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Persistent Violent Felon Sentenced to 50 Years to Life in State Prison



ALBANY, NY - District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that Paul Harris, 67, of Albany, was sentenced to 50 years to Life in State Prison, before the Honorable Roger D. McDonough in Albany County Supreme Court this morning.

On March 26, 2019 HARRIS was found guilty after a jury trial of (4) Counts of Burglary in the Second Degree, each Class C Violent Felonies.

After hearing witness testimony and reviewing the evidence presented at trial, the jury found that on four separate dates HARRIS did knowingly and unlawfully enter four separate dwellings in the County of Albany, with the intent to commit the crime of burglary. From December 21, 2017 to January 12, 2018, during day-time hours, HARRIS stole jewelry, currency, and other property from four separate homes in the Village of Altamont, Town of Colonie, and Town of Guilderland. An executed search warrant uncovered the stolen property at his apartment in the City of Albany.

In February of 2017, HARRIS was released from State Prison after serving a 20 year sentence for a burglary conviction. HARRIS was under the supervision of Parole at the time the above stated incidents occurred.

Since 1977, HARRIS has had 9 felony convictions, 5 of which were burglary convictions. Following this trial, HARRIS was convicted of 4 additional felonies, all of which were violent burglaries.

Due to HARRIS' previous felony convictions, the COURT deemed HARRIS a mandatory persistent felon and imposed an aggregate sentence of 50 years to Life in State Prison at sentencing today.

Assistant District Attorneys Joseph Brucato and Emily Schultz handled the prosecution of this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710 or cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov

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