji

Vaccine Tracker

E-Paper

Log in

**SUBSCRIBE NOW**  
\$4 for 4 months!

Miss nothi

**Trending Articles**

**NEWS**

Northwest Minnesota Foundation to hold virtual State of the Foundation event

**EDUCATION**

Civil rights activist, former UND professor, UF theorist John Salter Jr. dies

**NEWS**

## Briards, hog farmers from Frazee area, face felony charges

Here's an update on the legal status of Frazee hog farmers Robert and Virginia Briard, who both face felony charges in Becker County District Court. Although court dates shift frequently, especially with high-profile cases, here are the current d...

Written By: Pioneer staff reports | 12:00 am, Jan. 24, 2009

 76°[Vaccine Tracker](#)[E-Paper](#)[Login](#)

**SUBSCRIBE NOW**  
\$4 for 4 months!

Although court dates shift frequently, especially with high-profile cases, here are the current dates and charges:

### Newsletter signup for email alerts

Robert Briard, 62, was acquitted by a jury on Dec. 17 of first- and second-degree criminal sexual conduct charges involving a girl under the age of 13. Those incidents allegedly occurred in the 1980s.

But he is still charged with felony second-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a girl under the age of 13. That incident is alleged to have occurred in the summer of 2004.

A settlement conference has been set for Feb. 25 at 8:30 a.m. and jury trial is set to start at 9:12 a.m. on March 3 before District Judge Peter Irvine.

Robert Briard is also charged with three gross misdemeanor counts of fifth-degree nonconsensual sexual contact involving an adult woman.

A settlement conference on those allegations has been set for 8:30 a.m. Feb. 4 and jury trial is set for 9 a.m. Feb. 10 before Judge Irvine.

Although the court dates have been set, the Becker County Attorney's Office has not yet finalized a decision on whether or not to proceed with prosecuting those cases, said County Attorney Mike Fritz.

76°

The Bemidji  
**Pioneer**

Vaccine Tracker

E-Paper

Log in

**SUBSCRIBE NOW**  
\$4 for 4 months!

She did not reappear in public until she turned herself in Dec. 30.

Her next court appearance, an omnibus hearing, had been set for Tuesday, but is now scheduled for 10:45 a.m. on Feb. 19.

She is free on \$200,000 bond set by District Judge Joe Evans, with conditions that include she surrender her passport to authorities, not leave the state, and notify the court of any change of address within 48 hours.

On Jan. 5, her attorney, Kent D. Marshall of Barrett, Minn., successfully filed legal paperwork to remove Evans as presiding judge, an option provided under state law.

The next day, Assistant Becker County Attorney Gretchen Thilmony, who is prosecuting Virginia Briard, requested that Judge Irvine be removed from the case.

Irvine granted the request Jan. 7 and recused himself.

District Judge Lisa Borgen has now been assigned to the Virginia Briard case.