

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

L. Elizabeth Coffey
Prosecuting Attorney



304-873-1737 phone
304-873-1047 fax
bcoffey@court.state.wv.us

DODDRIDGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
118 East Court Street, P.O. Box 125
West Union, WV 26456

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Doddridge County man was sentenced on two felony counts of Failure to Provide Sexual Offender Registration Information to the West Virginia State Police on October 5, 2023 in the Circuit Court of Doddridge County, before the Honorable Judge Timothy Sweeney.

Richard R. Powell, acting as his own counsel, was convicted of the crimes following a bench trial before Judge Sweeney on the 5th day of April, 2023.

The State of West Virginia was represented by Doddridge County Prosecuting Attorney, L. Elizabeth "Betsy" Coffey. The charges were filed by Sergeant J. R. Barker of the West Virginia State Police after Mr. Powell failed to disclose an additional cellular phone number when updating his sexual offender registration information, as required by WV State Code, in two separate incidents.

Powell's sentencing hearing had been continued on previous occasions due to his assertion of medical issues. The Court denied his request to continue the hearing on the 5th of October, and the hearing was held.

Powell was sentenced to one (1) to five (5) years on each of the two counts of Failure to Provide Sexual Offender Registry Information to the West Virginia State Police. During the sentencing hearing the Court noted that Powell had an extensive criminal record involving crimes of fraud and dishonesty, and as such was not a good candidate for alternative sentencing. The Court ordered that those sentences are to run consecutively, exposing Powell to a sentence of two (2) to ten (10) years in a West Virginia State Penitentiary. He had no credit for time served toward the sentence. He was taken into custody by the Doddridge County Sheriff's Department and transported to the North Central Regional Jail for execution of his sentence.

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