



Department of Justice

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VIOLENT CAREER OFFENDER DERRICK JONES SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON

Atlanta, GA - DERRICK DWAYNE JONES, 29, of Atlanta, Georgia, was sentenced late yesterday by United States District Judge Richard W. Story on charges of possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine and marijuana, and being a felon in possession of a handgun.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the case, "This is another example of federal and local agencies working together to find and capture a repeat offender with a violent history that includes drug sales. The ATF, U.S. Marshals Service Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force, and Fulton County Police Department put their lives at risk in the pursuit and safe capture of such dangerous criminals."

JONES was sentenced to 25 years in prison to be followed by 8 years of supervised release. JONES was convicted of the charges on December 9, 2005 after a 4-day jury trial. The United States moved to enhance JONES' sentence on the basis of his prior drug and violent crime convictions, classifying him as a "Career Offender."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: JONES was indicted on the charges in May 2004. JONES, a fugitive on state charges of aggravated assault, was apprehended by the Southeastern Regional Fugitive Task Force in an Atlanta area motel near Fulton Industrial Boulevard, where he was hiding. JONES had approximately 10 grams of crack cocaine, a large quantity of marijuana and a fully-loaded 9mm semi-automatic pistol in his possession when he was arrested. Agents from the Task Force commanded JONES to come out from his hidden position in the room. When JONES refused, agents stormed the room and took him out by force.

ATF Special Agent In Charge Vanessa McLemore said of the case, "Removing a career criminal (with previous convictions for drugs, firearms and aggravated assault) from the streets for 25 years, is a victory for DeKalb and Atlanta metro area citizens who deserve to live in a crime-free environment. This should persuade other criminals to choose another career and become upstanding citizens."

This case was investigated by the ATF, with assistance from the U.S. Marshals Service Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force and the Fulton County Police Department.

Assistant United States Attorney Zahra S. Karinshak prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias, United States Attorney or F. Gentry Shelnett, Chief, Criminal Division, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.