

Judge Says No Drugs For Rap Artist 50 Cent

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Hip-hop rap artist 50 Cent struck a deal with prosecutors on Friday that will help him avoid jail time for allegedly trampling two women and punching a third during a concert last year.

If the Shady/Aftermath Records rap artist, whose real name is Curtis Jackson, stays drug free for two years and follows other orders laid out by a judge, the charges will be dropped.

Rap artist 50 Cent, 29, who lives in Farmington, Conn., entered a plea Friday in Springfield District Court to facts sufficient for a guilty finding. He had been charged with three counts of assault and battery.

50 Cent left the courthouse through a back door without commenting to reporters.

The incident occurred during a surprise concert at Springfield's Hippodrome club last May, in which 50 Cent allegedly jumped into a crowd after someone threw or squirted water at him. Three women were injured.

After an investigation and a hearing last fall, a clerk magistrate decided there was probable cause for the charges.

Judge Robert Kumor told the hip-hop rapper on Friday that he has a responsibility to be a positive role model for his 9-year-old son and his fans.

"You're a cross-cultural entertainer," the judge said. "You have an obligation to people in society."