U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney's Office District of Delaware

Nemours Building 1007 N. Orange St., Suite 700 P.O. Box 2046 Wilmington, Delaware 19899-2046

(302) 573-6277 FAX (302) 573-6220

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, December 22, 2008

Colm F. Connolly United States Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

Local Drug Dealer Sentenced to 40 Years on Cocaine Conspiracy, Money Laundering, and Firearms Charges

Colm F. Connolly, United States Attorney for the District of Delaware, announced that earlier today Jeffrey Gray, a/k/a "Dahmer," was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Joseph J. Farnan, Jr., to 40 years in prison on drug conspiracy, money laundering, and firearms charges. The defendant received 35 years on the drug charges, and an additional 5 consecutive years on the gun offense.

Gray was convicted after a six day jury trial held in May 2008. At the trial, law enforcement agents testified that they had set up a sting operation at Philadelphia area hotel in October 2006. Gray had driven his co-conspirator to purchase at least three kilograms of cocaine and was waiting in the car when officers converged. Agents testified that Gray fled in his car across the hotel parking lot, crashed through a chain gate, and then jumped out of the moving vehicle and fled on foot before being apprehended by police. Officers later discovered a loaded firearm in the vehicle. Co-conspirators testified at trial that Gray was one their primary distributors of cocaine in the Wilmington area, and the evidence showed that Gray had a role in the distribution of 50 kilograms of cocaine in Delaware. In addition, trial evidence showed that Gray had an expensive lifestyle but no legitimate source of income.

In sentencing the defendant, United States District Court Judge Joseph J. Farnan, Jr. cited the Gray's role in distributing a large quantity of cocaine, the added danger of a firearm, and Gray's extensive criminal history.

U.S. Attorney Connolly said that this sentence reflects the seriousness of drug and gun offenses, and that it "should send a message to those involved in the drug trade that they will face serious jail time when convicted in federal court." U.S. Attorney Connolly also credited the efforts of the DEA, FBI, and IRS agents who investigated the case.

For further information, please contact Assistant U.S. Attorney Ilana Eisenstein.

* * *