



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **ADA ORTIZ, FLORISSANT, MO, SENTENCED TO ILLINOS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE AND BRINGING CONTRABAND INTO PENAL INSTITUTION**

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that a Florissant, Missouri, woman was sentenced to prison after pleading guilty to the charge of Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance and Bringing Contraband into Penal Institution.

On February 4, 2016 officers of the Carbondale Police Department Drug Task Force were involved in an ongoing drug investigation. Ada Ortiz has previously delivered drugs to a confidential source working with the Carbondale Police Drug Task Force. On February 4, 2016, another delivery was accomplished where Ms. Ortiz delivered cocaine to a confidential source. After that transaction took place, officers stopped the vehicle in which Ms. Ortiz was a passenger. She was placed under arrest on the basis of the prior drug deliveries and a search of her person yielded several baggies of white powdery substance totaling approximately 21 grams. Some of those bags were sent to the crime lab and tested positive for the presence of cocaine.

On March 13, 2016, Ada Ortiz was an inmate at the Jackson County Jail having been arrested on drug charges. On March 13, jail officers received a note from another inmate that there were drugs being distributed in the cell block in which Ms. Ortiz was being housed. Officers eventually spoke with Ms. Ortiz and she admitted that she had drugs in her possession. She handed them items from her clothing. One of those items was a rolled up ball which contained a white powdery substance. This substance was sent to the crime lab and tested positive for 16.1 grams of cocaine.

On June 2, 2016, a sentencing hearing was held for both offenses. The Court sentenced the defendant to six (6) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance and four (4) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for Bringing Contraband into Penal Institution. These sentences must be served consecutively, meaning the defendant was sentenced to prison for a total period of ten (10) years. The defendant must serve a two year period of Mandatory Supervised Release upon his release from prison for each charge.

The investigation was conducted by the Carbondale Police Department Drug Task Force and the Jackson County Sheriff's Department. Assistant State's Attorney Mark Hamrock was responsible for the prosecution of this case.