



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KERN

CIVIC CENTER JUSTICE BUILDING
1215 TRUXTUN AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301
(661) 868-2340, FAX: (661) 868-2700

ANDREA S. KOHLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CYNTHIA J. ZIMMER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

May 28, 2024
MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:
DDA Romina Vando
(661) 868-2738

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Approved by CJZ
Press Release #24-71

Bakersfield Man Found Guilty of Maintaining an Illegal Marijuana Grow
People v. Jonathon Williams: Kern County Superior Court Case BF191561A

(Bakersfield) – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a drug related conviction. On May 22, 2024, in a case presented by Deputy District Attorney Romina Vando, a Kern County jury found Jonathon Williams guilty of maintaining an illegal marijuana grow, possession of cocaine, felon in possession of ammunition, child endangerment, and planting more than six marijuana plants.

On September 7, 2022, narcotics detectives with the Kern County Sheriff's Office High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), along with Fish & Wildlife, served a search warrant for an outdoor cannabis grow located at 17922 Castle Butte Road in California City. Williams, his significant other, and their two children were apprehended after fleeing the property at a high rate of speed. During the investigation, deputies located several large green houses containing a total of 816 marijuana plants. In addition, over 700 pounds of processed marijuana was located at the property.

During a search of Williams' bedroom, deputies located 29 grams of cocaine and 9mm ammunition. Additionally, deputies located a loaded handgun and more ammunition inside the house. Williams was previously convicted in Riverside County in 2016 for a felony drug sales offense. Felons in California are prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition. A U-Haul on the property also contained numerous large black trash bags with processed cannabis and various potting materials and nettings.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "Californians reduced penalties for many marijuana - based offenses, but in so doing demanded that this drug industry be controlled and regulated to prevent abuse. Drug dealers and cultivators that ignore state laws governing marijuana will continue be held accountable for their crimes."

A sentencing date is scheduled for June 25, 2024, before the Honorable Kenneth Twisselman in Department 9 of the Kern County Superior Court. Williams faces up to 3 years and 8 months in prison.

Jonathon Williams:

