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SABINE PARISH DRUG DEALER SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT

Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation dubbed "Toledo Tackle"

Shreveport, Louisiana . . . A major drug trafficker from Sabine Parish was sentenced in federal court, United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced today. **LELAND LEMOND CALHOUN**, age 32, of Zwolle, Louisiana, was sentenced by United States District Judge Donald E. Walter to **spend 15 years in prison** for trafficking cocaine and methamphetamine. Three individuals have now been convicted of drug conspiracy and distribution charges stemming from a joint federal, state and local investigation code-named "Toledo Tackle" into a major drug trafficking and distribution conspiracy operating in Sabine Parish.

CALHOUN pleaded guilty in November 2007 to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. He was sentenced to 120 months for the drug conspiracy and 60 months for the firearms charge, to run consecutively, for a total of 180 months. The investigation revealed that CALHOUN, along with his associates **DANNY RAY LYNCH** and **ROBERT C. MONTGOMERY**, had been distributing cocaine and methamphetamine in Sabine Parish since 2002. **MONTGOMERY** received a 10-year sentence in January

2008, and LYNCH is serving an 8-year sentence after pleading guilty to the conspiracy charge. As a result of this investigation, the government seized in excess of \$13,000 in cash, a Zwolle area home, and six vehicles.

This case was the result of an investigation conducted by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) into a major drug trafficking and distribution conspiracy operating in Sabine Parish. OCDETF, consisting of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, is the nation's primary tool for disrupting and dismantling major drug trafficking organizations, targeting national and regional level drug trafficking organizations, and coordinating the necessary law enforcement entities and resources to disrupt or dismantle the targeted criminal organization and seize their assets.

U.S. Attorney Washington stated: "This investigation continues our efforts to strike at the heart of the most prominent drug trafficking organizations. Reducing the supply of illegal drugs to this community remains a major law enforcement priority. As drug traffickers like Leland Calhoun have become more sophisticated, so have federal, state, and local law enforcement organizations. We pledge to use every tool of the 21st Century available to law enforcement to continue aggressive, offensive investigations to target, investigate, and prosecute drug trafficking organizations."

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

"Operation Toledo Tackle" was conducted by OCDETF with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Sabine Parish Sheriff's Office acting as lead agencies. Assistant United States Attorney James G. Cowles, Jr., was the lead prosecutor for this case.

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