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Guilty Plea in Witness Intimidation and Drug Case

Defendant Faces 3 Years in State Prison for Posting Wanted Poster on Facebook



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that **RAHKIEM E. JOHNSON**, 19, of Albany, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Intimidating a Victim or Witness in the Third Degree, a Class E Felony, and (1) Count of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a Class B Felony, before Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court yesterday afternoon.

On April 12, 2013, **JOHNSON** posted a “wanted poster” on Facebook in regard to a witness that was scheduled to testify in a separate criminal court case. The poster included a photograph of the witness and offered a reward of \$1,000. **JOHNSON** admitted to law enforcement that he created the Facebook post, indicating that he wanted to get the attention of the witness.

Additionally, on March 18, 2014, while in the area of Ontario Street and Morris Street in the City of Albany, JOHNSON did sell a quantity of crack cocaine in exchange for US Currency. The guilty plea to this charge also resolves other drug sales attributed to this defendant.

JOHNSON faces 3 years in State Prison, to be followed by 2 years of Post-Release Supervision, for the drug sale conviction, and 1 to 3 years in State Prison for the intimidating a witness conviction, to be served concurrently.

JOHNSON remains in custody until sentencing on June 19, 2014.

Assistant District Attorney Linda Griggs of the Public Integrity Unit and Jasper Mills of the Street Crimes Unit handled the prosecution of these cases.

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

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