

District Attorney

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William Edwards Woods III - Sentenced



Office of the District Attorney - Maggie Fleming, District Attorney

News Release

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Today, Judge Dale Reinholtsen sentenced William Edwards Woods III, 34 years-old from Eureka, to 7 years for manufacturing concentrated cannabis using a volatile substance (a felony violation under Cal. Health & Safety Code section 11362.3a(6)), and an additional 8 months for unlawful marijuana cultivation resulting in violation of Fish and Game Code section 1602, which prohibits unlawful water diversion and obstructions of California's streams (Cal. Health & Safety Code section 11358(d)(3)(D)). In addition, the court sentenced Mr. Woods on three separate DUI cases from 2015 and 2016 to an additional 360 days in jail and 5 years of probation, along with a 30-month DUI program and registration as a habitual traffic offender.

On January 25, 2017, the Humboldt Bay Fire Department, Humboldt County Drug Task Force ("DTF"), and Humboldt County Arson Task Force, investigated a butane hash oil ("BHO") explosion at Mr. Woods' residence located at 3473 Middlefield Lane in Eureka. There, investigators discovered a commercial-scale, closed-loop BHO system, which included a large butane tank, five BHO ovens, over 400 pounds of marijuana shake, and 10.5 pounds of finished concentrated cannabis. Mr. Woods fled immediately after the explosion, leaving a witness burned by the explosion to drive himself to the hospital.

On August 3, 2017, Humboldt County Sheriff Deputies arrested Mr. Woods while serving a search warrant at an unlawful marijuana cultivation site in Burr Valley. Members of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Watershed Enforcement Team discovered several violations of the Fish and Game Code at the

cultivation site, including substantial water diversions, water pollution, and littering near a stream. Deputy District Attorney Adrian Kamada, who prosecuted the cases, stated, "I appreciate the victim's cooperation in the prosecution in Mr. Wood's BHO case, and wish him continued success with his recovery. I also wish to recognize District Attorney Investigator Marvin Kirkpatrick, Humboldt Bay Fire Chief Chris Emmons, DTF Special Agent Tim Dias, and the Environmental Division of the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services for their work in dismantling and removing the dangerous BHO system from the residential neighborhood."