



# Department of Justice

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**FORMER GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL LEGEND**  
**RONALD PERRY MOON SENTENCED TO LIFE**  
**FOR DISTRIBUTING DRUGS IN NORTH GEORGIA**

Gainesville, GA - RONALD PERRY MOON, 49, of Commerce, Georgia, was sentenced to life in prison today by Senior United States District Judge William C. O'Kelley on charges related to the sale of cocaine and methamphetamine during February and April, 2005. MOON was one of the defendants in a coordinated federal and state drug investigation that has resulted in approximately 40 arrests in Barrow County, Georgia.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said, "The case of Ronald Perry Moon is especially tragic. Mr. Moon was a star running back on Commerce High School's football team during the 1970's, and held the Georgia high school rushing record which was later broken by Herschel Walker. Mr. Moon was a scholarship athlete who played football at Memphis State University and the University of Louisville, but left college in 1978. Between 1983 and 1996, Mr. Moon was convicted four times for violating the drug laws of the State of Georgia. His prior record resulted in a greatly enhanced sentence in this case."

MOON was sentenced to life in prison, without the possibility of parole. MOON was convicted by a jury on November 30, 2005, following a three-day trial in federal court in Gainesville.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: MOON met with an undercover DEA agent on February 11, 2005, in Winder, Georgia, and sold the undercover agent packages of crack cocaine and powder cocaine, in exchange for \$5600. Later, on April 12, 2005, MOON arranged for the undercover DEA agent to meet other people at a house in Commerce, where the undercover agent purchased a quantity of methamphetamine for \$4000.

Sherri Strange, Special Agent in Charge of the Atlanta Division, DEA, applauded the investigation which led to the arrest of MOON, and a number of other drug dealers in Barrow County. Ms. Strange noted that the investigation began when the Mayor of Statham, Georgia, contacted the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation,

and sought help in eliminating the distribution of crack cocaine which was taking place on the streets of his city. In response to the Mayor's request, DEA and GBI joined forces with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Barrow County Sheriff's Office to deal with the problem. After an investigation lasting several months, approximately 40 drug dealers operating in Barrow County were arrested and charged. Barrow County District Attorney Tim Madison's office took the lead, handling approximately 30 of the prosecutions.

Among the defendants in the federal cases: MICHAEL LOUIS MAYWEATHER, 42, of Winder, who pleaded guilty in November 2005 to related drug charges and faces a statutory minimum of 240 months in federal prison; LINWOOD CLAUDE HARRIS, Jr., 30, of Monroe, Georgia, who also pleaded guilty in November 2005 to related drug charges and faces a statutory minimum of 240 months in federal prison; JAMAR YOUNG, 26, of Winder, Georgia, who was convicted by jury in December 2005 on drug charges and also faces a statutory minimum of 240 months in federal prison and a maximum of life in prison; and MARCUS B. HALE, 21, of Statham, Georgia, who pleaded guilty in November 2005 to related drug charges and also faces a statutory minimum of 240 months in federal prison.

United States Attorney Nahmias added, "When many different law enforcement agencies cooperate with each other in order to achieve a common goal, we really can make a difference in taking drugs off the streets of our communities in North Georgia."

Assistant United States Attorney H. Allen Moye prosecuted the case.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Atlanta recommends parents and children learn about the dangers of drugs at the following web site: [www.justthinktwice.com](http://www.justthinktwice.com).

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney or William Thomas, 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](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan).