



COUNTY of GALVESTON
Criminal District Attorney
JACK ROADY

Kevin Petroff
First Assistant

Johnny J. Freeze
Chief Investigator

Zonia Wilturner-Smith
Chief Executive Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JURY SENTENCES MAN TO 12 MONTHS FOR
FELONY POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE**

June 4, 2015

GALVESTON – Yesterday a jury convicted Ogenna Pierre Nwoke of the felony offense of Possession of a Controlled Substance, less than 1 gram, and sentenced him to 12 months in the State Jail Division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Nwoke was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Joseph Frank and Richard Hayes II in the 56th District Court, with Judge Lonnie Cox presiding. Nathaniel Tarlow represented the defendant.

Galveston Police Department Officers testified that they were monitoring traffic and conducting crowd control in the 3400 block of the Seawall on the day of Nwoke's arrest. Officers made contact with Nwoke and his companions at a gas station because they were blocking access to pump stations. Officers could smell marijuana on Nwoke, who consented to the removal of all items from his pants pockets. Among the contents from Nwoke's pants pockets, officers found two marijuana cigars, a marijuana grinder, and one ecstasy (3,4-methylenedioxy methamphetamine or MDMA) pill.

The Defendant faced a maximum sentence of up to 2 years in a State Jail Facility. During the punishment stage, the State presented evidence that Nwoke had multiple prior convictions for possession of marijuana and a prior conviction for possession of a controlled substance. Following jury deliberations, the jury sentenced Ogenna Pierre Nwoke to 12 months in a state jail facility.

Felony Section
Off: 409-766-2355

Family Law Section
409-766-2364

Grand Jury Section
409-766-2379

Worthless Check Section
409-766-2429

Felony Victim's Asst.
409-770-5124

Houston Line
281-316-8300

Fax: 409-766-2290

www.co.galveston.tx.us

600 59TH Street, Suite 1001 • Galveston, Texas 77551-4137