



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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Press Release

Guilty Plea and Sentence in Fentanyl Manslaughter Case

On April 28, 2022, the Boulder County Drug Task Force (BCDTF) began investigating a fentanyl death that had occurred in Boulder.

The BCDTF investigation identified **Terrelle Lucero** (DOB: 1/23/97) as the individual who sold fentanyl to the victim. As part of their investigation, the BCDTF sought to engage in a controlled buy of fentanyl from this defendant.

On May 26, 2022, law enforcement officers contacted this defendant at the location of the controlled buy. Law enforcement officers placed him into custody. In a search of his person and his vehicle, officers found a small black scale with white residue and a handgun. Upon being searched at the jail, over seventy-five (75) fentanyl pills were found on the defendant's person.

In addition, the District Attorney's Office filed a charge of Manslaughter (F4) because the defendant was believed to have caused the death of the victim. The additional charge of Manslaughter related to the alleged sale of fentanyl by the defendant to the victim, thereby resulting in the victim's death.

Under the law at the time of the victim's death, the defendant faced a presumptive sentence of 2 to 6 years in state prison for Manslaughter. Earlier today, the defendant pled guilty to Manslaughter (F4) and Possession with Intent to Manufacture of Distribute a Controlled Substance (DF2). As part of the agreement to the guilty plea, **the Court sentenced the defendant to nine (9) years total in state prison**, four (4) years on the charge of Manslaughter (F4) and five (5) years on the charge of Possession with Intent to Manufacture of Distribute a Controlled Substance (DF2) to run consecutive.

The victim's family supported the plea and sentence in this case. They have been shattered and devastated by the loss of their only son. They stated to the Court that they were grateful that law enforcement pursued this case and that the sentence imposed by the Court would take a drug dealer off of the streets.

District Attorney Michael Dougherty stated, "I greatly appreciate the effort that the Drug Task Force and our prosecution team dedicated to this tragic case. Fentanyl dealers must be held fully accountable for the destruction they inflict. This sentence does that, but it does not bring back the victim. As a community and as a nation, we must continue working to reduce drug-related deaths."