

ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
New York Field Division

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ATF INVESTIGATION ENDS WITH DEATH SENTENCE FOR NEW YORK COP KILLER

NEW YORK – Brooklyn U.S. District Court Judge Nicholas Garaufis officially imposed the death sentence today on Ronell Wilson for killing two undercover New York police detectives in 2003.

The sentence against Wilson, 24, culminated the first successful federal capital punishment prosecution in New York in more than 50 years. When U.S. Attorney Roslynn R. Mauskopf for the Eastern District of New York agreed to take the case federally, she chose the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to carry out the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations ACT (RICO) investigation.

Media coverage cited ATF Special Agent Thomas Shelton for his contribution to the investigation.

Wilson was convicted in December 2006 of two counts of murder, along with robbery, carjacking and firearms charges. He becomes the city's first federal defendant to receive a death sentence since 1954, when it was imposed on a bank robber who killed an FBI agent.

More information on ATF and its programs to reduce violent crime is at www.atf.gov.

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