

U.S. & WORLD

Matthew Perry’s ‘Dr. P’ sentenced to prison for supplying actor with ketamine before death

**BRITTNY MEJIA and
CHRISTOPHER BUCHANAN**
Los Angeles Times

A former physician who supplied ketamine to “Friends” star Matthew Perry in the weeks leading up to the actor’s death was sentenced Wednesday to serve 30 months — about two and a half years — in federal prison.

Salvador Plasencia, known to Perry as “Dr. P,” according to court filings, appeared before a federal judge Wednesday in downtown Los Angeles. He immediately surrendered after the hearing to begin serving his time.

Plasencia was also sentenced to two years of supervised release and ordered to pay a fine of \$5,600.

Plasencia pleaded guilty to four felony counts of ketamine distribution in July. He was one of five people charged last year in connection with Perry’s death in October 2023.

Prosecutors had asked the judge to sentence Plasencia to three years, acknowledging that Plasencia did not provide the ketamine that killed the actor. But, the prosecutors said in a sentencing memo, the doctor’s “egregious breaches of trust and abandonment of his oath to ‘do no harm’ undoubtedly contributed to the harm that Mr. Perry suffered.”

Plasencia’s attorneys asked that he be placed on three years of supervised release.

“Given the punishment Mr. Plasencia has already experienced, and will continue to experience for many years to come, a sentence of imprisonment is neither necessary nor warranted,” his lawyers wrote in a sentencing memo. “He has already lost his medical license, his clinic, and his career.”

Perry’s parents detailed their grief in emotional victim impact statements submitted ahead of sentencing. Suzanne and Keith Morrison, Perry’s mother and stepfather, wrote that they believed Plasencia “is among the most culpable of all.”

“Sometimes it’s a little easier to understand when a person commits a terrible crime. Maybe in the heat of passion, or because that person makes one very bad decision. Or some drug dealer, bad to the bone, who takes the calculated risk of getting caught and spending many years in prison. But ... a doctor? Who trades on respect, and trust?” they wrote. “No one alive and in touch with the world at all could have been unaware of Matthew’s struggles. But this doctor conspired to break his most important vows, repeatedly, sneaked through the night to meet his victim in secret. For what, a few thousand dollars? So he could feed on the vulnerability of our son.”

John and Debbie Perry, Perry’s father and stepmother, addressed Plasencia directly in their letter, writing that their son’s recovery “counted on you saying NO.”



Matthew Perry attends the GQ Men of the Year Party 2022 at The West Hollywood EDITION on Nov. 17, 2022, in West Hollywood. (Phillip Faraone/Getty Images/TNS)

“What ever were you thinking? How long did you possibly see supplying Matthew countless doses without his death to eventually follow? Did you care? Did you think?” they wrote. “How many more people have you harmed that we don’t know about?”

Plasencia was one of five co-conspirators named in an indictment last year, including Dr. Mark Chavez, Perry’s acquaintance Erik Fleming, and former personal assistant Kenneth Iwamasa. All of them have since pleaded guilty. Jasveen Sangha, a North Hollywood woman allegedly known as the “Ketamine Queen,” has also pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing for selling drugs to Perry.

Perry, 54, was found dead in the hot tub of his Pacific Palisades home two years ago on Oct. 28. He died from “acute effects of ketamine,” according to the Los Angeles County medical examiner’s office. Authorities say the actor’s final dose, injected by Iwamasa, was not provided by Plasencia.

According to the plea agreement, Plasencia was the owner and operator of Malibu Canyon Urgent Care, a clinic in Calabasas. He had applied and received authorization from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration to dispense, administer and prescribe narcotics and other controlled substances, as long as those prescriptions were for a legitimate medical purpose.

In late September 2023, about a month before Perry’s death, Plasencia was introduced

to Perry by one of his patients, who said the actor was a “high-profile person” willing to pay “cash and lots of thousands” for ketamine treatment, according to the agreement.

