

Punxsy native, police officer sentenced on heroin charges

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PITTSBURGH — A Punxsy native who had formerly served as a police officer with three different municipalities will see jail time in a state correctional institution after he pleaded guilty to drug charges Monday.

Allegheny County Judge Joseph K. Williams III sentenced Charles "Chuck" Lindy Edwards III, 30, to four to eight years in state prison for a heroin delivery charge after a plea arrangement Monday.

The charges stem from an incident that occurred July 14, 2009, in Pittsburgh, when Edwards — who was serving as a New Bethlehem police officer at the time — was pulled over and later found to be possessing heroin and a loaded weapon that belonged to the New Bethlehem police department.

Edwards was scheduled for a jury trial Monday in Pittsburgh, which was canceled due to a separate action earlier that day.

According to court officials, Edwards' defense attorney, Rhiannon Sisk, Thaddeus Dutkowski of the Allegheny County District Attorney's office, and Williams agreed that in exchange for a guilty plea, Edwards would serve a minimum of four years in state prison.

Edwards had also served as a police officer in Reynoldsville and Brockway.