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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MONDAY, JUNE 02, 2014

Passenger in Car Chase in Downtown Albany Sentenced for Heroin Possession



ALBANY, NY- District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that TODD WATKINS, 45 of Albany, was sentenced to 3 years in State Prison, to be followed by 2 years of Post-Release Supervision, before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court this morning.

On March 1, 2014 at about 3:50am, an officer with the Albany Police Department observed RUDOLPH BRADLEY, 32, of Albany, driving a motor vehicle the wrong way down a one way street in the City of Albany and attempted to initiate a traffic stop. TODD WATKINS was riding as a passenger in the vehicle. BRADLEY ignored the officer's instructions to pull his vehicle over and proceeded to continue driving at a high rate of speed and continued to swerve between lanes.

After leading officers on a chase for several blocks, BRADLEY crashed his vehicle into a large snow bank. Both BRADLEY and WATKINS got out of the vehicle and fled the scene. Both men were apprehended in a nearby parking garage shortly after.

Upon a search of the vehicle and its occupants, police uncovered a baggie in WATKINS' pocket that contained over 11 grams of heroin. On April 9, 2014, WATKINS pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Attempted Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the 4th Degree, a Class D Felony.

On April 17, 2014, BRADLEY, 32, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Attempted Reckless Endangerment in the First Degree, a Class E Felony, also before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court. BRADLEY faces 1 ½ to 3 years in State Prison when sentenced on June 12, 2014 and remains in custody at the Albany County Correctional Facility to await sentencing.

Assistant District Attorney Melinda Seiden of the Vehicular Crimes Unit is handling the prosecution of RUDOLPH BRADLEY.

Assistant District Attorney Joseph Brucato of the Street Crimes Unit is handling the prosecution of TODD WATKINS.

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

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