



HUMBOLDT COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 26, 2013

On November 26, 2013 a Humboldt County jury returned guilty verdicts against Ruperto Gonzalez Martinez for the Transportation of Heroin and Possession of Heroin for Sales.

On August 12, 2013 Officer Joshua Siipola made a traffic stop on the vehicle being driven by Mr. Martinez. Mr. Martinez did not have a valid license. The vehicle was to be towed given Mr. Martinez licensure status. During an inventory search of vehicle, Officer Siipola discovered 3.3gm of black tar heroin. He had on his person what is commonly known as a "pay and owe" sheet and over \$2,000 in the car. There was a digital scale as well which further supported that the heroin was possessed for sale.

"Fortunately the jury saw through the Defendant's girlfriend and her attempt to shield the Defendant from being held accountable. Officer Siipola from the EPD did a wonderful job as did District Attorney Investigator Marvin Kirkpatrick in explaining to the jury why the possession of the heroin was for sale." Deputy District Attorney David Nims,

He faces up to 5y of local prison custody and deportation.