

**U.S. Department of Justice** 

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**EVENT: Guity Plea** 

**Defendant: Anthony Hachem** 

## SOUTHGATE MAN SENTENCED TO 9 YEARS FOR PLOT TO STEAL 50 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE

A 26-year-old Southgate man was sentenced to 106 months' imprisonment in federal court today, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. Joining in the announcement was Acting, Special Agent-In-Charge William Temple, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Anthony Hachem pled guilty on May 25, 2007 before Judge Victoria A. Roberts to one felony count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime and one count of felon-in-possession of a firearm. Hachem and three other defendants -- Brett Hanke, 19, David Varner, 20, and Sarah Adams, 18 -- planned to rob a Schaefer Lyndon Self Storage unit in Detroit, which they believed contained 50 kilograms of powder cocaine. Hachem supplied three firearms to be used in the robbery, including a .357 Smith & Wesson and two Colt .22 caliber revolvers. Audio surveillance by ATF special agents recorded Hachem telling the co-defendants that "I think when we go in whoever is there should get shot right away, killed. I think that's the best bet, there's no

point in leaving somebody alive to f---ing retaliate."

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said,"The ruthless violence intended by the defendants in this case never came to pass thanks to the excellent work of the ATF in disrupting the planning of this armed robbery. Fifty kilos of cocaine were evidently worth more than the lives of whoever could have gotten in the way of this armed and violent gang. I commend the work of the investigators and the prosecutors in this case."

This is Hachem's eleventh criminal conviction. In 1999, he was convicted of Home Invasion –  $2^{nd}$  Degree. He also has four felony drug convictions, the most recent in 2005.

Co-defendant David Varner was sentenced to 76 months imprisonment on December 4, 2007. Sentencing for Brett Hanke and Sarah Adams is set for January 8, 2008.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Leonid Feller and Kevin Mulcahy.