Plasencia admitted in the agreement that he spoke to the actor by phone and continued to exchange texts with Perry about the request for ketamine, a legal medication commonly used as an anesthetic. The drug can be abused recreationally, with users drawn to its dissociative effects.

After learning of Perry’s interest, Plasencia contacted Chavez, who had previously operated a ketamine clinic, to obtain the drug to sell to the actor, according to the indictment. In text messages to Chavez, Plasencia discussed how much to charge Perry for the ketamine, stating, “I wonder how much this moron will pay,” and “Lets find out,” according to the indictment.

In a letter to the judge ahead of sentencing, Plasencia said he treated Perry with ketamine and left vials with Iwamasa “despite signs of addiction.” He wrote that the large sums of money were appealing because his urgent care was struggling financially and he could “barely stay afloat.”

“I did not set out to harm anyone, but my decisions during those days betrayed my duty as a physician,” Plasencia wrote. “I crossed lines that no doctor should ever cross. No one forced me to do this; it was my own poor judgment and it was wrong.”

UK: Putin ‘sabre-rattling’ by saying Russia ready for war with Europe

PA MEDIA/DPA
(TNS)

LONDON — British Health Secretary Wes Streeting has dismissed Russian President Vladimir Putin’s comments that Russia is “ready” for war with Europe as the “same old sabre-rattling.”

British Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper meanwhile said the Russian leader should “end the bluster” as she joined NATO foreign ministers for talks on Wednesday.

Putin held talks for around five hours in Moscow with U.S. President Donald Trump’s envoy Steve Witkoff and his son-in-law Jared Kush-

ner.

The Kremlin called those talks, which ended late on Tuesday, “constructive”, but said they had not furthered the push towards peace in Ukraine.

Earlier, Putin had accused Kyiv’s European allies of sabotaging the U.S.-led efforts to end the war and rejected changes proposed by Ukraine and Europe to a U.S.-backed draft peace plan as unacceptable.

He accused Europe of amending peace proposals with “demands that are absolutely unacceptable to Russia”, thus “blocking the entire peace process” and blaming Moscow for it.

Putin said Russia has no plans to attack Europe, but warned, “If Europe suddenly wants to wage a war with us and starts it, we are ready right away. There can be no doubt about that.”

The health secretary told Sky News: “I think we should see this for what it is, which is the same old sabre-rattling we’ve heard from President Putin.

“And the the irony of President Putin talking about warmongering on the part of European leaders would be laughable if what he’s doing in Ukraine weren’t so serious.”

He added that “we do take the threat from Rus-

sia seriously” and that the U.K. government is “prioritizing investment in defence.”

Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper called on Putin to “end the bluster and the bloodshed.”

She said the U.K. would provide an additional £10 million (\$13.3 million) for Ukraine to repair its energy infrastructure after attacks by the Russian military as she arrived at the NATO foreign ministers’ meeting in Brussels.

She said: “Two presidents are seeking peace – President Trump and President Zelenskyy.

“But so far, all we have seen from President Putin is an attempt to escalate war, and that is

why President Putin should end the bluster and the bloodshed and be ready to come to the table and to support a just and lasting peace for Ukraine and for the security of Europe and the security of NATO.”

Kremlin adviser Yuri Ushakov said the Moscow talks had been “constructive,” but did not signal any breakthrough on the U.S. peace plan.

“Some of the American proposals seem more or less acceptable, but they need to be discussed.

“Some of the wording that was proposed to us doesn’t suit us. So, the work will continue,” he said.

Drunk raccoon found passed out after ‘liquor-fueled rampage’ at Va. store

MURI ASSUNÇÃO
New York Daily News

A “very intoxicated raccoon” was found passed out in the bathroom of a liquor store in Ashland, Va., over the weekend after breaking in and ransacking several shelves, officials said Tuesday.

