

Ex-student sentenced for drug deals at LU

Charged with selling 28 ounces of marijuana to undercover police officers

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A former Liberty University student convicted of selling marijuana on campus will spend 10 months in jail.

Thomas Reed Wright, 21, was sentenced Wednesday by Lynchburg Circuit Judge Edwin Burnette.

He pleaded guilty Dec. 29 to six counts each of distribution of marijuana and distribution of marijuana in a school zone and one count each of schedule IV drug distribution and distribution of a schedule IV drug in a school zone.



Wright

The schedule IV charges stemmed from the first encounter Wright had with detectives, when officers said he gave them several free pills of the anti-anxiety medication Xanax.

In addition to the 10-month jail sentence, Wright was ordered to pay \$6,100 in restitution and report to a probation officer for 18 months after his release.

In exchange for Wright's December pleas, Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Chuck Felmlee agreed to drop an additional charge of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.

Wright was arrested May 5 after an investigation by the Lynchburg Police Department's narcotics unit was initiated by a tip from a confidential informant.

In transactions with an undercover officer between Feb. 25 and May 5, Wright sold 28 ounces of marijuana — almost two pounds, Felmlee said.

All transactions are said to have taken place near a restaurant on Liberty University's campus. Wright told the court he had completed two years of class work at the university before his arrest.

At sentencing, Felmlee reminded the