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First Aerial Drug Bust Suspect Enters Plea

(KAIR) -- The first of four suspects charged following the interception of an aerial drug deal from Colorado to Atchison has pleaded guilty.

Daniel Brown entered the plea Friday in Atchison County District Court to possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, a level three drug felony, amended down from a level two.

Brown was in a vehicle coming from Kansas City in early April planning to collect 42 pounds of high-grade marijuana worth over 100 thousand dollars at Atchison's Amelia Earhart Airport before the deal was intercepted by Atchison Police.

They were planning to meet a prop plane flying in from Colorado believed to have occupied by William Hiler and Lance Thompson.

Thompson will make his next appearance in court on June 28th, while a preliminary hearing for Hiler is set for July 16th.

Another suspect, Michael Staab, will make his next court appearance Monday.

Brown was released on bond Friday. Hiler is currently free on bond. Staab and Thompson remain in the Atchison County Jail.

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