

TRUMBULL COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Dennis Watkins, Prosecutor

Repeat Violent Offenders

NEWS RELEASE: October 23, 2024

Trumbull County jury takes 12 minutes to convict major drug dealer, ex-convict, violent offender



Donteill M. Grant, 45, of Sharpsville, Pa., was given a mandatory 11 to 16 ½ year prison sentence and fined \$10,000 plus court costs after he was found guilty on Monday, October 21, 2024, by a Trumbull County jury of two counts, two first-degree felony offenses: trafficking in cocaine and possession of cocaine, earning him the classification of “Major Drug Offender.”

The jurors took about 12 minutes to reach their verdict on Monday, ending a one-day trial. Judge Cynthia Rice on Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2024, cited Grant’s previous violent criminal record in issuing the maximum sentence.

According to court records, Grant previously served 13 years in prison out of Mahoning County after pleading guilty to Voluntary Manslaughter and Aggravated Robbery with Firearm Specifications, as well as 12 months for Possession of Cocaine, and 18 months for Carrying a Concealed Weapon and Having Weapons While Under Disability.

On July 11, 2023, Grant was found to be in possession of nearly 500 grams of cocaine with a street value of \$10,000. Members of the Brookfield Township Police Department conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle Grant was driving. As police were preparing to search him and the vehicle he was driving, Grant fled from the police, running across state Route 82 before he was apprehended. A quart-sized bag with about half-kilo of crack and powder cocaine was found in Grant’s right front cargo pants pocket.

Video evidence from the police officer’s body camera and cruiser dash camera captured the entire incident. Assistant Prosecutor Charles Morrow called the officer and forensic chemist from Ohio BCI, the State Crime Laboratory to the stand to aid in his prosecution of the case.

Morrow praised the “outstanding police work of Officer Jonathon Setser of the Brookfield Police Department,” and “the assistance and expertise of forensic chemist

Erin Miller of Attorney General Dave Yost's Bureau of Criminal Investigation." Chief Aaron Kasiewicz noted this was the largest drug arrest he is aware of by Brookfield Township Police.

Prosecutor Dennis Watkins applauds the work of Morrow, local police and state officials in this case.

"This is another instance of a repeat violent offender having to go back to prison," Watkins states. "We are constantly working to keep people like these off our streets to ensure the safety of our citizens."

For more information, contact newsletter editor Guy M. Vogrin, investigator/public information officer at the Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office at 330-675-2485.