

Prosecutors Secure Prison Term for Manslaughter; Convictions in Drug, Robbery, and DUI Cases

Deputy Attorneys General Brian Robertson and Dan McBride obtained an 18-year prison sentence for Damiere Harris, 23, of New Castle. Harris pled guilty in March, and was sentenced by the court on his convictions for Manslaughter and Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony. In April 2014, Harris shot Sinque Hagler as he sat in a parked car in the 2700 block of N. Claymont Street in Wilmington.

Deputy Attorney General Rebecca Song secured guilty verdicts on all charges against 40-year-old Miguel Rivera of Wilmington. In August 2015, Wilmington Police received a tip that Rivera was conducting drug deals from a car near the intersection of 4th and Franklin Streets. After searching the vehicle, police found 41 grams of cocaine and a digital scale. A jury found Rivera guilty of Aggravated Possession (Tier 5 quantity of cocaine), Drug Dealing (Tier 4 quantity of cocaine), and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Rivera faces 2 to 25 years in prison when sentenced by the court.

Deputy Attorney General Barzilai Axelrod secured convictions following a jury trial of Eric Simmons, 40, of Des Moines, Iowa, for Drug Dealing (Tier 4 quantity of heroin), Drug Possession (Tier 5 quantity of heroin), Possession of Ammunition by a Person Prohibited, Possession of Marijuana, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Disregarding a Police Officer Signal, Turning Without Use of a Turn Signal, and Driving Without an Insurance Card. In April 2015, a Delaware State Trooper attempted to stop a car driven by Simmons along I-95 near the Marsh Road exit. Simmons initially made it seem

like he was going to pull off of the highway, but failed to pull over and then continued to travel another two miles before finally stopping. The Trooper found a total of 40.75 grams of heroin in the car, along with 4 grams of marijuana, items used to package and distribute heroin, and a box with handgun ammunition. The defendant was also indicted on other charges but the jury did not return a verdict.

Deputy Attorney General Michael Degliobizzi secured a conviction against Alexa Tucker, 20, of Newark to two counts of Robbery 1st, one count of Robbery 2nd, and one count of conspiracy 2nd. In October 2015, Tucker robbed the 7-11 in the 600 block of East Chestnut Hill Road in Newark at gunpoint, taking an unknown amount of cash and packs of cigarettes. Later in the month, she held up the Valero gas station in the 800 block of South DuPont Highway in New Castle at gunpoint. There, Tucker took \$50.00, 35 packs of cigarettes, the clerk's cell phone, and a bottle of soda. Tucker will be sentenced by the court in July.

Deputy Attorney General Marc Petrucci secured a conviction against Samuel Young, 27, of Smyrna, to two counts of Vehicular Assault 2nd, two counts of Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol 1st Offense, and Assault 3rd. In March of 2015, Young crashed into a mailbox in the 1400 block of Cedar Lane Road in Middletown while he was driving drunk and assaulting his girlfriend who was riding in the car. In October of 2015, he was driving under the influence on North DuPont Parkway, just south of Pine Tree Corner Road in Townsend when he hit a car, injuring two of the people in the other vehicle. Young is scheduled for sentencing by the court in July.