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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**KENT COUNTY DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO 262 MONTHS**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Allen F. Loucks, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced today that Charles Harmer, age 30, of Worton, Kent County, Maryland was sentenced today by United States District Judge Catherine C. Blake to 262 months in prison for possession with the intent to distribute cocaine base and a concurrent 240 month sentence for possession with the intent to distribute cocaine hydrochloride. The sentence will be followed by 4 years of supervised release. During today's sentencing hearing the Court found that Harmer was a career offender based on his prior convictions in 1995 for aggravated assault and in 1997 for murder in the third degree. Both prior convictions occurred in Philadelphia.

During 2002, the Maryland State Police and Kent County Narcotics Task Force investigated Harmer's distribution of cocaine base and cocaine hydrochloride in Kent County. Evidence presented during a jury trial in October 2004, revealed that Harmer was in possession of both cocaine base and cocaine hydrochloride during the November 2002 searches of two locations where Harmer lived, 7464 Cedar Road and 11168 Potts Road, both in Kent County. The evidence further showed that Harmer used rental cars and various names, including "Charlie Mack" and "Charles Harmon" in an effort to disguise his true identity from law enforcement.

This case was investigated by the Maryland State Police and Kent County Narcotics Task Force and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Angela White.