

Greenwich man gets prison time for growing marijuana at home

By [CARY ASHBY](#)

A Greenwich man was sentenced Tuesday to six months in prison and fined \$500 for growing marijuana in his mobile home.

On Aug. 11, the Tri-Community Joint Fire District responded to the home of Jeremy L. Duposki, 28, of 3764 U.S. 224, Lot 32, for a bathroom fire. Huron County Assistant Prosecutor Richard Woodruff said firefighters discovered a "growing operation."

"It was somewhat sophisticated. He had growing lights," Woodruff explained. "There was no indication he was trafficking (marijuana). He claimed it was for personal use."

Officers with METRICH, a 10-county drug task force, weren't familiar with Duposki, he said.

After the blaze was under control, firefighters discovered a marijuana plant in a closet doorway of the laundry room and reported it to the Huron County Sheriff's Office. Capt. Ted Patrick, who responded, has said he found a 3-foot by 9-foot concealed area attached to the laundry room which contained about 35 plants and fertilizer.

The fire started when some flames or a spark dropped from the ceiling exhaust fan to the floor and ignited a pile of clothes. Duposki pleaded guilty Jan. 23 to cultivation of marijuana and the state dismissed charges of possession of marijuana and possession of criminal tools.

In other court news:

Damone L. Kirk, 26, of Akron, was sentenced Tuesday to four years in prison for bringing crack cocaine to the Willard area. He also was fined \$7,500 for the May 8 drug bust on Keefer Street, Willard.

"That's the mandatory minimum (fine)," Assistant Prosecutor Dina Shenker said.

Kirk had the \$1,320 in cash found on him forfeited, which will go toward his fine. Huron County Common Pleas Judge Jim Conway also ordered the 9 mm pistol recovered at the crime scene to be destroyed.

After a two-day trial, a jury found Kirk guilty Jan. 16 of possession of crack cocaine.

Capt. Bob McLaughlin, the county's METRICH contact, has said officers seized three cell phones, scales, cutting tools and slightly less than 25 grams of crack cocaine during the drug bust. METRICH started its investigation in April 2007.

Christopher D. Brown, 28, of 33 Park Ave., New London, was sentenced to six months in the Huron County Jail as part of his three years of probation for attempted receiving stolen property. He also was fined \$250.

"He was a visiting a girl (Oct. 26) in New London and the car he was using for transportation was stolen," said Woodruff, who added Brown has 51 days left to serve behind bars.

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