

BRUNSWICK COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Former Animal Control Head Pleads Guilty To Drug Possession

Former Brunswick County Animal Control Supervisor Robert Walter Grissett was sentenced to 60 days in jail last week after pleading guilty to reduced charges stemming from his June 23 arrest for allegedly growing and selling marijuana at his home near Supply.

Grissett, 33, of Royal Oak Road, had been charged with one count each of possession with intent to manufacture, sell and deliver marijuana; selling and delivering marijuana; and felonious possession of marijuana.

He agreed to plead guilty to the possession charge Thursday after his attorney, James Payne, failed to convince Judge Knox Jenkins to suppress evidence gathered in a search of Grissett's home. The other charges were dismissed as part of a plea bargain.

At the time of his arrest, Brunswick County Sheriff's Department narcotics agents said Grissett was not on their list of suspected drug dealers. They learned of his activities by chance, through a joint investigation with the New Hanover County Sheriff's Department.

Vice agents there received a tip that a Carolina Beach man was planning to leave his job site and travel to Brunswick County to buy marijuana, according to Brunswick drug squad Detective David Crocker. Officers of both departments followed the man to Grissett's home and back across the Cape Fear River.

New Hanover detectives pulled the man over and found 66 grams of marijuana and \$550 cash in his car, Crocker said. The man admitted buying the marijuana from "a subject named Bob, who was with Brunswick County Animal Control."

Brunswick detectives got a search warrant for Grissett's home, where they seized about three quarters of a pound of marijuana in various stages of processing for sale, Crocker said. In a clearing near the mobile home, they found 94 marijuana plants ranging in size from seedlings to 7 feet tall.

Grissett was suspended from his county position after his arrest and was dismissed a short time later. He had been an animal control officer since April 1988 and supervisor since March 1992.

Included in court records of the case were six letters from employees of the Brunswick County Health Department praising Grissett as a good co-worker and supervisor.

In addition to his 60-day active jail term, Grissett was ordered to pay a \$500 fine, \$100 in lab fees and court costs. He was sentenced to two years in prison, suspended on the condition that he not use or possess illegal drugs, that he not associate with drug users and that he submit to searches and tests for illegal drug use. He was put on three years probation and will be allowed out of jail on work release.

In other cases heard during three days of Brunswick County Superior Court last week:

■Jewell George Prevoe, 57, of Jabbertown Road, Southport, was

sentenced to 15 years in prison after pleading guilty to second-degree murder in the Sept. 4 shotgun slaying of his longtime friend, Cardell Holden, 28, of Winnabow. Witnesses said the two men were playing cards at Prevoe's mobile home when they got into an argument over a lost wallet. The dispute eventually moved outside, where Prevoe allegedly shot Holden in the left eye at close range with a 12-gauge shotgun.

According to investigators, the two men had known each other for more than 10 years and were frequent visitors in each other's homes.

■John William Rackley, 33, of Adams Street, Wilmington, was sentenced to eight years in prison after pleading guilty to a charge of breaking and entering and larceny. He was ordered to take part in the prison system's drug and alcohol rehabilitation training (DART) program.

■Victor Dale Sullivan, 33, of Castle Hayne was sentenced to five years in prison after pleading guilty to habitual driving while impaired, driving while his license was revoked, driving without insurance or registration, and failure to yield to blue light and siren. He was recommended for work release.

■Marshall Donnell Radford, 36, of Leland was sentenced to four years in prison after pleading guilty to two counts of selling cocaine. An additional seven-year sentence was suspended on the condition that he not use or possess illegal drugs or associate with drug users. He was ordered to submit to drug testing and to pay a \$500 fine, court costs, \$200 in attorney fees and \$120 restitution to law enforcement agencies. Two counts of possession with the intent to sell and deliver cocaine were dropped in a plea bargain.

■Willie James McKoy, 34, of Route 3, Supply, was sentenced to six months in jail after pleading guilty to four counts of forgery and uttering, four counts of breaking and entering, six counts of financial card theft and one charge of breaking and entering a motor vehicle. He was given a 24-year suspended prison sentence, put on five years supervised probation and ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine, \$350 in attorney fees and \$5,608 restitution.

■Charles Morgan Caine Jr., 18, of Baldwin Drive, Leland, was sentenced to four months in jail after entering a negotiated plea of guilty to three counts of felonious larceny and one charge of breaking and entering. A charge of larceny of a firearm was dismissed. Caine was given a 10-year sentence suspended on the condition that he testify against co-defendants and pay restitution to his victim. He was ordered not to possess or consume any controlled substance, to not associate with any drug users and to submit to drug testing. He was told to enroll in high school and to earn a diploma.

■Linwood Percell Stanley, 43, of Route 7, Shallotte, was sentenced to 90 days in jail after pleading guilty to three counts each of possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine and selling cocaine. He was given a 10-year prison sentence, sus-

pending on the condition that he not use or possess illegal drugs or associate with drug users. He was ordered to submit to drug testing and to pay a \$1,000 fine, court costs, \$210 restitution and \$200 attorney fees.

■Frankie Lee Pigott, 22, of Route 1, Ash, was sentenced to 60 days in jail after pleading guilty to one charge of conspiracy to sell and deliver cocaine, three counts of possession with the intent to sell and deliver cocaine and three counts of selling the drug.

A 10-year prison sentence was suspended on the condition that he not use or possess illegal drugs, that he not associate with drug users and that he submit to warrantless searches and drug tests. He was fined \$1,000 and court costs and ordered to pay \$610 in restitution and \$200 in attorney fees.

