



BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

Undersheriff Sammy L. Davis

155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

For Immediate Release:

April 2, 2024

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

Man Remains in Custody Following Third Arrest on Felony Drug Charges This Year

(TOWN OF CHENANGO, NY) A Town of Chenango man was arrested for the third time this year on drug sale and possession charges following a traffic stop in the Town of Chenango. He was previously charged with felonies related to selling drugs on March 26 and January 12.

March 29th Arrest

On Friday, March 29, 2024 patrols attempted a routine traffic stop on a motorcycle near the area of Knapp Hill Rd and NYS Route 11 in the Town of Barker. The motorcycle operator ignored the patrol's emergency lights and siren, fleeing north on Barker Rd. While attempting a U-turn to evade pursuit, the motorcyclist drove into a drainage ditch, where the vehicle remained stuck.

The suspect, Richard A. Harmon, age 39 of the Town of Chenango, then attempted to flee on foot and was met by the arresting Sheriff's Deputy. Harmon refused to comply with the Sheriff's Deputy and continued to resist through a brief physical struggle. The Deputy successfully deployed a Taser on Harmon and placed him in custody without further incident.

Broome Ambulance responded to the scene and evaluated Harmon, who refused medical attention.

During the investigation, three bags of crystal-like substance totaling 75.5g (2.663 oz) that field tested positive for Methamphetamine were found on his person.

As a result of the investigation, Richard A. Harmon was charged with:

- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2nd Degree, a Class A Felony
- Resisting Arrest, a Class A Misdemeanor
- Unlawful Fleeing a Police Officer in the 2nd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

General Information:
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(607) 778-2924

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- Obstruction of Governmental Administration in the 2nd Degree, a Class a Misdemeanor
- Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 3rd Degree, a Misdemeanor
- 8 Separate Traffic Violations

Harmon was arraigned at Central Arraignment Part and remains in custody at the Broome County Correctional Facility.

March 26th Arrest

Less than a week earlier, on Tuesday, March 26, Harmon was arrested and charged with:

- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree (With Intent to Sell), a Class B Felony
- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance (Methamphetamine) in the 4th Degree, a Class C Felony
- Criminal Use of Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

Harmon was arraigned and released in accordance with New York State Law.

January 12th Arrest

Two months ago on January 12, 2024, Harmon was arrested on similar charges after fleeing officers on motorcycle following a traffic stop. Harmon was found to have 12.8g of Methamphetamine and over \$1,900 in cash and was charged with:

- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree (With Intent to Sell) a Class B Felony
- Unlawful Fleeing a Police Officer in the 2nd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor
- Obstruction of Governmental Administration in the 2nd Degree, a Class a Misdemeanor
- Multiple traffic violations

Harmon was arraigned and released in accordance with New York State Law.

“Three drug dealing arrests in three months,” said Sheriff Fred Akshar. “How can we expect a different result when New York State’s so-called Bail Reform laws continue to hamstring our judges and create a revolving door for serial drug dealers and repeat offenders? I applaud the unwavering commitment displayed by our men and women in uniform across our state in bringing individuals to justice despite this broken system that our leaders in Albany refuse to acknowledge, let alone fix.”

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