

## Man who led police on high-speed chase sentenced

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**La Plata, MD** - For Devin Eric Webb, 28 of Mechanicsville, a drug-fueled high-speed chase in September of 2014 ended with a substantial break when Charles County Circuit Court Judge Amy J. Bragunier sentenced him to time already served and placed him on five years of supervised probation Tuesday, June 16 in La Plata.

Webb's troubles began when an officer with the Charles County Sheriff's Office observed Webb driving on Route 231 in Charles County near the Tri-County Animal Shelter Sept. 23, 2014 doing 63 miles per hour in a 50 mile speed limit zone. When the officer initiated a traffic stop, Webb fled into St. Mary's County, turning onto southbound Route 5 and leading police on a chase that reached speeds of 110 miles per hour.

Webb turned right onto Route 236 (Thompson's Corner Road), continuing at 70 miles per hour until he lost control of his vehicle at Bethel Church Road, crashing into a tree.

"He fled on foot," said Charles County Assistant State's Attorney Frank Granados.

"He was tased twice. Webb struck the officer with a closed fist.

"He aggressively assaulted the officer," Granados said.

It wasn't until backup arrived that Webb was tased and finally apprehended, he added.

Granados said Webb's prior offenses included a hit and run with property damage in September 2006, and prior conviction for fourth-degree burglary and a 2011 possession of marijuana charge.

"The defendant suffers from a very serious drug dependency issue," he stated.

"What record he does have results from a severe drug addiction," agreed Public Defender Chris Stuart. Those addictions included heroin, PCP and marijuana, he added. Stuart said Webb has battled through those addictions.

"It took him a while," Stuart said. "Since he got out of the Charles County Detention Center, he's doing fantastic."

The lawyer said his client has enrolled in an intensive outpatient program at Walden-Sierra. Stuart said there were two other kids in the car with him when he led the officer on the 2014 high-speed chase.

"He's staying away from those people," Stuart noted. "He got in with the wrong crowd and here we are."

Stuart said Webb has been clean since his release four months ago.

"There have been no more incidents, no more drug use," he said.

He added that Webb would benefit from regaining his driver's license, but Granados disputed that.

"He had eight prior speeding tickets in 2009," Granados stressed. "He shouldn't be driving at all."

Webb spoke softly as he told the court he was sorry for what happened.

"I made a mistake," he told Bragunier. "I can't turn back what I done."

The judge sentenced him to three years on the charge of resisting arrest and 10 years on the fleeing and eluding, suspending all but 134 days, which he had already served.

She also placed Webb on five years of supervised probation, which is to include random urinalysis. She allowed Stuart the option of transferring the probation to St. Mary's County.

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