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## Things get exciting when Autauga defendant makes run for it

Marty Roney, Montgomery Advertiser

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(Photo: Booking)

PRATTVILLE — An ordinary Thursday morning in Autauga County District Court took a turn for the dramatic when a defendant bolted from the courtroom in an apparent escape attempt.

"I've got one running from the courthouse" an excited deputy announced over the radio about 9 a.m., which sent all available officers, including Sheriff Joe Sedinger, into pursuit mode.

"Give me an update, let me know where you are," Sedinger said on the radio, as he made his way from his office to the rear of the courthouse.

"Suspect in custody, sheriff, we got him in custody," the reply came back.

Officers nabbed Stanley Lee Perdue, 21, of the 1600 block of Ramer Church Road, Fort Deposit, downstairs at the security entrance of the courthouse. The courtroom is on the second floor. Perdue was in court on a charge of promoting prison contraband, court records show. He was arrested by the Prattville Police Department on April 4 and when he was being booked into the Autauga Metro Jail, corrections officers found a small amount of what appeared to be cocaine in his possession, court records reflect. The contraband charge, a misdemeanor, was filed by the Autauga County Sheriff's Office, which operates the jail, court records show.

His original charge by the PPD was for attempting to elude a police officer, the court records show. He allegedly wouldn't pull over during a traffic stop by the officer, the records show. He was out on bond for the contraband charge when he appeared in district court on Thursday.

Perdue was being held in the metro jail Thursday afternoon and could not be reached for comment.

Arrest mugshots - 7/7/16

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District Judge Joy Booth ordered Perdue to take a drug test Thursday morning, which he failed, the sheriff said. As officers were escorting Perdue from the courtroom, he ran.

"You may as well not use dope if you have to come before Judge Booth," Sedinger said, about 15 minutes after Perdue was taken into custody. Employees of the sheriff's office were enjoying the comical nature of the incident. "She's going to drug test everybody that comes before her."

Perdue may be facing an escape charge, said District Attorney Randall Houston. Escape is a Class C felony, with a punishment range of one to 10 years in prison. Generally, if a defendant faces an escape charge, they are held without bail on that charge.

The Montgomery Advertiser Crime and Arrest Mugshots Section

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