Drug Deal Results in Phoenix Airport Shutdown

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Last month, a drug deal ended with one man shot and a lockdown at Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix, AZ. The lockdown in Terminal 4 delayed thousands of travelers.

Three-Hour Airport Search

<u>The suspects include two 25-year-old men and one 18-year-old woman</u>. They allegedly met with an individual at a gas station to conduct a drug deal prior to the police search.

At some point during the transaction, someone fired a gun, hitting a victim. The victim ran to a nearby apartment complex where he located authorities; he was then taken to a hospital.

When authorities headed to the gas station where the shooting took place, they reportedly located the suspects and attempted to stop their vehicle. The driver refused and fled. Authorities followed the car to Sky Harbor Airport near downtown Phoenix. Two of the suspects were quickly located and taken into custody.

Authorities searched the airport for the third suspect, causing the lockdown. After searching for three hours, authorities found him in a stairwell in the parking garage. 25 flights were cancelled and numerous were delayed due to the pursuit.

Criminal Charges

All suspects were taken into custody and are facing the following charges:

Suspect #1:

- Conspiracy to commit sale/transportation of marijuana
- Unlawful flight from police
- o Reckless driving

Suspect #2:

- o Conspiracy to commit sale/transportation of marijuana
- Two counts of aggravated assault
- o <u>Disorderly conduct</u>
- o Possession of weapon by prohibited possessor
- Discharge of firearm in city
- Tampering with evidence

Suspect #3:

- o Possession of marijuana
- Conspiracy to commit sale/transportation of marijuana
- o Use of electronic communication to facilitate drug related transactions

Drug Laws in Arizona

In the state of Arizona, only medical <u>marijuana</u> card holders or their caregivers are allowed to grow and possess marijuana. Medical marijuana is legal in the state of Arizona, but it is prohibited for anyone to use the drug for recreational use if they are not a medical marijuana card holder.

Individuals that are charged with the distribution or growth of marijuana can be found guilty of a class 2 felony in AZ. According to A.R.S. 13-3405 a person shall not:

- 1. Possess or use marijuana
- 2. Possess marijuana for sale
- 3. Produce marijuana
- 4. Transport for sale, import into this state, or offer to transport for sale or import into this state, sell, transfer, or offer to sell or transfer marijuana

Jeremy Geigle is a criminal defense attorney and shareholder at JacksonWhite. He has been practicing over 8 years and has handled thousands of felony and misdemeanor counts. He works in both adult and juvenile court handling DUIs, aggravated felonies and sex crimes in Arizona. He works in Federal, State and local jurisdictions including Phoenix, Mesa, Gilbert, Chandler, Scottsdale, Glendale, Tempe and Peoria. Mr. Geigle is a 5-Star-Client-Rated Attorney on Avvo. To read more about what former clients are saying about hiring Mr. Geigle or to set up a free consultation, please visit www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/criminal-defense-law.

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