



ELLIS COUNTY & DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Fort Worth Drug Dealer Sentenced to 30 Years in Prison

Ellis County and District Attorney Ann Montgomery announced that Patrick Van Cox, 47, of Fort Worth, Texas, was sentenced to 30 years in prison on August 3, 2023, for two cases of possessing a controlled substance with intent to deliver and two cases of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon. The sentences for the offenses will run concurrently.

In November 2020, Waxahachie Police Officer Daniel Heiskell conducted a traffic stop for a traffic violation. Cox was the driver of the car. During the stop, the officer seized over 20 grams of cocaine and discovered that Cox had a firearm in his possession. This was an additional offense since Cox was a convicted felon. Cox also had small plastic baggies that matched the baggies containing the cocaine, two cell phones, a digital scale, a razor blade, and blue nitrile gloves. Cox was arrested and charged. After spending a year in the county jail awaiting trial for these offenses, Cox made bond and bonded out of the Ellis County jail.

While out on bond, the Waxahachie Police Department received several tips that Cox was selling crack cocaine from a Waxahachie residence. In February 2023, the Waxahachie Problem Directed Response Team (PDRT) executed a search warrant at the residence. Cox was in the house and was again arrested for the same two offenses that he had previously been charged. During the search, police collected over 2 pounds of cocaine, a firearm, a lock box with cash, small plastic baggies, drug paraphernalia, and razor blades with cocaine residue. A large pot with water and cocaine residue, commonly used to cook crack cocaine, was also seized from the house.

“The drug trade brings danger and misery to so many of our citizens,” stated Montgomery. “Those dealing illegal drugs in Ellis County will not be tolerated. My office will continue to support Ellis County law enforcement as our peace officers work to keep dangerous dealers, like Cox, off our streets and out of our communities.”

Assistant County and District Attorney Ashley Indelicato prosecuted the cases, assisted by County and District Attorney Investigator Joe Aguilar.

