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Guilty Verdict for 2 Defendants Who Hid Drugs in Chip Bag



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that FRANK MALDONADO, 44, and DAVID COLON, 33, both of Troy, NY, were each found guilty of drug charges after a jury trial before the Honorable Judge Thomas A. Breslin in Albany County Supreme Court late on Wednesday evening. The jury did find MALDONADO and COLON guilty of having in their possession with intent to sell 5.6 ounces of cocaine, and also that COLON was in possession of a quantity of marijuana.

MALDONADO and COLON were each found guilty of (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Second Degree, a Class A-II Felony, and (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a Class B Felony. COLON was additionally found guilty of (1) Count of Unlawful Possession of Marijuana, a Violation.

On December 8, 2012, MALDONADO and COLON were occupants of a vehicle driving on I-787 in the City of Albany when the vehicle was pulled over by New York State Police for a traffic infraction. Upon approach the officers smelled the odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. COLON admitted to having some marijuana on his person and surrendered it to the Troopers. A search of the vehicle revealed a Bugle's chip bag that appeared to be resealed which contained approximately 5.6 ounces of powder cocaine.

The defendants were remanded to the custody of the Albany County Correctional Facility until sentencing. MALDONADO faces up to 14 years in State Prison and COLON faces up to 10 years in State Prison when sentenced on April 2, 2014.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jasper Mills of the Street Crimes Unit.

For more information, please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710.

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