



NEWS RELEASE
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05/10/2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Travis Dibben Taken into Custody for Drug Treatment Following Guilty Plea

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Travis A. Dibben, 31, of Rogersville, Missouri was taken into custody today in accordance with his guilty plea for his role in distributing cocaine to an undercover police officer on March 3, 2010.

Mr. Dibben had previously entered a plea of guilty to the Class B Felony of distribution of a controlled substance on February 11, 2013. Pursuant to the plea agreement which required Mr. Dibben to admit his role in the sale of the cocaine, he received a suspended imposition of sentence and was required to complete 120 days in custody in a Department of Corrections drug treatment program.

The charges in this case stemmed from a March 3, 2010, incident during which Travis Dibben and his brother Tyler Dibben arranged through a confidential informant to sell cocaine to an undercover police officer. The sale occurred in the back of a limousine owned by Travis Dibben on the parking lot of the Braums store at 4125 S. National Avenue in Springfield. During the guilty plea, Travis Dibben admitted that when the undercover officer and the confidential informant entered the limousine that both he and his brother Tyler were present. Travis Dibben further admitted during the guilty plea that when the confidential informant attempted to hand the payment for the cocaine to him, that he directed the confidential informant to hand the money to his brother Tyler. Travis Dibben also admitted that during the transaction he represented to the undercover officer and the confidential informant that the quality of the cocaine was good.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Dikken, 1131-CR07387

During the preliminary hearing and throughout the pendency of this case, the Defense attacked the credibility and integrity of the undercover Springfield Police Officer implying that the undercover officer had lied about Travis Dikken's involvement in this drug transaction. Fortunately the entire thirty second transaction was recorded. Unfortunately the undercover officer did not review the tape when later writing his summary report from memory and there were some mistakes in the report that the defense argued made the officer's testimony unreliable. Greene County Prosecutor Dan Patterson stated that while the State could have proved its case and sought a harsher sentence following a trial, in this case reinforcing the integrity of the Springfield Police Department's investigation and that of our criminal justice system was of more paramount concern than punishment. A plea offer was extended, therefore, that involved Travis Dikken admitting that he took part in the drug transaction as alleged by the undercover officer putting the defense's claims of fabrication and attacks upon the credibility of the officer firmly to rest.

Travis Dikken's brother Tyler entered a guilty plea on November 2, 2012, without a plea agreement. On February 1, 2013, the Honorable Dan Conklin sentenced Tyler Dikken to eight years in the Department of Corrections under the 120 day institutional treatment program.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Benjamin McBride. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Nelson Kibby was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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