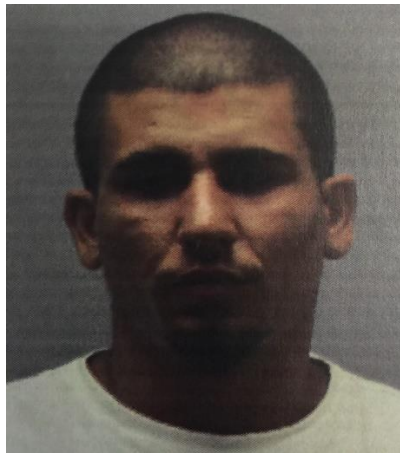




OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
P. DAVID SOARES
6 LODGE STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
(518) 487-5460
(518) 487-5093 FAX

CONTACT: CECILIA WALSH (518) 275-4710
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 15, 2016

Guilty Plea for Possession of ½ Kilo of Cocaine



AHMED HASSAN



SAMER ABDELHAK

ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that AHMED HASSAN, 25, of Queens, and SAMER ABDELHAK, 24, of Gloversville, each pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a Class B Felony, before the Honorable Judge Stephen W. Herrick in Albany County Court this morning.

On August 7, 2015, at approximately 12:30 p.m., members of the New York State Police pulled a vehicle over for speeding on I-90 in the Town of Guilderland. During the course of the traffic stop the officers learned that the car was a rental vehicle, and that neither the driver, HASSAN, nor the passenger, ABDELHAK were authorized to operate the vehicle. Upon approach of the vehicle, officers detected the

odor of marijuana, and the driver admitted to being in possession of the bag that the drugs were found in. A search of the vehicle revealed approximately 500 grams (about ½ a kilogram) of cocaine. During the course of the search ABDELHAK fled on foot and was apprehended nearby by Officers.

ABDELHAK faces 5 years in State Prison, to be followed by 2 years of Post-Release Supervision, when sentenced on April 12, 2016.

HASSAN faces 8 months in the Albany County Correctional Facility, to be followed by 5 years of Felony Probation, when sentenced on May 3, 2016.

Assistant District Attorney Joseph Brucato of the Street Crimes Unit is prosecuting this case.

For more information, please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710.

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