



U.S. Department of Justice

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EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Gary Tranell Young et al

**FIVE GANG MEMBERS SENTENCED FOR
JOY ROAD CRACK COCAINE CONSPIRACY**

Five members of a criminal drug dealing gang that distributed crack cocaine throughout the Detroit, Michigan area were sentenced in federal court today, announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy. Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Thomas Brandon, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Each defendant, identified as members of the "Joy Road" gang, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute, and conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute, crack cocaine.

This was a TIDE (Tactical Intelligence Driven Enforcement) investigation, lead by ATF and the Detroit Police Department with assistance from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Michigan State Police (MSP). The operation was run in tandem with the investigation of another Detroit drug dealing gang known as the "Detroit

Thug Lordz.” The year-long criminal investigation resulted in the federal indictments of 13 people.

In 2006, the gang was infiltrated by an undercover ATF agent, who purchased guns and crack cocaine from the gang members. The gang utilized the “dial-for-dope” method of drug trafficking, meaning that drug purchasers would call a particular cellular telephone that would be answered by a member of the gang. The gang member would broker the sale of drugs or guns with the customer and direct the customer to a location to receive the items in exchange for cash. Either the same gang member who answered the phone or a different member would then meet the customer and complete the transaction. The gang operated mainly in the area of Joy Road in the City of Detroit and used many different telephone numbers. The ATF estimates that the Joy Road gang took in an estimated \$10 million in drug proceeds over the course of its three-year operation.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, “Today’s sentences demonstrate the great results that can be achieved when federal, state, and local law enforcement work together as a team, as we do in Project TIDE, to fight violent crime in Northwest Detroit.” said Murphy. “The commitment of the partners in this endeavor has been extraordinary. With our success in Northwest Detroit, we hope to expand the TIDE initiative to other areas of the city.”

The five defendants were sentence by United States District Judge David M. Lawson to the following terms of imprisonment. All defendants are from Detroit.

Gary Tranell Young (*a.k.a.* “GY”), 24, received an enhanced sentence for his role as the organizer and leader of the gang. He was sentenced to a mandatory minimum 20 years imprisonment.

Issac Terrell Spencer (*a.k.a.* "Ike"), 24, was sentenced to 60 months imprisonment.

Reginald Jermaine Gilder (*a.k.a.* "JR"), 24, was sentenced to 60 months imprisonment.

Anthony Shane Mack (*a.k.a.* "Free"), 27, was sentenced to 60 months imprisonment.

Scott Jarad McDuffie (*a.k.a.* "Cuz"), 22, was sentenced to 48 months imprisonment.

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