

News Release

For Immediate Release
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NORTH CHARLESTON FUGITIVE AND DRUG DEALER CONVICTED OF DRUG TRAFFICKING

Charleston, S.C.

Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announces that a Charleston County jury found Kevin L. Middleton guilty of Trafficking Cocaine Base, Possession With The Intent to Distribute Heroin, and Possession of Cocaine on Wednesday evening. Judge W. Jeffery Young sentenced Middleton to sixteen years in prison and fine of 50,000 dollars on the trafficking charge, ten years in prison on the possession with the intent to distribute charge, and three years in prison on the possession charge.

Testimony revealed that the North Charleston Police Department's ILP (Intelligence Led Policing) Team received a community tip that Middleton, a wanted fugitive with outstanding arrest warrants, would be located at a residence in the Dorchester Village area of North Charleston during the early morning hours of April 19, 2013. Members of the ILP Team arrived at the location in the early morning hours to perform surveillance on the location, and discovered a social gathering taking place inside the residence. After completing surveillance, the Team formed a perimeter and two members positioned themselves to knock on the front door. Upon knocking, an individual from inside the home answered the door. Once the door opened, officers made visual contact with Middleton, and observed him sitting on a couch with a digital scale on his lap while bent over a large quantity of cocaine base located on the table in front of him. After observing Middleton, the ILP Team made entry into the residence and detained the six individuals located inside.

Based upon the presence of narcotics in plain view, the North Charleston Police Department Narcotics Unit was contacted in order to obtain and execute a search warrant at the residence. Members of the North Charleston Police Department Narcotics Unit obtained the warrant and executed it at the location. The search yielded approximately 34 grams of Cocaine Base, 9.5 grains of Heroin, over 1 gram of Cocaine, and numerous items indicative of drug trafficking and distribution. All six individuals located inside the residence, including Middleton, were arrested in connection with the raid.

Assistant Solicitors Ted Corvey and David Osborne prosecuted the case on behalf of the Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Office. State Representative Seth Whipper of the Whipper Law Firm represented Middleton.

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