



# COUNTY of GALVESTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **JURY SENTENCES MAN TO 50 YEARS FOR POSSESSION OF COCAINE WITH INTENT TO DELIVER**

May 22, 2015

GALVESTON – Yesterday a jury convicted Gregory Charles Hurst, Jr. of the felony offense of Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver (4-200 grams) and sentenced him to 50 years in the Institutional Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Hurst was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Joe Frank and Jennifer Ott in the 56th District Court, with Judge Lonnie Cox presiding, and T.J. Leonard representing the defendant.

Members of the Crime Suppression Unit at the Texas City Police Department executed a search warrant at an apartment complex in Texas City based on an ongoing narcotics investigation, of which Hurst was the focus. Officers stated they conducted surveillance of both Hurst and the complex and noticed behavior consistent with the sale of narcotics. Officers testified prior to the execution of the search warrant they observed frequent pedestrian traffic in and out of Hurst's apartment, with individuals staying for very short periods. Hurst was observed meeting with individuals in the parking lot, making hand-to-hand transactions with the individuals in vehicles. Search of the residence, after execution of the search warrant, uncovered a total of 60.6 grams, in both powder cocaine and numerous individually wrapped baggies of crack cocaine. Found on both Hurst and in the home was a total of \$2,406 in U.S. currency, officers believed to be proceeds from the sale of narcotics. Also found in the home was a digital scale and a handgun.

The Defendant faced a minimum prison sentence of 25 years because of two felony enhancements. During the punishment stage, the State presented evidence that Hurst had a prior 2005 felony conviction for Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon and a prior 2008 felony conviction for Possession of a Controlled Substance (4-200 grams). Following jury deliberations, the jury sentenced Gregory Charles Hurst, Jr. to 50 years in prison.

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