



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton  
Middle District of Florida

Tampa

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Jacksonville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ST. PETERSBURG DRUG DEALER SENT  
TO PRISON FOR MORE THAN 26 YEARS**

Tampa, FL - U.S. District Judge James Moody, today, sentenced Vincent Bush, age 37, to 24 ½ years' imprisonment, to be followed by five years of supervised release, for possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, powder cocaine, and marijuana, as well as possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Bush entered a guilty plea on January 8, 2008. According to court documents, following several undercover purchases of narcotics from Vincent Bush's house, law enforcement conducted a search of his residence. During the search, they recovered crack cocaine, powder cocaine, marijuana, firearms and ammunition. Bush was already a convicted felon and was, at the time of the search, on federal supervision following his release from prison on a 1998 crack cocaine distribution charge. As noted in open court, the 295-month sentence is consecutive to a 24-month sentence imposed by U.S. District Judge Steven Merryday for the violation of supervised release. All together, Bush was sentenced to 319 months in federal prison.

This is another case prosecuted as a part the Department of Justice program "Project Safe Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong

support from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton, along with Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge, ATF Tampa Field Division, is coordinating the cooperative effort here in the Middle District of Florida with federal, state and local law enforcement officials. The objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the St. Petersburg Police Department. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas N. Palermo.