The “Black Friday break-in” was discovered early Saturday morning by an employee at the Ashland ABC store.

The employee called the local animal control office to report that she had found the break-in “suspect” passed out on the bathroom floor.

Animal control officer Samantha Martin responded to the scene and “safely secured

our masked bandit and transported him back to the shelter to sober up before questioning,” the Hanover County Animal Protection and Shelter said in a Facebook post.

After a few hours of sleep and no signs of injury — “other than maybe a hangover and poor life choices” — the raccoon was released safely back into the wild, hopefully after having learned that “breaking and entering is not the answer,” the agency said.

Officer Martin was commended for her professionalism and good humor in handling the “chaotic scene.”

“Just another day in the life at Hanover Animal Protection!” officials said.



A Virginia store was trashed by a drunken raccoon, authorities said. (Hanover County Animal Protection and Shelter/TNS)

Classifieds

CLASSIFIED NEW
DEADLINES

Daily-11 a.m. Day Before
Saturday- 3 p.m. Thursday

Minimum Charge- 1 day, up to 15 words, \$8.25

Call the office 620-331-3550 to place your ad. We accept Visa, MasterCard or Discover cards, or you can pre-pay for your ad at our offices at 6th and Chestnut streets.

The Reporter reserves the right to edit, classify or reject any ad submitted.

The Independence Daily Reporter does not accept responsibility for the character of advertisers requesting its readers to make cash investments in business ventures. The Reporter does suggest you check thoroughly with your Chamber of Commerce, credit bureau, or your local banks before you make investments with concerns you know little or nothing about.

CLASSIFICATION INDEX

Topic	Number
ANNOUNCEMENTS (100)	
Food Specials	101
Business Opportunities.....	102
Coming Attractions	103
Notices	104
Lost & Found	105
Lodge Notices	106
EMPLOYMENT (120)	
Help Wanted.....	121
Jobs Wanted.....	122
MERCHANDISE (130)	
Auctions.....	131
Rummage Sales.....	132
Farm Equip. & Supplies.....	133
Livestock & Equip.....	134
Pets & Supplies	135
Indoor Goods.....	136
Outdoor Goods	137
Merchandise for Rent.....	138
Free	139
Merchandise Wanted.....	140
SERVICE (150)	
Services.....	151
Auctioneers.....	152
VEHICLES, ACCESSORIES (160)	
Autos.....	161
Trucks	162
Motorcycles	163
Recreational Vehicles	164
Vehicle Accessories	165
Vehicles Wanted	166
PROPERTY (180)	
Real Estate for Sale	181
Property for Rent.....	182
Mobile Homes.....	183
Property Wanted	184
Auctions.....	185
PUBLIC NOTICES	200

104 Notices

AA MEETINGS; 213 W. Oak; Independence; Noon Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday; Wednesday at 7pm. Thursday at 7pm; Sunday at 6pm. Alanon meetings; Tuesday at 7pm TF

151 Services

LOWRY CONSTRUCTION, new construction, room additions, steel buildings, remodeling, roofing, insurance claims. Locally owned since 2001. We do it all, 620-330-1943. TF

JESSE’S LAWN Service, mowing, cleaning, trimming. Free estimates. Call 620-779-3897. TF

ALWAYS A great gift idea; automatic garage doors, Independence Overhead Doors, Inc., 115 W. Main, Independence, 620-331-2445. TF

182 Property For Rent

HILLCREST RENTALS efficiency apartments, starting at \$125 weekly. Utilities paid. 620-714-0377. TF

CLIMATE CONTROL storage, available, Wittwer Storage, 1691 CR 4325, Coffeyville, 620-251-8542. TF

DEVORE STORAGE, secured perimeter, reasonable rates, easy access, 216 Cement, 620-331-8407, 620-926-0197, sizes available. TF



Got someone on your list that’s hard to buy for?

Stop by 320 N. 6th St. to pick up a Gift Subscription!

Independence Daily
Reporter