

## **Columbus man gets 11 months for trafficking heroin**

Marion Star Staff Report

MARION - Matthew Veley, 28, Columbus, was sentenced to 11 months in prison Friday afternoon for trafficking in heroin, according to Prosecuting Attorney Jim Slagle.

Veley was found guilty of the felony five offense during a two-day jury trial, which was completed on Feb. 1. Following a pre-sentence investigation, Veley appeared before Common Pleas Judge William Finnegan yesterday for sentencing.

Veley was immediately remanded to the Multi-County Correctional Center following sentencing. He will be transported to the Correctional Reception Center in Orient to begin serving his prison term.

Veley was arrested on Oct 10. after officers from the Marion County Sheriff's Office investigated an anonymous tip that an individual was coming from Columbus to sell heroin in Marion. Veley participated in a \$200 sale of heroin to an undercover officer with the MARMET/METRICH Drug Task Force.

"We will continue to recommend prison sentences for those who sell even small amounts of heroin," Slagle stated.

Slagle prosecuted the case at trial. Marion attorney Javier Armengau represented Veley.

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