



Paul B. MacDonald
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Barnstable Police Department Press Release
May 3rd, 2012

BPD Narcotics Unit/SCU members arrest heroin dealer

In late April of 2012, As a result of neighborhood complaints Barnstable Police Detective Brian Guiney opened up a narcotics investigation focusing on Devon Cotell, age 36, of 31 Woodbury Ave, Hyannis. COTELL was suspected of selling heroin from his residence and around the Sea Street area. COTELL is very well known to the Barnstable Police Department. He has over seventy (70) arraignments on his adult criminal history. On May 3rd, 2012, GUINEY and members of the Barnstable Street Crime Unit (SCU) initiated surveillance on COTELL and the residence. At one point, COTELL, his girlfriend, and their one (1) month old child were observed traveling away from the house in a black Nissan Maxima. This presented the surveillance group with a safety issue. COTELL has exhibited violent behavior in the past. He has numerous arrests and convictions for crimes of violence including A&B on a police officer. This made conducting a car stop on COTELL with an infant in the vehicle a serious safety risk. It was a risk investigators were not willing to take. GUINEY and SCU members continued to follow the Nissan Maxima. The vehicle drove into the parking lot of KFC, Barnstable Road, Hyannis. SCU members observed COTELL exit the vehicle and stand outside the vehicle for a period of time. He continually looked around and appeared to be waiting for someone.

The girlfriend and the baby waited inside the vehicle while COTELL continued to scan the parking lot. SCU members Barnstable Officer Peter Ginnetty and Barnstable Sheriff Michael Huse approached COTELL on foot. A follow up investigation resulted in the recovery of approx 3 grams of heroin on COTELL's person. He was placed under arrest for possession of class A heroin with intent to distribute. A check of the vehicle and the girlfriend did not result in the recovery of any additional narcotics. The investigation is still ongoing relating to the girlfriend and her involvement in the distribution of heroin. It is a violation of Massachusetts General Law to be "knowingly present where heroin is kept". It is a misdemeanor which carries a maximum one (1) year house of correction sentence.

COTELL was transported and booked at the Barnstable Police Facility. He is currently being held on \$5000.00 bail. He will be arraigned in Barnstable District Court Friday morning.

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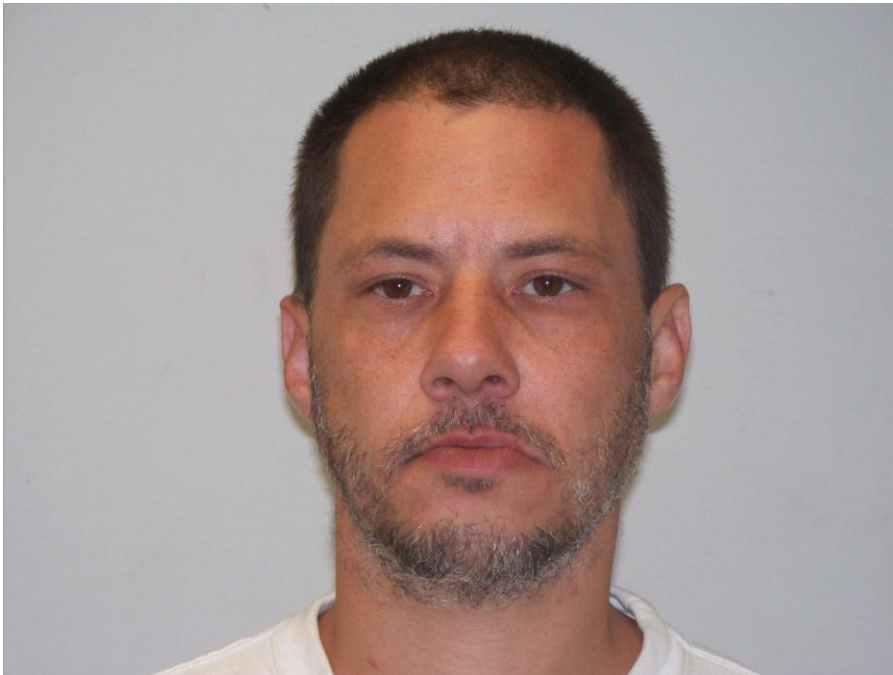
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