



NEWS RELEASE  
GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Felon Convicted of Distributing Controlled Substances

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Christopher Ryan Beard, 28, of Springfield, MO was convicted today, September 5, 2012, by a Greene County Jury on three counts of distributing a controlled substance.

The first count was based upon acts occurring on February 22, 2011, when Mr. Beard distributed marijuana. The second and third counts were based upon acts occurring at different times on February 28, 2011, when Mr. Beard distributed marijuana and cocaine. The verdict concluded a two day jury trial before the Honorable Judge Michael Cordonnier. The jury deliberated for approximately one hour before returning its verdict.

Judge Cordonnier set a sentencing hearing for November 8, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole. Each count of distributing a controlled substance carries a range of punishment from 5 years to 15 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. If run consecutively, Mr. Beard may face up to 45 years in prison for these offenses.

Mr. Beard was on felony probation for Assault in the First Degree when he committed these acts of distributing controlled substances. His probation in that case has since been revoked and he is currently serving a 15 year sentence.

**This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Benjamin A. McBride and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Jessica Hill. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department's Narcotic's unit.**

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v.  
Beard, 1231-CR00570