



NEWS RELEASE

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On August 19, 2010, a jury convicted Michael David Woody, 54, of Eureka, of two counts of felony transportation of a controlled substance and a misdemeanor count of resisting a law enforcement officer in the performance of his duty. The Honorable Dale Reinholtsen, who presided over the trial, also found “true” that Mr. Woody suffered prior convictions for transportation of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance for sale, as well as that Mr. Woody served 3 prior prison terms, for various offenses. Mr. Woody faces between 13 to 15 years, 4 months, depending on how the court chooses to sentence him. The jury hung, 11-1 to convict, on a count of felony eluding.

In the first week of September 2009, Eureka Police received information that an individual called “Woody”, who drove a “Forest Service” green Jeep Cherokee, was actively involved in sale of heroin. On September 9, 2009, Eureka Police stopped a “Forest Service” green Jeep Cherokee for a traffic infraction. The driver, who verbally identified himself to the EPD officer as Michael Woody, appeared nervous, displayed signs and symptoms of recent heroin use, and could not produce a valid California Driver’s License. When asked to exit his vehicle, Mr. Woody instead re-started his Jeep, put it back in gear, and fled. Following a brief pursuit—from 3rd and K to 6th and S—Mr. Woody yielded to law enforcement and was placed under arrest. In Mr. Woody’s possession, EPD officers located 4 bindles of heroin and 3 bindles of rock cocaine. Also found were a digital scale, packaging materials, and a \$569.00.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Ben McLaughlin.