

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fannin County resident admits to trafficking methamphetamine, receives 30-year sentence
State vs. Michael Ray Dye

May 24, 2021 – Cherokee County District Attorney Shannon Wallace announces that on Friday, May 14, Michael Ray Dye, 43, of Morganton, pled guilty to trafficking methamphetamine and possession of more than an ounce of marijuana. Dye entered his non-negotiated guilty plea just prior to his jury trial, which was scheduled to begin May 17.

“The State was prepared to present this case to a Cherokee County jury last week. The defendant ultimately decided to plead guilty and accepted responsibility for his crime immediately before jury selection was set to begin,” said Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney David Holmes, who prosecuted the case on behalf of the State. “We are pleased with this outcome and the sentence.”

Dye was arrested on December 31, 2018 after the Cherokee Sheriff’s Office received a report that Dye, an individual wanted for crimes in Fannin County, was at a shopping center on Cumming Highway in Canton.

CSO deputies quickly detained Dye, who was sitting in the driver’s seat of a black Jeep Wrangler. While speaking with law enforcement, Dye admitted there were illegal narcotics inside the vehicle, where the deputies located 29 grams of methamphetamine and 38 grams of marijuana.

After Dye entered his guilty plea at the May 14 hearing, the State recommended a sentence that included a substantial period of incarceration, based on the defendant’s prior convictions in drug trafficking and possession. The State also filed notice of enhancement of punishment since Dye is a recidivist.

Superior Court Judge David Cannon then sentenced Dye to 30 years with 20 to serve in prison as a recidivist and a fine of \$200,000.

“Michael Dye has been distributing drugs in north Georgia for more than 20 years. He has been given the opportunity to stop on many occasions but has instead continued to spread his poison on our streets,” said District Attorney Shannon Wallace. “This sentence sends a clear message that drug trafficking will not be tolerated in Cherokee County.”

The Office of the District Attorney for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit is committed to seeking justice, acting with integrity, and collaborating with partner agencies in the criminal justice system in order to protect the citizens of Cherokee County and the State of Georgia.

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