

Anne Arundel Justice

A Monthly News Digest from the Office of the State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County

A Message from Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess

Greetings!

Welcome to the August edition of Anne Arundel Justice.

Earlier this month, our office had the pleasure of participating in National Night Out.

This annual community building event held in four locations – Earleigh Heights Fire Department in Severna Park, 10th Avenue in Brooklyn Park, Crofton High School in Crofton and Lula G. Scott Community Center in Shady Side - aims to enhance law enforcement and community partnerships with an evening of food, fun and demonstrations from many different agencies. Kids could sit in a real police car, watch trained K-9 dogs search for contraband and interact with the people who work to keep Anne Arundel County safe.

This year, my office had the pleasure of meeting community members and sharing with them the services and resources we provide for victims and witnesses in our county. Our goal is to continue to build relationships so that when community members have critical information in cases, they will come forward. We need the public to help us successfully prosecute criminals and hold them accountable for their actions. The community's involvement in keeping their community safe and trusting law enforcement is critical in Anne Arundel County and Maryland.

It's my hope that events such as National Night Out continue to serve as a valuable conduit between the community and law enforcement agencies as we remain engaged in ways to keep our neighborhoods safe. It's always great to connect with the community and I hope to see you next year at National Night Out.

In the courtroom, our prosecutors continue to administer justice for our citizens.

Enclosed, you'll learn about an Annapolis man who assaulted two Anne Arundel County police officers; a convicted fugitive who was found guilty of 20 felony charges and a convicted fentanyl dealer brought to justice.

For the latest information, be sure to follow our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages and click here to receive our newsletter, Anne Arundel Justice.

Annapolis Man Sentence to 15 Years for Fleeing Scene of Accident, Felony Drug Charges, Assaulting Anne Arundel County Police Officers

Brandon Hardy, 26, of Annapolis was recently sentenced to 15 years of active incarceration and is subject to an additional five years, if he violates his probation, announced Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. The defendant was found guilty of second degree assault against Anne Arundel County Police Officers Saifedlin Hussain and James Yee as well as 13 other charges which includes felony drug possession with the intent to distribute and fleeing the scene of an accident.

"With this sentence, the defendant will no longer be a danger to law enforcement officers or our community for many years," said State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. "I would like to thank Officer Hussain and Yee for their dedication to keeping our streets safe and grateful that no one was severely injured during this incident."

Assistant State's Attorney Marot Williamson prosecuted this case on behalf of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

Click here to read more.

Jury Finds Convicted Felon Guilty of Drug Trafficking With a Handgun

A jury found Derron Daley, 23, of Stafford, Virginia guilty of 20 felony charges which included felony drug possession with intent to distribute, three counts of transporting a loaded handgun, three counts of possession of a handgun while being a prohibited person and three counts of possession of a handgun while engaged in a drug trafficking crime, said Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess.

The defendant, who is a convicted felon, faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison without the possibility of parole. Earlier this year, the defendant was convicted of possession with the intent to distribute in Virginia. He fled to Florida and was extradited back to Virginia and then to Maryland for this proceeding.

The defendant will be sentenced on September 16, 2022.

"At the time of the arrest, the defendant was not only a fugitive, but was also prohibited by law from carrying a gun as a convicted felon," said State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. "His decision to continue trafficking drugs while armed shows his complete disregard for the laws and safety of our community."

Assistant State's Attorney Eric Sullivan prosecuted this case on behalf of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

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Repeat Offender Receives 25 Years for Distribution of Fentanyl, Illegal Gun Possession

Purnell Summerville, 40, was sentenced to 25 years of active incarceration for possession with the intent to distribute fentanyl and possession of a firearm after a felony conviction, Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess announced. This case is the

defendant's fourth felony drug conviction and third conviction for a case involving a firearm.

Summerville entered a guilty plea on April 15, 2022.

"The defendant is a convicted felon who repeatedly sold a deadly substance that ruined lives in our community. He didn't care about the impact that this drug has on our residents. With this sentence, the defendant will be accountable for his continued endangerment of others," said State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. "If you suffer from addiction, please know there is help available. Please visit the Anne Arundel County Health Department website or call at 410-222-7256 for Safe Station locations and recovery resources."

Assistant State's Attorney Marot Williamson prosecuted this case on behalf of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

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