



OFFICE OF
STATE ATTORNEY
FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

June 17, 2014

PRESS RELEASE

State Attorney Bill Eddins announced that Arthur Luther Horn was sentenced today by Circuit Judge Howard LaPorte to 30 years in the Department of Corrections with 25 years of that being a minimum mandatory and a \$250,000.00 fine on count one of trafficking illegal drugs. On count two of trafficking illegal drugs, Judge LaPorte sentenced Horn to 30 years in the Department of Corrections with the 15 years being a minimum mandatory and a \$100,000.00 fine. As for the final count of sale manufacture or deliver, Judge LaPorte sentenced the defendant to 15 years in the Department of Correction. All sentences were to run concurrent. Horn was convicted in May 2014 by a Walton County Jury of two counts of trafficking in illegal drugs and one count of possession with intent to sale, manufacture, or deliver a controlled substance.

On June 27, 2012 the Walton County Sheriff's Office Vice/Narcotic Unit in conjunction with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement used a confidential informant to purchase various prescription pills from the Defendant at his home. The confidential informant was able to record the transaction via equipment provided by the Sheriff's Office. Based on the confidential informant's purchase a search warrant was issued for the Defendant's residence.

During the execution of the search warrant, officers were able to determine that the house had been divided into two separate structures by inserting a wall. Each area was only accessible by an exterior door. During the search, hundreds of prescription narcotics were found. Some of the narcotics were located in prescription bottles of persons other than the defendant while a majority of the pills were discovered in numerous ezy-dose pill packages tucked inside a briefcase.

Both the investigation and arrest were conducted by the Walton County Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and the Office of the State Attorney. Assistant State Attorney Josh Mitchell prosecuted the case and for further information he can be contacted at (850) 892-8080.