Pigott was ordered not to go about the premises of the "shed" in Longwood for the period of his suspended sentence. He was put on supervised probation for three years.

■Anthony Daniels, 38, of Route 1, Ash, was sentenced to 60 days in jail after he pleaded guilty to one count of selling and delivering cocaine. He was given a 10-year prison sentence, suspended on the condition that he not possess or use illegal drugs, that he not associate with drug users and that he submit to warrantless searches and drug tests. He was fined \$500 and ordered to pay \$300 in attorney fees, court costs and \$140 restitution to law enforcement agencies. Daniels was put on supervised probation for three years. An additional charge of possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine was dropped as part of a plea bargain.

■Tim Carter of Mill Drive, Ash, was sentenced to 21 days in jail after pleading guilty to a charge of selling cocaine. A five-year prison sentence was suspended on the condition that he not possess illegal drugs or associate with drug dealers and that he submit to warrantless searches and chemical tests for illegal drugs. He was fined \$400 and court costs and ordered to pay \$200 in attorney fees and \$200 restitution to law enforcement agencies. A charge of possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine was dismissed as part of a plea bargain.

■Jeffrey Wade House, 17, of Baldwin Drive, Leland, was sentenced to 45 days in Brunswick County Jail after pleading guilty to breaking and entering, larceny, injury to personal property and simple possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. A 10-year prison sentence was suspended on the condi-

tion that he not possess drugs, not associate with drug users and submit to tests for illegal drug use. He was ordered to perform 24 hours of community service and to pay a \$500 fine, court costs, \$350 in attorney fees and restitution to his victim. He was put on three years supervised probation.

■Francis Allen Ladd, 34, of Crabapple Road, Supply, was sentenced to 29 days in jail after he pleaded guilty to two counts of driving while his license was revoked.

■Daniel Howard Kuss, 27, of Butler Mobile Home Park, Leland, was sentenced to 10 days in jail after he pleaded guilty to a charge of driving while impaired by alcohol. A 12-month prison sentence was suspended on the condition that he surrender his driver's license, get an assessment for alcohol abuse and pay a fine of \$150 and court costs.

■Kenneth Ray Long, 30, of Woodbridge, Va., pleaded guilty to a charge of breaking and entering and larceny and was given a three-year sentence, suspended on the condition that he not possess drugs or associate with drug users and that he submit to drug testing. He was fined \$250 and court costs and ordered to pay \$250 in attorney fees. Long was put on three years supervised proba-

tion. ■Pennie Cotton Wrightenberry, 31, of Supply pleaded guilty to a charge of obtaining property by fraud and was given a four-year suspended prison sentence. She was ordered to undergo treatment for substance abuse, to not possess any controlled substances and to undergo monthly testing. She was put on three years probation, fined \$300 and costs and ordered to perform 72 hours of community service.

■Ronnie Cleveland Perry, 30, of Wilmington pleaded guilty to a charge of obtaining property by false pretense and was ordered to perform 100 hours of community service. A six-year prison sentence was suspended on the condition that he not possess any illegal drugs or associate with drug dealers. He is to submit to weekly drug tests and warrantless searches. He was fined \$500 and ordered to pay court costs, \$1,980 restitution and \$400 in attorney fees.

■Jeremy Craig Stanley, 17, of Salt Works Lane, Shallotte, pleaded guilty to a charge of misdemeanor attempted breaking and entering. Sentencing was scheduled for March 7.

■Steven Douglas Nilson, 22, and Christopher David McCarty, 19, both of Hammonton, N.J., each

pleaded guilty to a charge of misdemeanor attempted breaking and entering. Prayer for judgment was continued until scheduled by the district attorney.

■John A. Price Jr. of Wilmington pleaded guilty to three counts of issuing worthless checks on closed accounts. He was sentenced to five months, suspended on payment of a \$200 fine, court costs and \$121 restitution.

Calabash EMS Answers 43 Calls During January

Calabash Volunteer Emergency Medical Services answered 43 calls in January. Chief Lina Angstadt reported to the board of directors at its Jan. 19 meeting.

Volunteers worked 131 manhours and traveled 1,449 miles, she said. Fourteen calls were in Calabash, eight in Sunset Beach, and 21 others of which 16 were mutual aid—four for Shallotte and 12 for Waccamaw.

Thirty people are currently in enrolled in the squad's emergency medical technician class, including some from Shallotte and Sunset Beach. The training takes 172 hours, and testing will be in late April.

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CRC Will Meet Jan. 27-28 At Atlantic Beach Sheraton

Beach nourishment, ground water supply protection and three public hearings are on the agenda when the state Coastal Resources Commission meets Jan. 27 and 28 at the Sheraton Hotel in Atlantic Beach.

A public forum is set for 9 a.m. on the 27th.

Also staff will discuss the status of the coastal nonpoint source pollution program being developed to reduce water pollution from urban runoff, agriculture, forestry and other sources.

The public hearings begin at 4 p.m. Jan. 27. The first is on establishing a general permit for sound-side breakwaters. The proposal was discussed at public hearing in September but has since been modi-

fied, requiring a new hearing.

The other two proposals streamline rules on grandfathering erosion rates and general permit conditions but do not change the substance or application of the rules.

Also planned are discussions on the Neuse River Keeper program and the Leland Implementation and Enforcement Plans.


The CRC adopts standards for development, resource protection and land use planning in the coastal area. The coastal program is administered by the N.C. Division of Coastal Management, Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources.

Eugene Tomlinson, a marine engineering consultant from Southport, is chairman of the commission.


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