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County of Warren

PRESS RELEASE

Verdict: State v. Michael E. Russell
Formerly of: 413 Stelko Avenue
Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865
D.O.B.: 10/22/82


On March 13, 2012, a Warren County Jury convicted Michael E. Russell of one count of Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance, Oxycodone without a valid prescription, a crime of the 3rd degree. The Honorable John F. Kingfield, J.S.C. found the defendant guilty of the Petty Disorderly Person's Offense of Defiant Trespasser. The trial began on March 6, 2012. The trial was presided over by the Honorable John F. Kingfield, J.S.C. The State was represented by Assistant Prosecutor Steven M. Siegel with the assistance of Assistant Prosecutor Chad DiFelice. The defendant was represented by Karl Keys, Esq.

The charges are the result of an incident that occurred on October 2, 2010 in the Town of Phillipsburg, Warren County, New Jersey. On that date, the Phillipsburg police responded to the area of 493 Anderson Street after receiving a dispatch that Michael E. Russell was trespassing on public housing property. Michael E. Russell was arrested for the Petty Disorderly Person's Offense of Defiant Trespasser. A search of Michael E. Russell's person, incident to arrest, revealed two Oxycodone pills in his left front pocket. Phillipsburg Police immediately discovered eleven Oxycodone pills lying on the street within ten feet of where Michael E. Russell was observed walking and ultimately arrested.

As to the crime of Possession of Oxycodone without a valid prescription, the defendant can be sentenced to a maximum of 5 years State Prison.

The investigation was a cooperative effort between the Phillipsburg Police Department, New Jersey State Police Office of Forensic Sciences and the Warren County Prosecutor's Office, Trial Unit.

Approved by:
Date: March 14, 2012


THOMAS S. FERGUSON
Prosecutor