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HABITUAL FELON RECEIVES 35 YEARS

David Camacho, 47, of Sealy, Texas accepted a sentence of 35 years in prison after being convicted of Possession of Controlled Substance (1st Degree Felony—Enhanced) in a 1-day trial before 155th District Judge Jeff Steinhauser on Thursday, January 23, 2025.

The State presented evidence to Judge Steinhauser that Camacho engaged in possession of drugs found in a Sealy motel room he was sharing with his girlfriend. Austin County Sheriff's Office investigators—working as part of the Westside Narcotics Task Force—found more than 5 grams of methamphetamine during an operation to arrest Camacho on an outstanding felony warrant for Theft in May of 2024.

The Westside Narcotics Task Force (HIDTA) covers five counties and is comprised of investigators from the Austin County Sheriff's Office, Bellville PD, Sealy PD, Hempstead PD, Waller County Sheriff's Office, Fayette County Sheriff's Office, Colorado County Sheriff's Office, Lavaca County Sheriff's Office, and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

Assistant District Attorney Benjamin Nystrom presented the State's case at trial with assistance from First Assistant District Attorney Brandy Robinson and Felony Legal Assistant Lisa Tobola.

Bellville Attorney John Anderson represented Camacho.

After Judge Steinhauser found Camacho guilty, Camacho had the option to proceed to a full sentencing hearing where he would have faced a sentence of 25 years to Life in prison as a Habitual Felony Offender under Texas law. Instead, he accepted a 35-year prison sentence.

Camacho had an extensive history of both violent and non-violent felony and misdemeanor offenses stretching back almost 30 years.

First Assistant DA Brandy Robinson stated, "Assistant DA Nystrom did great work presenting the many links connecting Camacho to the drugs in this case and making sure this habitual offender will serve a long sentence."

"The Austin County Special Response Team (SRT) and the Narcotics Task Force performed admirably in this case," said ADA Nystrom.

"Their quick response effectively removed a fugitive from our community and their attention to detail ensured new crimes committed in our community did not go unpunished," Nystrom added.

District Attorney Travis Koehn stated, "This lengthy prison sentence is the result of Austin County law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office working together to fight the flow of drugs through Austin County."

"The sentence should send a clear message that career criminals in the county will pay a heavy price."