



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill
Middle District of Florida

Tampa

Orlando

Jacksonville

Fort Myers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 1, 2008

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/flm/pr>

CONTACT: STEVE COLE

PHONE: (813) 274-6136

FAX: (813) 274-6300

75 Years This Week For Gun Crime in Jacksonville

Jacksonville, Florida - Five different Armed Career Criminals made appearances in Federal Court in Jacksonville this week. Each defendant qualified for a minimum sentence of at least 15 years. On Monday, U.S. District Judge Timothy J. Corrigan, sentenced Dijon Jasmin, age 42, to 15 years in prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm. On Wednesday, Judge Corrigan sentenced Archie Smith, age 35, to 15 years in prison for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Also on Wednesday, U.S. District Judge Virginia M. Hernandez Covington sentenced Myron Canty, age 30, to 15 years and 6 months for being a felon in possession of a firearm and possessing counterfeit currency. On Monday and Thursday, two other Armed Career Criminals pled guilty before Magistrate Judges Howard T. Snyder and Monte C. Richardson. Both of those defendants will face at least 15 years in prison.

These cases were prosecuted as a part of the Department of Justice program "Project Safe Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong support from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill, along with Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge, ATF, is coordinating the effort here in the Middle District of Florida with federal, state and local law enforcement officials. The objective is to reduce violence crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.