

Cop gets prison for OxyContin sales

by UPI

NEWARK, N.J. -- A former New Jersey police officer was sentenced to almost three years in federal prison Thursday for his part in an oxycodone-peddling scheme. Ronald Pomponio of Bricktown, who was a police officer in Newark, got a reduced sentence for cooperating with federal investigators, including testifying against a doctor involved in the scheme. U.S. District Judge Stanley Chesler also imposed a \$12,500 fine. Chesler told Pomponio that he betrayed the trust given him as a police officer. Pomponio and another police officer, John Hernandez, pleaded guilty in September 2006. Hernandez, who did not cooperate, was sentenced to 82 months in prison. Both men admitted getting multiple prescriptions for OxyContin from Dr. Joan Jaszczult of Bloomfield, reselling the drug on the street. She was convicted in September and faces up to 30 years in prison when she is sentenced. Pomponio admitted that he sometimes filled the same prescription at more than one pharmacy.

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