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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Highest Charge:	**Second Degree Unlawful Possession of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute**
Potential Sentence:	**10 Years of New Jersey State Prison**
Defendant:	**Devin A. Pupo, Sparta, New Jersey (Age 37)**

Sussex County Prosecutor Daniel M. Perez today announced a guilty plea entered by Devin A. Pupo of Sparta, New Jersey, to Second Degree Unlawful Possession of More Than Five Pounds but Less Than Twenty Pounds of Marijuana with the Intent to Distribute.

In 2024, the Sparta Township Police Department and the Sussex County Prosecutor's Office Guns, Gangs and Narcotics Task Force initiated an investigation into the Green Remedies store in Sparta, which was owned and operated by Devin Pupo. The investigation centered around illegal sales of marijuana products from a retail store that was not licensed to sell marijuana. In May 2025, law enforcement officers executed search warrants on the Green Remedies store, the Zenshine Shop store, and Devin Pupo's residence and vehicle. Police seized approximately twenty pounds of raw marijuana along with other evidence of illegal marijuana distribution. Police also seized $477,135.28 in cash and a 2024 Chevrolet Suburban valued at approximately $75,000. Devin Pupo was then charged on a criminal Complaint with the following criminal offenses:

1. Unlawful Maintaining a Premises for the Manufacture of Controlled Dangerous Substance, More Than Five Pounds of Marijuana, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-4, a Crime of the First Degree.
2. Unlawful Possession of More Than Five Pounds but Less Than Twenty Pounds of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-5b(10)(b), a Crime of the Second Degree.
3. Money Laundering in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:21-25a, a Crime of the Second Degree.
4. Conspiring with Others to Unlawfully Possess More Than Five Pounds but Less Than Twenty Pounds of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:5-2a, a Crime of the Second Degree.

On October 20, 2026, Devin Pupo pled guilty to Second Degree Unlawful Possession of More Than Five Pounds but Less Than Twenty Pounds of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute. During his guilty plea, Devin Pupo admitted to possessing approximately twenty pounds of

marijuana with the intent to sell that marijuana in his retail stores. He also admitted to using his vehicle, a 2024 Chevrolet Suburban, to transport marijuana and monies obtained from illegal marijuana sales. Devin Pupo also admitted that the $477,135.28 in cash seized by police during the investigation was derived from the illegal sale of marijuana. He consented to the forfeiture of the $477,135.28 cash proceeds and his vehicle to the State.

"This guilty plea represents an important step in holding accountable those responsible for maintaining large-scale illegal marijuana distribution businesses," said Sussex County Prosecutor Daniel M. Perez. Prosecutor Perez continued, "Unlicensed marijuana dispensaries operate above the law, place the public at risk, and undermine the regulated cannabis business community that plays by the rules. I commend Sparta Township Police Chief Jeffrey McCarrick, the Sparta Township Police Department, and the Sussex County Guns, Gangs, and Narcotics Task Force for their hard work and dedication to the pursuit of justice."

Devin Pupo is scheduled for sentencing before the Honorable Janine M. Allen, J.S.C., in Newton on January 15, 2027.

The Defendant is represented by John Williams, Esq., and the State is represented by Sussex County Deputy First Assistant Prosecutor Jerome P. Neidhardt.