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Woman pleads guilty to death by distribution charge

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BOONE – A woman pled guilty to death by distribution, marking the first conviction of its kind in Watauga County.

According to court documents, Angelina G. Miller, 30, was sentenced to 58-82 months in prison after she plead guilty to the charge that stemmed from a June 2023 arrest. She has already served 661 days.

Watauga County Sheriff's Office Det. William Watson, who was the lead investigator on the case, is pleased with the outcome.

“Overdose deaths have too often been overlooked, but this conviction reinforces the importance of thorough investigations and justice for victims and their families,” said Det. Watson. “I extend my deepest condolences to the Greenlee family and friends mourning the tragic loss of Karma at just 22 years old. This investigation was conducted in her honor, ensuring her memory contributes to justice and aware

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Watson also expressed gratitude to the Watauga County District Attorney's Office for its dedication to prosecuting this case, as well as the Boone Police Department, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Carter County Sheriff's Office and Hickory Police Department for their "invaluable" support. He said the case was "only possible through the collective efforts of all involved."



Angelina G. Miller.

Photo courtesy ACSO

According to previous reporting by the Watauga Democrat, Miller sold Fentanyl to Karma L. Greenlee who later died due to an overdose on March 14, 2023.

WCSO detectives began an investigation into the suspected overdose with assistance from the Boone Police Department, Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Alexander County Sheriff's Office and the Hickory Police Department. Two suspects were identified for allegedly selling and distributing the Fentanyl that killed Greenlee:

William M. Oxentine, of Johnson County, Tennessee, and Angelina G. Miller, of Catawba County. Oxentine will be served with the Death by Distribution charge once he has served his current time on the unrelated charges in Tennessee.

Fentanyl Victims Network of North Carolina Executive Director Barb Walsh said there were 35 fentanyl related fatalities between 2013-2023. Her daughter, Sophia Walsh, died in 2021 due to fentanyl.

“Undisclosed fentanyl additives are found in fake/counterfeit pills such as Adderall, Xanax, Oxycontin and Percocet,” Walsh said. “Victims obtain fake pills off the internet like SnapChat, from local dealers or from friends. They do not know they are fake and deadly. A Pharmacy is the only safe supplier of prescription medication. Deadly undisclosed fentanyl additives may also occur in recreational drugs such as cocaine, meth and heroin. This is a public safety issue across the state.”

To learn more about fentanyl deaths in North Carolina and prevention tools, visit [fentanylvictimnetworknc.org](https://www.fentanylvictimnetworknc.org).

“There is an antidote for opioid toxicity,” Walsh said. “It is called naloxone, also known by brand names such as Narcan, Kloxxado, and Revive. Naloxone nasal spray can be obtained without prescription at a pharmacy, your local health department and from local Harm Reduction organizations.”

Watauga Sheriff Len Hagaman commended the investigative team’s hard work and emphasized the broader significance of this case.

“We hope that no other family has to endure the heartbreak of losing a loved one to an overdose. This conviction serves as a critical step in promoting accountability and preventing future tragedies in our community and beyond,” said Sheriff Hagaman.