

Drug Suspect Arrested By Officers From Sheriff's Bureau of Narcotics, Caldwell and Verona Police Dep

Newark ‐ As a result of a month-long, joint investigation, a suspected drug dealer was arrested last night in Newark.

Sheriff Armando Fontoura stated that detectives from his department's Bureau of Narcotics and officers from the Caldwell and Verona police departments conducted an undercover drug buy and executed a search warrant, signed by Superior Court Judge Michael Petrolle, at 71 Davenport Avenue.

Following the sale outside the residence at 5:30 p.m., Damian Martinez, age 35, was arrested.

During the search of the residence, the officers discovered 8 grams of cocaine and 41 tablets of Oxycodone stashed in Martinez's bedroom dresser. The detectives also seized a variety of drug packaging and processing materials, including a digital scale, glassine envelopes and razor blades.

"This arrest is the result of police agencies sharing resources and information," noted Caldwell Police Chief Kurt Dombrowski.

Sheriff Fontoura said that Martinez is charged with three counts of the sale of a controlled dangerous substance to undercover officers, two counts of possession of CDS, two counts of possession of CDS with intent to distribute and one count each of possession of CDS with intent to distribute within 1000 feet of Avigton Avenue School and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Late last evening, Newark municipal court Judge Anthony Higgins set bail on the suspect at \$45,000. Martinez is being held at the Essex County Correctional Facility where he awaits arraignment in criminal Central Judicial Processing court.