

Inmate gets added time for drug possession

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WARSAW — A state prison inmate who had his grandmother smuggle drugs to him inside Attica Correctional Facility was sentenced Thursday to three additional years of incarceration.

Joshua D. Biaselli, 28, of Albion received the sentence in Wyoming County Court. County Judge Mark H. Dadd also ordered Biaselli to serve 18 months of post-release supervision.

Biaselli accepted a plea bargain in his case on Sept. 3. He admitted in court he aided his grandmother, Elsie Biaselli, 70, also of Albion, in smuggling illegal drugs to him in Attica in the summer of 2012.

The substances included baggies of marijuana, synthetic marijuana and cocaine. Mr. Biaselli pleaded guilty to third-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell, a Class B felony.

Terms of his sentence were left to the discretion of the judge. The maximum he could have received was 12 years incarceration and three years post-release supervision.

Biaselli has a lengthy criminal history. He is serving one-to-three years at Upstate Correctional Facility in Malone for felony drunk driving.

In 2007 and '08 he was sentenced to 18 months for a drug conviction. He was also arrested for criminal contempt, criminal mischief and three times for escaping from police custody.

The three years Biaselli received Thursday in County Court will be served consecutive to his felony DWI sentence.

Corrections officers caught Mrs. Biaselli twice in the summer of 2012 as she attempted to sneak controlled substances into Attica Prison. She and her grandson were indicted Oct. 26, 2012, and charged with first-degree promoting dangerous prison contraband, third-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell, two counts of second-degree promoting prison contraband and one count of fifth-degree conspiracy.

Mrs. Biaselli accepted a plea deal Monday in County Court. She pleaded guilty to one count of first-degree promotion of prison contraband, a Class D felony.

Her sentencing hearing is Dec. 16. Sentencing was left to the discretion of the judge, who indicated she would receive five years probation.