

No. 7067

May 3, 2001

Defendant David Chin pleaded guilty in Manhattan Federal Court to introducing into interstate commerce Chinese pharmaceutical drugs unapproved for importation. Yesterday, he was sentenced to probation and a \$5,000.00 fine.

Mr. Chin is 34 years of age. His attorney, Edward V. Sapone, expressed to the court that Chin has endured family hardship since 1986 and was forced to leave school to help his family. The attorney added that Chin is a solid citizen who otherwise obeyed the law, but needed money to support his family.

The defendant was arrested in 1998 and detained for seven hours. According to Mr. Sapone, that detention was a horrific experience for Mr. Chin. And he expressed to the court that for Mr. Chin, his permanent conviction is a severe punishment.

Mr. Sapone also emphasized that Mr. Chin supports his wife and family, and is an active volunteer in the community. Asking the court for leniency, the attorney noted that Chin tried to help the law enforcement arrest the supplier of the drugs, and that he has an eleven year old son and two eight year old daughters. Mr. Chin's relatives were all in court.

Chin was arrested in Hogansburgh, New York when he was stopped on the highway transporting unapproved pharmaceutical drugs to New York. He expressed regret for his actions and asked the court for leniency. The court agreed that Mr. Chin is a responsible, important figure in his family, and sentenced him to probation.

Mr. Chin could have been fined \$100,000.00 and imprisoned for one year. His attorney is satisfied with the outcome.