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Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit

Man Found Guilty of Drug Trafficking charges by Berkeley County Jury, Sentenced to 27 Years in Prison

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Moncks Corner, S.C.-- After a week-long trial, a Berkeley County jury found Cory Gethers of North Charleston, guilty of Trafficking Fentanyl- 28 grams or more, Trafficking Cocaine- 28-100 grams, Trafficking Cocaine Base (Crack)- 10-28 grams, and Trafficking Methamphetamine- 10-28 grams. Gethers has a history of drug convictions going back to 1995.

On January 31, 2024, at approximately 1:10 a.m., a Berkeley County Sheriff's Office Deputy stopped the Defendant for a traffic violation. There were three individuals in the vehicle and the driver was identified as the Defendant, Cory Gethers. Visible inside the vehicle next to the driver's side was a baggie containing a white powdery substance as well as glass narcotic pipes next to the center console. Later, deputies recovered a large jolly rancher candy bag containing multiple individual bags of illegal narcotics hidden under the cup holders of the vehicle. The narcotics included 37 grams of fentanyl, 52 grams of cocaine, 27 grams of methamphetamine, and 12 grams of "crack" cocaine. In total, 128 grams of illegal drugs were found in the vehicle.

The Defendant's cell phone was also seized and contained incriminating information including a video of the hiding spot in the car where the drugs were found. Prosecutors praised the jury for analyzing the facts and dismissing the defendant's claim that he did not know the drugs were there.

Assistant Solicitors Adam Carr and Kawohi Morris praised the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office for a thorough investigation that helped the jury reach their conclusion: "Officer Hunter Rogers' instincts and solid investigation were essential to the State proving that these were, in fact, Cory Gethers' drugs beyond a reasonable doubt."

Assistant Solicitor Adam Carr noted during sentencing that the amount of fentanyl seized in this case, 37 grams, contains over 18,000 potential lethal doses of the drug. Judge Milton Kimpson ultimately sentenced the defendant to 27 years on the fentanyl, and 20 years each on the meth, cocaine, and cocaine base charges, all to run concurrently. Gethers had a lengthy criminal history to include nine former convictions for drug charges since 1995. His previous convictions included three counts of Possession with Intent to Distribute Crack Cocaine in 2020, two counts of Possession to Distribute Crack Cocaine in 2009 and four counts of Possession with Intent to Distribute Crack Cocaine in 1995.

Assistant Solicitors Adam Carr and Kawohi Morris along with Special Investigator David Young prosecuted the case.

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