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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ATHENS, Ohio – David Mehl, 31, of Nelsonville, appeared in front of Judge George P. McCarthy in Athens County Common Pleas Court on Monday, Sept. 14, 2020 and pleaded guilty to a fifth-degree felony charge of aggravated possession of drugs.

Judge McCarthy sentenced Mehl to five years of community control under the supervision of the Adult Parole Authority. Mehl was also ordered to successfully complete the STAR Community Justice Center five-month program.

In November, the Athens County Sheriff's Office discovered Mehl was in possession of methamphetamine and an indictment was later returned by a grand jury on the charge. This case resolved Monday is concurrent to community control sanctions levied against Mehl from a 2016 burglary conviction.

Other conditions include: payment of court costs, obtain and maintain employment, submit to a drug and alcohol assessment and follow all subsequent recommendations. Mehl is also not allowed to possess illegal drugs, consume or possess alcohol or enter establishments where alcohol is served by the drink. He is subject to random substance abuse monitoring and must remain a law-abiding citizen.

With the plea agreement and the fact that Mehl has a history of criminal conduct, violation of any of the sentencing terms may put into effect a five-year underlying prison sentence.

Mehl is currently incarcerated in the Southeastern Ohio Regional Jail pending entry into the STAR Community Justice Center.

