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Heroin Trafficker Pleads Guilty



ALBANY, NY - District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that **DONTE JOSEPH**, 23, of Coeymans, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Attempted Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree, a Class A-II Felony, before Honorable Judge Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court yesterday morning.

On July 31, 2014, at approximately 12:15pm, at an apartment at 1779 Central Avenue in the Town of Colonie, **JOSEPH** did attempt to possess a quantity of over eight ounces of heroin.

JOSEPH, along with alleged co-defendants, was part of a network of an alleged heroin ring in

Albany County. The alleged co-defendants are accused of transporting and selling quantities of heroin throughout the region using taxi cabs that were typically being driven by alleged known associates.

This plea also satisfies multiple heroin sales attributed to JOSEPH, which were captured on video during an investigation led by the Albany County Sheriff's Department.

JOSEPH faces 7 years in State Prison, to be followed by 5 years of Post-Release Supervision, when sentenced on November 7, 2014. JOSEPH will also be ordered to forfeit any property or money seized by law enforcement.

Assistant District Attorney Joseph Brucato of the Street Crimes Unit is prosecuting these cases.

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

All parties are presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty

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