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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAN SENTENCED TO 26 YEARS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE

April 9, 2015

GALVESTON – Yesterday a jury convicted Darryl Evans of the felony offense of Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine) and sentenced him to 26 years in the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Evans was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys T. Philip Washington and Richard D. Hayes, II. in the 405th District Court, with Judge Michelle Slaughter presiding, and Calvin Parks representing the defendant.

Galveston Police patrolman, Geovany Martinez, testified that he conducted a traffic stop of Evans' vehicle at around 1:00 am on March 30, 2014 based on reasonable suspicion that Evans had just been involved in some type of criminal activity. Officer Martinez testified that he could smell a strong odor of marijuana emitting from the car and saw the defendant try to conceal a plastic bag underneath his leg. Officers conducted a search of the vehicle and located the bag the defendant was trying to hide. Officer Martinez testified that the bag contained methamphetamine and a rock of crack cocaine. The police also found a baggy of marijuana, another crack rock, a larger bag of methamphetamine, several baggies, and a scale in the vehicle. Prosecutor Washington played the in-car video from Martinez' patrol unit which showed the jury the traffic stop, the search of the vehicle, and the arrest of Evans.

During closing arguments Prosecutor Washington asked the jury to believe the defendant's own testimony that the illegal substances were his and that he was high out of his mind that night. The jury deliberated less than 45 minutes before returning a guilty verdict.

The defendant faced a minimum prison sentence of 25 years because of two felony enhancements in the indictment. During the punishment stage the defendant took the stand and testified that he had two prior felony convictions for Possession of a Controlled substance and three misdemeanor convictions. The jury deliberated for around 4 hours before sentencing Darryl Evans to 26 years in prison.

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