



OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE CITY

House Bill 171 – Drug Trafficking Crime – Definitions

Sponsors: Delegate Valentine, Delegate Simmons

Heard in Judiciary Committee on 1/27

Testimony by:

Matias Cacheiro, Deputy Director of Government Affairs, Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City

Re: Additional Case Example to Supplement Written/Oral Testimony



On October 28th, 2022, Detectives with the Baltimore Police Department executed a search and seizure warrant. Upon entering the residence officers located and identified three individuals. Defendant 1 was located in the living room along with a juvenile male. Juvenile Male was located walking down the steps from the second floor. All individuals were placed in the living room and advised of their rights before Detectives asked whether there were any firearms or CDS in the house. The Juvenile Male informed officers that he had eight or nine registered guns in his room along with marijuana.

Officers searched the Juvenile Male's room and recovered the following:



OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE CITY

- Glock 19 handgun in a dresser drawer
- Smith and Wesson handgun in same dresser drawer
- Springfield XDS handgun under the bed
- Canik TP9 handgun in the closet
- Springfield Saint Victor rifle
- Draco rifle serial
- Garaysar semi-automatic shotgun
- Numerous magazines that fit with the recovered firearms
- 125 rounds of various ammunition
- A vacuum sealed bag containing approximately 1.4 pounds of suspected marijuana, in dresser drawer
- \$155 in cash, in the dresser

During the search of the rest of the house, Detectives recovered two large suitcases in the basement containing a total of 30 pounds of suspected marijuana. Defendant 1 informed officers that the marijuana found in the basement belonged to him.

The suspected Marijuana was submitted to the Maryland State Police lab, where it is undergoing certified testing. The quantity of marijuana, along with observations made during the investigation, indicate that Defendant one and Juvenile Male intended to sell the drugs and they were not for mere personal use. The proximity of the firearms to the suspected marijuana indicates their intended use in the furtherance and protection of the drug trafficking crime. All events occurred in Baltimore City, State of Maryland.

Defendant 1 was charged and convicted with CDS Possession. He was given 6 months (time served) and 18 months of probation.

If this bill were law, this individual would have been charged with a drug trafficking crime as would be defined by Article – Criminal Law 14 Section 5–621(a)(2).

Submitted by,
Matias Cacheiro
Deputy Director of Government Affairs
Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City
Mcacheiro@statorney.org