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Guilty Verdict for “Weed House” Operator Who Did Not Appear for His Own Trial



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that HARVEY FORREST, 39, of Albany, was found guilty after a jury trial of (1) Count of Criminal Possession of Marijuana in the Third Degree, a Class E Felony, and (1) Count of Criminal Sale of Marijuana in the Fourth Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor, before the Hon. Judge Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court last evening.

In the Fall of 2011 an anonymous Albany citizen who was concerned with drug traffic in the community alerted the Albany Police to suspected drug activity at a residence on Trinity Place in the City of Albany. Through an investigation by the Albany Police Department it was discovered that a specific location on Trinity Place was indeed a suspected ‘weed house.’ Police conducted a further investigation and confirmed that FORREST was selling marijuana from the residence. A search warrant was obtained and police were met with a barricaded door and a 120 pound dog that was guarding the first floor apartment. Police also uncovered approximately 15 ounces of marijuana, digital scales, small packaging baggies, and quantities of cash throughout the apartment.

The jury did find FORREST guilty of knowingly and unlawfully selling marijuana on October 18, 2011 and knowingly and unlawfully possessing approximately 15 ounces of marijuana on October 26, 2011.

An arrest warrant has been issued for FORREST as he did not appear for the entirety of the jury trial. FORREST faces up to (2) years in State Prison to be followed by (2) years of post-release supervision when sentenced on August 21, 2012.

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

For more information, please contact Cecilia Logue.

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