



Orange County News

For Immediate Release
July 10, 2017

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District Attorney Hoovler Announces Guilty Verdict In Jail Contraband Case

Man Convicted after Jury Trial of Promoting Prison Contraband in the First Degree for Possessing Razor Blade, Marijuana and Tobacco while an Inmate in the Orange County Jail

Faces Up To 3 1/3 to 7 Years in State Prison

Orange County District Attorney David M. Hoovler announced that on Monday, July 10, 2017, Jacques Harvey, 34, of Newburgh, was convicted after a jury trial before Orange County Court Judge Craig Stephen Brown, of Promoting Prison Contraband in the First Degree and two counts of Promoting Prison contraband in the Second Degree for possessing an “exacto” razor blade, marijuana and a bundle of tobacco, while he was an inmate in the Orange County Jail.

During the trial prosecutors argued that on September 25, 2016, at approximately 9:15 pm, Harvey, who was an inmate at the jail due to an alleged parole violation, was searched by corrections officers and found to be in possession of an “exacto” razor blade, a bundle of marihuana and a bundle of tobacco. Possession of all of those items is banned within the jail. Harvey faces up to three and one-third to seven years in state prison when he is sentenced on August 21, 2017.

District Attorney Hoovler thanked the Orange County Sheriff’s Office for their arrest and investigation of the case.

“Corrections officers regularly perform a hazardous job in difficult surroundings,” said District Attorney Hoovler. “That job becomes even more dangerous when inmates are armed with concealed weapons. The evidence in this case supported the jury’s verdict that this defendant was guilty of possessing contraband, including the razor blade. I commend the quick thinking and actions of the corrections officers who were able to seize this weapon before it could be used to harm correction officers or other inmates.”

District Attorney Hoovler highly commended Assistant District Attorney Eric Parker who prosecuted the case.

A criminal charge is merely an allegation that a defendant has committed a violation of the criminal law, and it is not evidence of guilt. All defendants are presumed innocent and entitled to a fair trial, during which it will be the State of New York's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

