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## **PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **New York City Drug Dealer Sentenced to Prison**

**June 4, 2021**

**Plattsburgh, N.Y.**

Clinton County District Attorney's Office announced today that the Hon. William A. Favreau, Clinton County Court Judge, sentenced Eric Alvarez on June 3, 2021, to a nine (9) year determinate sentence followed by three (3) years post release supervision on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree and to a seven (7) year determinate sentence followed by three (3) years post release supervision on a third count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, each sentence to be imposed concurrently to each other by law. A \$10,000.00 fine was imposed on each count for a total of \$30,000.00 in fines plus \$375.00 in fees and surcharges. The Court further directed the forfeiture of \$592.00 in U.S. Currency that was seized at the time of the defendant's arrest as proceeds of felony criminal activity to the Office of the Clinton County District Attorney.



Alvarez was convicted of the three class B felony charges after a jury trial in which the jury returned a guilty verdict on March 30, 2021. The trial was presided over by Clinton County Court Judge William A. Favreau and was conducted under Covid protocols with all jurors, court attendants, attorneys and the defendant wearing masks and being separated by six feet over three days.

Eric Alvarez was originally arrested on July 29, 2020 in the City of Plattsburgh after an investigation conducted by the Plattsburgh City Police Department's Narcotic Division and the

execution of a search warrant at the residence of Billy and Jessica Hendrie located at 93 Oak Street in the City of Plattsburgh.

Alvarez testified at trial that he met Billy Hendrie and Jessica Hendrie in New York City during the summer of 2020 and that he was invited to Plattsburgh to party with the Hendries. Alvarez was the only person located in the apartment at the time the search warrant was executed. Alvarez was found lying in a bed, within one of the two apartment bedrooms, and in possession of a heat sealed bag containing 62 bags of fentanyl and 18 bags of cocaine. Alvarez further testified during his trial that he was only keeping the drugs away from the Hendrie's German Sheppard dog when the police entered the apartment to execute the search warrant. The evidence was submitted to the New York State Police Crime Lab in Albany, New York for DNA touch analysis. The Lab identified Alvarez's DNA on the bag containing the fentanyl that was secured from within the heat sealed bag.

Alvarez appeared before Judge Favreau with his attorney David Gervais for sentencing. District Attorney Wylie requested the Court to send a message to those individuals from the New York City, Albany, Syracuse and Buffalo areas that come to Plattsburgh, New York to sell heroin, fentanyl and cocaine to local addicts and prey on their addiction for profit. Wylie requested Judge Favreau to sentence Alvarez to the maximum sentence of 12 years in prison followed by 3 years of post-release supervision.

Following the imposition of sentencing, Judge Favreau remanded the defendant to the custody of the Clinton County Sheriff to be delivered to the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to serve his sentence.

Jessica Hendrie has previously plead guilty to Criminal Nuisance First Degree in Clinton County Court and is scheduled for sentencing at a later date. Billy Hendrie is scheduled for trial later this month on charges of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree (with intent to sell) and Criminal Nuisance in the First Degree.

Clinton County District Attorney Andrew Wylie prosecuted the defendant.

The defendant was represented by David Gervais, Esq.