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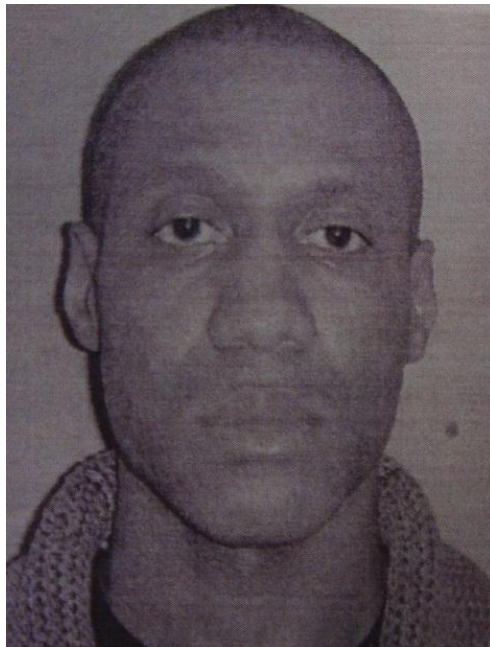
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2013

Defendant Sentenced to Six Years in State Prison for Cocaine Possession



ALBANY, NY- District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that ISSIAH SAUNDERS, 34, of Albany, was sentenced to 6 years in State Prison followed by 3 years of Post Release Supervision before the Honorable Thomas A. Breslin in Albany County Court this morning.

On April 9, 2013, SAUNDERS pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Fourth Degree, a Class C Felony.

On January 19, 2013, SAUNDERS was a passenger in a vehicle that was pulled over for inadequate brake lights on Southern Boulevard in the City of Albany. When New York State Troopers approached the vehicle, they detected a strong odor of marijuana from inside the vehicle as well as on the defendant's person.

When officers observed SAUNDERS reach into his waistband, Troopers removed the defendant from the vehicle and began a search, finding a digital scale in the defendant's pocket. Upon a further search of the defendant, approximately 13 grams of cocaine were recovered.

For more information please contact Cecilia Logue (518) 275-4710.

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