



U.S. Department of Justice

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FORMER STERLING RESIDENT PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF COCAINE

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; GARY SPENCER, Whiteside County State’s Attorney; and RON POTTHOFF, Sterling Police Chief, today made the following announcement:

JULIAN L. WYRE, 30, formerly of Sterling, Illinois, pled guilty today in Rockford federal court to illegally possessing with intent to distribute 6.9 grams of cocaine base (“crack cocaine”). In pleading guilty, Wyre admitted that on May 8, 2007, he was present at a residence in Sterling when the Sterling Police and Illinois State Police executed a search warrant. As officers entered the residence, Wyre jumped out of a kitchen window and ran, but was apprehended. At the time of Wyre’s arrest, Wyre possessed 7 “rocks” of crack cocaine, weighing approximately 6.9 grams, in his pants pocket, along with cash.

Sentencing for Wyre is scheduled for November 6, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. Wyre faces a maximum potential sentence of 40 years in prison, and a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years in prison. Wyre also faces a fine of up to \$2,000,000, a term of supervised release of at least four years following imprisonment and up to life. The actual sentence will be determined by a United States District Court Judge, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The case was investigated by Rockford office of the FBI and the Sterling Police Department, with the assistance of the Illinois State Police Tactical Response Team. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph C. Pedersen.

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