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## 14 Years in State Prison for Possessing and Selling Illegal Semi-Automatic Pistol



**ALBANY, NY-** District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that JAMES STOKES, 46, of Albany, was sentenced to 14 years in State Prison, to be followed by 5 years of Post Release Supervision, before the Honorable Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court this morning.

On May 20, 2014, STOKES was found guilty following a jury trial of (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a Class C Armed Felony, (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony, and (1) Count of Criminal Sale of a Firearm in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony.

On April 15, 2013 on Fourth Avenue in the City of Albany, the defendant was observed possessing an unregistered Kel-Tec 9mm semi-automatic pistol. The defendant then entered a residence on Fourth Avenue and sold the pistol for \$300 in cash. The pistol was loaded with 7 rounds of live ammunition.

Ballistics testing on the pistol the defendant possessed was later determined to be the same weapon used in a shooting that occurred on Central Avenue in the City of Albany seven hours earlier.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Brett Knowles of the Special Victims Unit.

For more information please contact Justin Devendorf (518) 275-4785.

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