

ART WALK



Kelly Combs, of South Burlington, uses a cloak to block the light as she views a piece of mirrored art Friday from artist Chris Jeffrey during Montpelier Alive's Art Walk.

JEB WALLACE-BRODEUR / STAFF PHOTO

# Barre man admits to selling drugs

By ERIC BLAISDELL  
STAFF WRITER

BARRE — A Granite City man has admitted to selling cocaine and possessing drugs.

Santos DeJesus, 29, pleaded guilty Friday in Washington County criminal court in Barre to a felony count of cocaine sale and misdemeanor counts of possession of cocaine and heroin. DeJesus was sentenced to three to 15 months, all suspended and placed on probation. The state dropped misdemeanor counts of violating conditions of release and driving without a license, per the plea agreement.

For the drug sale conviction, the Northern Vermont Drug Task Force said in its affidavit an investigation was started in January looking into the distribution of cocaine in the Washington County area. The task force said the focus of the investigation was DeJesus.

The investigation used a cooperating individual who told the task force they knew DeJesus was selling cocaine and had bought the drug from DeJesus in the past. The individual told the task force they would set up the drug purchases through Facebook Messenger.

The task force said it set up a controlled buy in January. The

individual showed the task force messages on Facebook confirming the buy, according to court records. The task force said it gave the individual money to buy the drugs, met with DeJesus and returned with 0.98 grams of a substance that field tested positive for cocaine.

For the drug possession convictions, Cpl. Jonathan Houle, of the Barre City police, said in his affidavit in that case he was on patrol in February when he saw DeJesus driving on Meadow Drive. Houle said dispatch confirmed DeJesus' license was suspended. He said at one point DeJesus started driving down the wrong side of the roadway so Houle pulled him over.

Houle said he was told DeJesus may have been in possession of a gun so he asked him to step out of the vehicle and was given consent to pat DeJesus down. He said he asked DeJesus what he had in his pockets and DeJesus pulled out a small container that contained a small rock-like substance that looked like crack cocaine and field tested positive for cocaine. Houle said he got a search warrant for DeJesus' vehicle and inside he found a baggie that contained suspected cocaine.

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## Vermont Air Guard limits media photos

By MIKE DONOGHUE  
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH BURLINGTON — The Vermont Air National Guard has announced it wants to review and possibly censor photographs and videos taken by local journalists when the new F-35 aircraft are stationed in South Burlington.

The Air Guard invited certain members of the Vermont media to an Wednesday information session to go over new procedures, including restrictions of what can and can't be photographed beginning in mid-September when the new aircraft arrive.

Some journalists attending the briefing reported they pushed back at the thought of the military determining what information, including video or still photographs could be shown to Vermonters.

Also, media members said they were unhappy with the Vermont Air Guard indicating that using cellphones — a standard newsgathering tool for journalists — would be prohibited for photographs.

Some journalists

objected as well to an Air Guard ban on live video reporting or streaming of the F-35s.

The Guard's proposed restrictions include no pictures of engines and open cockpits, media members said after the briefing. The Guard wants the right to review and then order videos or photographs deleted on the spot.

The Air Guard is changing from F-16s to F-35s in a move that has been criticized by some community members and groups concerned about expected noise increase.

The proposed rules do not restrict the recording of noise levels, media members said.

It was unclear why longstanding past practices and regulations by the Vermont Air National Guard were not being maintained. Some media members said they questioned whether any journalists in other states would agree to such restrictions.

Lt. Chelsea M. Clark, public affairs officer for the Vermont Air Guard, said Thursday that she heard the complaints

from the media about the restrictions, and she planned to bring them up the chain of command.

She declined to say who was responsible for drafting the proposal that came through the Department of Defense.

Clark also declined Thursday to make public a copy of the talking points or rules she outlined to the journalists during the meeting, which lasted more than an hour. Media members attending the session said the Guard had promised copies would be provided.

Attempts to reach Vermont Adjutant General Gregory Knight were unsuccessful Thursday.

Clark had sent an email to a limited number of members in the Vermont news media inviting them to a discussion Wednesday afternoon about future news coverage of the F-35s.

"There are changes with the F-35 aircraft for imagery and security, which require review before the photos can be released/published," Clark wrote in her email to those invited.

"The more understanding we have on the

front-end, the smoother the process will be when the aircraft are here and we are out on the flight line," she said.

Those invited were told "it would benefit you and your organizations with the information as we change from the F-16 Fighting Falcon to the F-35 Lightning II. We want to provide you access while maintaining safety and operational security at the 158th Fighter Wing."

