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PRESS RELEASE


GUILTY PLEA: DANIEL P. GARGANO
30 Riverside Gardens
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
Date of Birth: June 26, 1987

The above named defendant pled guilty today in Superior Court to one count Manufacturing Marijuana -Third Degree and one count of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia-disorderly persons offense. The plea agreement calls for the defendant to be exposed to 364 days in county jail as a condition of probation on the third degree offense and 180 days in county jail concurrent on the disorderly persons offense. Other conditions of probation include a substance abuse evaluation and any recommended treatment and forfeiture of all of the seized manufacturing paraphernalia. Without the benefit of a plea agreement, a third degree charge would expose the defendant to a sentence of up to 5 years in New Jersey State Prison. A disorderly person offense exposes the defendant to a sentence up to 180 days in prison.

The above guilty plea follows the defendant's arrest on charges resulting from a search of his apartment on March 11, 2008. The Hackettstown Police Department was notified by employees of the Hackettstown Landlord Registration Bureau of a possible indoor marijuana growing facility discovered while they were conducting a scheduled inspection of the Riverside Gardens Apartments. A search warrant was executed by the Hackettstown Police Department and the Warren County Prosecutor's Office Narcotics Task Force and the defendant was found to be in possession of manufacturing paraphernalia and marijuana in his apartment.

The matter was handled by Assistant Prosecutor Tara J. Kirkendall on behalf of the State and Thomas P. Fischer, Esq. on behalf of the defendant

The defendant is free on bail pending sentencing.



THOMAS S. FERGUSON
Prosecutor

Dated: June 20, 2008