



Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, Oct. 21, 2019
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Lexington Man Sentenced to 235 Months in Federal Prison for Trafficking Heroin and Crystal Methamphetamine

LEXINGTON, Ky. - A Lexington man, Juan Gomez, 29, who was found guilty by a federal jury in June, of possession with the intent to distribute heroin and methamphetamine, was sentenced today to 235 months in federal prison, by Chief United States District Judge Danny Reeves.

The evidence presented at his trial established that Gomez was originally charged in December 2015, with possession with intent to distribute heroin, after he wrecked his vehicle into a telephone pole and the heroin was found in his vehicle. Then, in July 2017, while intoxicated, Gomez wrecked his vehicle into the back of an off duty University of Kentucky police officer. A search of the vehicle yielded over 15 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, several pounds of marijuana, and approximately \$60,000 in drug proceeds.

Under federal law, Gomez must serve 85 percent of his prison sentence and will be under the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office for five years. Additionally, Gomez was ordered to forfeit \$60,131.

“Investigating and prosecuting drug distribution cases like this one is and will continue to be a significant priority for our Office,” said Robert M. Duncan, Jr., United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky. “The defendant intended to distribute two types of dangerous drugs – heroin and methamphetamine – that have both caused great damage to our District. The sentence imposed by the Court reflects the seriousness of the defendant’s conduct and the devastating impact of these drugs on those that use them. Working with our partners in law enforcement, we are committed to holding drug traffickers like the defendant accountable for their actions and stopping the flow of drugs into our communities.”

Robert M. Duncan, Jr., United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky; Dan Dodds, Special Agent in Charge of the DEA; and Chief Lawrence Weathers of the Lexington Police Department, jointly announced the sentence.

The investigation was conducted by the Lexington Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The United States was represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Roger W. West and Tashena Fannin.

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