

U.S. Department of Justice

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EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Stanley Brazil, Jr. et al

SUNNYSIDE GANG MEMBERS PLEAD GUILTY

Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg announced that nine of the ten defendants indicted in connection with the Sunnyside Gang's distribution of crack cocaine in Saginaw have pleaded guilty to a variety of charges in the United States District Court in Bay City. The remaining defendant, Stanley Brazil, Jr., awaits a September 16 trial before the Honorable Thomas L. Ludington, announced. Mr. Berg was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Thomas E. Brandon, Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Two gang members have already been sentenced. Jeffrey Dale Harris, Jr., of Saginaw received a 120 month sentence and Terrance Lavonn Harris received a 60 month sentence following their pleas of guilty to Distribution of Cocaine Over 5 grams.

Other defendants who have pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing are Demetress Lashawn Bryant, Damarlon Cenaka Thomas, Torrelee Brazil, Morris Lee Calhoun, Jr., Willie Floyd Jackson, Kevin Stephens, and Dlaurence Curtis McCall. The defendants pled to a variety of drug charges and face sentencing ranges of 46 months up to 327 months. They will

be sentenced in November.

This indictment, known as "Sunnyside II" is the follow up investigation of the Sunnyside Gang. The gang operated primarily within the Saginaw, Michigan, area distributing large amounts of crack cocaine. A combined investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), with the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Michigan State Police (MSP), and the Bay Area Narcotics Enforcement Team (BAYANET) led to the indictment and prosecution of 15 individuals in 2006. The indictment for Sunnyside II was issued by a federal grand jury in October, 2007.

Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg stated, "This investigation has had a very significant impact in interdicting the flow of crack cocaine in the Saginaw area. The number of defendants convicted indicates the extent of this operation. We will continue to target any operation who seeks to import and sell crack cocaine to our citizens. I commend the agents who participated in this investigation. Their efforts and tenacity have made a very positive impact on the quality of life in Saginaw."

Special Agent in Charge Brandon said, "These guilty pleas show that collaborative law enforcement partnerships work in targeting violent gangs, and ATF is always honored to work with MSP, the FBI, and the Saginaw PD."