



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
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Guilty Plea in Bridge Jumper Case



ALBANY, NY- District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that JAYVON DANIELS, 17, of Troy, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a Class C Felony, before Honorable Judge Thomas A. Breslin in Albany County Supreme Court this morning.

DANIELS faces up to 9 years in State Prison, in addition to 5 years of Post-Release supervision, when sentenced on September 8, 2014.

On March 26, 2014, DANIELS was in the backseat of a 2014 Chevrolet Cruz on in Troy with two companions. The vehicle they were driving in matched the description of one that was involved in a shooting the night before, and police attempted to stop the vehicle to question the occupants. The driver, DAHMEEK MCDONALD, 19, also of Troy, led police on a high speed pursuit into Albany County, driving the wrong way for over half a mile in Interstate 787, and reaching speeds in excess of 60 miles per hour on residential roads such as Myrtle Avenue, and over 80 miles per hour on the Dunn Memorial Bridge.

The chase ended when the driver crashed the vehicle into a guardrail on Dunn Memorial Bridge. The three occupants ran out of the vehicle. At that time DANIELS threw a loaded 9 MM Jiminez Arms handgun over a railing, which landed on a lower bridge and discharged a round upon impact. DANIELS then jumped off of the bridge and fell roughly 40 feet, resulting in serious physical injury.

MCDONALD also jumped off of a bridge railing and was injured. At the scene police determined that MCDONALD had crack cocaine in his possession. On June 12, 2014, MCDONALD pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Fourth Degree, a Class C Felony, and faces 4 years in State Prison on August 5, 2014 before Honorable Judge Breslin in Albany County Supreme Court.

A third passenger, DONOVAN MAYS, 17, of Troy, was also arrested after also climbing over the bridge railing, but police prevented him from jumping off. MAYS pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges and faces 3 years of Probation when sentenced on September 4, 2014 in Albany City Court.

Assistant District Attorney Steven Sharp prosecuted these cases.

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

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