The journalists invited were listed by the Air Guard as part of "our media teams."

Among those attending the session were representatives from the Associated Press, Burlington Free Press, the Other Paper (South Burlington), television stations WCAX, My NBC5 and ABC22/Fox 44 and Vermont Public Radio and VTDigger.

The Guard invited about one-half of the daily newspapers and about one-third of the weekly newspapers circulating in Vermont. Three of the four largest TV stations and one radio station also were among those receiving the email invitation.



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**AGENDA FOR REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 6:30 P.M.  
City Council Chambers, City Hall

1. Call to Order by the Mayor
2. Review and Approve Agenda
3. General Business and Appearances
4. Consent Agenda:
  - Minutes from 8/14 meeting
  - VCDP Scattered Site Grant Public Hearing
  - Park Avenue Accessible Parking Space
  - Raw Water Vacuum Station upgrade
  - Award City Hall roof contract
  - VCDP Implementation Grant Application for Another Way and Washington County Mental Health
  - Payroll & Bills
5. Appointment to the Community Fund Board
6. Homelessness Task Force appointments
7. Barre/Main Discussion
8. Ordinance Amendments, 3rd reading: Chapter 7. Health & Sanitation
9. Ordinance Amendments, 1st reading: Chapter 8. Animal & Fowl
10. Tax stabilization
11. VLCT Delegate
12. Other Business
13. Council Reports
14. Mayor's Report
15. City Clerk's Report
16. City Manager's Report

THIS IS A TENTATIVE OUTLINE OF THE UPCOMING ITEMS; FOR THE FINALIZED VERSION, AND TO VIEW THE PERTINENT BACK DOCUMENTATION, VISIT WWW.MONTPELIER-VT.ORG



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
City Hall  
39 Main Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602

**NOTICE**

**WATER & SEWER DIVISION TRUCK DRIVER**

The City of Montpelier has an immediate opening for a full-time Truck Driver in the Water & Sewer Division. Applicant must be a high school/vocational school graduate; must have a valid VT Commercial Driver's License or the ability to obtain one before the end of the probationary period (required); and must be able to pass pre-employment physical plus drug & alcohol testing.

Any individual wishing to be considered for this position should please email jboyce@montpelier-vt.org to request an application or stop by Department of Public Works Office at 39 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 to pick up an application. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Donna Barlow Casey  
Interim Director of Public Works

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**AGENDA**

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019, 6:00 PM  
CIVIC CENTER COMPLEX

1. Call to Order – 6:00 p.m.
2. New Business
  - a. Tour Civic Center Complex
  - b. Discussion on Current Rates and Maintenance at the Civic Center Complex
3. Adjourn

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019, 7:00 PM  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. Call to Order – 7:00 p.m.
2. Adjustments to the Agenda
3. Consent Agenda
  - A. Approval of Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting August 27, 2019
  - B. Approval of Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting August 27, 2019
  - C. Ratification of City Warrants from Week of Wednesday September 4, 2019
  - D. Approval of City Warrants from Week of Wednesday September 11, 2019
  - E. Clerk's Office Licenses and Permits
4. City Clerk & Treasurer Report
5. Approval of Building Permits
6. Liquor Control Board
7. City Manager's Report
8. Visitors and Communications
9. Old Business:
  - A. Update on Weathervane Appraisals and Insurance Options (Manager)
10. New Business
  - A. Capstone and SOAR Presentation (Sue Minter and Jon Valsangiacomo)
  - B. Second Reading and Public Hearing 7:15 pm – 2019-07 Minimum Housing Ordinance Updates (Mayor)
  - C. First Reading – 2019-06 Buildings and Building Construction Ordinance Revisions (Planning Director)
  - D. Council Direction Regarding the FY21 Budget (Council Discussion)
11. Round Table
12. Executive Session – As Needed
13. Adjourn

Steven E. Mackenzie, P.E., City Manager

*The portion of this meeting starting at 7:00 pm will be taped for re-broadcast on Channel 194 CVTV and will be re-broadcast on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon CVTV Link for meetings online – [cvtv723.org/](http://cvtv723.org/)*

**OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

**Monday, September 9**  
Tree Stewardship Committee, 6pm, Aldrich Public Library

**Tuesday, September 10**  
Civic Center Committee, 4:30, Alumni Hall Conference Room

**Wednesday, September 11**  
Community Garden Committee, 4pm, Aldrich Public Library  
Path, Routes & Trails Committee, 5pm, Council Chambers

**Thursday, September 12**  
Planning Commission, 6:30pm, Council Chambers