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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**EASTERN SHORE WOMAN SENTENCED FOR
MONEY LAUNDERING OF DRUG PROCEEDS**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Allen F. Loucks announces that today U.S. District Court Judge J. Frederick Motz sentenced Natasha Adams, a native of Salisbury, age 27, of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, to 2 years in prison, followed by 2 years of supervised release for money laundering of drug proceeds.

During her guilty plea on April 21, 2005, the government proved that between 1997 and 2003, Jermaine Wallace and others conspired to distribute, and distributed, cocaine hydrochloride and cocaine base in the District of Maryland, primarily in Prince George's County, Maryland, and counties located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The distribution of the controlled substances by Wallace and others in the conspiracy generated large sums of money. Wallace solicited the assistance of his girlfriend Natasha Adams, in the concealment and legitimation of the illegal proceeds. Natasha Adams was aware that the monies provided by Jermaine Wallace were proceeds of his drug sales. During the course of the conspiracy, Natasha Adams used drug proceeds to purchase a 2000 BMW X5 on March 9, 2000 and to obtain a loan in the amount of \$206,275.42 to purchase a home located at 4200 Lavendar Lane, Mitchellville, Maryland in December 2002. In

addition, Natasha Adams used various bank accounts which contained cash provided by Wallace to send wire transfers to and on behalf of Wallace. Between 2000 and 2002, Adams wired approximately \$17,723 from the accounts. Finally, for the period between 1998 and 2002, Natasha Adams's bank accounts with Chevy Chase Bank reflect deposits totaling \$364,142.41, of which approximately \$191,374.32 were in cash. The cash deposits constitute drug proceeds from Jermaine Wallace.

The case is a result of a joint three-year investigation by the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation Division, Baltimore Field Office, and the Drug Enforcement Administration, Baltimore District Office, Salisbury Post of Duty. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Angela R. White and Christine Manuelian.