

PRESS NOTICE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NORTH MYRTLE BEACH DRUG DEALER ENTERS GUILTY PLEA

Columbia, South Carolina ---- Acting United States Attorney Kevin F. McDonald stated that Johnathan Junior Sinclair, age 26, of North Myrtle Beach, pled guilty in federal court to conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine and to being a felon in possession of a firearm. United States District Judge Terry L. Wooten accepted the plea and will impose sentence at a later date.

After receiving a tip from a confidential informant, agents with the 15th Circuit Drug Enforcement Unit conducted a search of Sinclair's Atlantic Beach residence last June. Agents seized a stolen, loaded Browning 7mm rifle, a loaded Beretta .22 caliber pistol, a stolen motorcycle, marijuana, and crack. Sinclair told the agents that he had the guns for protection.

Sinclair has a previous drug conviction and is prohibited by federal law

from possessing firearms. He faces a maximum penalty of 30 years imprisonment.

The case was investigated by the 15th Circuit Drug Enforcement Unit, the Atlantic Beach Police Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Assistant United States Attorney Rose Mary Parham of the Florence office is prosecuting the case as part of Project CeaseFire, an initiative of the United States Attorney's Office that seeks to aggressively prosecute gun-related crimes.

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