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Drug Dealer Given 5 ½ to 17 years

A convicted drug dealer could spend upwards of 17 years in state prison after his sentencing in County Court, Lycoming County District Attorney Eric R. Linhardt announced.

In April, Aquilla Laury, 39, of Philadelphia, was convicted on numerous drug-related counts, following a trial prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Nicole Ippolito.

Laury was arrested in July of 2014 with eight bundles of heroin containing 78 pre-packaged bags of the drug. Police had followed Laury and a customer after setting up surveillance on Second Street in the city. Members of the Lycoming County Narcotics Enforcement Unit were joined by officers from Williamsport and Old Lycoming Township police, as well as state police and the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force.

In Court Thursday, Judge Marc F. Lovecchio sentenced Laury to 5 ½ to 17 years in state prison.

In addition to a previous conviction for robbery, this is Laury's third conviction for drug dealing.