



Dickinson Man Sentenced to 25 Years for Possession of a Controlled Substance

GALVESTON – Thursday, Robert Raymond Cox of Dickinson was sentenced to 25 years in prison for possession of methamphetamine.

On March 29, 2022, Officer S. Perez of the League City Police Department was performing his normal patrol duties when he stopped a pickup truck for expired plates and lapsed insurance coverage. The driver, Robert Raymond Cox, was the sole occupant of the truck. Cox stated to Officer Perez that he was in the process of buying the vehicle from a friend. Upon verifying Cox's ID, Officer Perez learned Cox had municipal warrants for his arrest.

Officer Perez took Cox into custody and graciously allowed Cox to call a friend to pick up his power tools before the truck was to be towed. After the tools were loaded into Cox's friend's truck, Officer Perez happened to notice a white baggie with a crystal substance under his patrol car. Officer Perez confronted Cox and advised him that he would go back and check his camera if Cox continued to deny ownership. Officer Perez in-car video shows Cox fidgeting, taking something out of his pocket, and kicking it under the patrol car while Officer Perez was verifying Cox's ID.

Trial to a jury began Tuesday. Officer Perez testified about the entire interaction with Cox. Chief Assistant District Attorney Shannon Donnelly and Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Fisher showed the jury through the introduction of Officer Perez's body worn camera and in car camera footage, that Robert Cox had in fact been in possession of the narcotics and tried to dispose of them before being arrested. Additionally, Steven Holonich from the Texas DPS Crime Lab in Tyler testified to the testing and analysis of the narcotics and was able to confirm that it was methamphetamine and weighed 8.06 grams. The jury found Cox guilty Wednesday afternoon.

In the punishment phase Wednesday and Thursday, prosecutors showed the jury that Cox had an extensive criminal history, including two prior convictions and sentences to the penitentiary for Possession of a Controlled Substance, making him a habitual offender. Donnelly argued to the jury that Cox had multiple opportunities to turn his life around and make better choices, and now it was time to hold him accountable for his actions. Additionally, she argued that while many people view possession of narcotics as a "victimless" crime, it is still against the law and how many opportunities was Cox going to get to keep breaking the law? Late Thursday morning the jury sentenced Cox to 25 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Cox must serve at least six and a quarter years before he is eligible for parole.

The District Attorney's Office thanks the League City Police Department for their excellent work and professionalism, as well as the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Lab.

State of Texas vs. Robert Raymond Cox, Cause No.22-CR-0983, 10th Judicial District Court, the honorable Kerry Neves, presiding.

Court records for Galveston County cases are available from the Galveston County Clerk (for misdemeanor cases) and the Galveston County District Clerk (for felony cases). Most court records are available online at:

<http://publicaccess.co.galveston.tx.us/default.aspx> or <https://portal.galvestoncountytexas.gov/portal>.

Mugshots of current inmates are available at: <http://p2c.co.galveston.tx.us/jailinmates.aspx>

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