



U.S. Department of Justice

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Feb 1, 2007

EVENT: Guilty Verdict

Defendant: Ilene Ruth Moses

A Resident of Las Vegas, Nevada found Guilty of Federal Crimes

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced that a jury, after deliberating approximately two days, returned guilty verdicts today against Ilene Ruth Moses, a resident of Las Vegas, Nevada, for various violations of federal criminal law, including wire fraud, mail fraud, bank fraud, money laundering, conspiracy to launder money, bankruptcy fraud, perjury, and making false statements to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The four week trial was conducted before Senior United States District Judge Patrick J. Duggan in Detroit, Michigan.

Ilene Ruth Moses, aged 70, operated a women's clothing manufacturing and sales business in Detroit in the 1980s and was celebrated as one of the 10 Michiganians of the year by the Detroit News in 1984 for her apparent business acumen and financial success. She was also honored by the United Nations for her seeming business success.

The evidence presented at trial established that Ilene Moses, formerly of Grosse Pointe and owner

of SMS, Inc. of Detroit, defrauded two banks, Michigan National Bank and Swiss Cantobank International, out of approximately \$26 million between 1983 and 1988. Afterwards, Ilene Moses lulled the banks into believing that she was the victim of the secret cartel with whom she had conducted her international business and was able to avoid the discovery of her fraud by the FBI until 1992. Mrs. Moses and her codefendants were able to persuade a Swiss auditing firm that she really had these contacts to the secret cartel and in that way convinced the auditing firm to provide confirmation of millions of dollars of business supposedly being conducted between Mrs. Moses' companies and the cartel, which resulted in millions of dollars supposedly owed to Mrs. Moses' companies. These assets were then included in SMS's audited financial statements, which enabled Moses to obtain her bank loans. The fraud involved the use of a number of shell companies in Europe and Hong Kong, and a system of phony paperwork which helped make Moses' business look real to her auditors and bankers.



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Feb 6, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Ronald Roscoe

**CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED FOR
POSSESSION CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

A convicted sex offender was sentenced this afternoon to 10 years in federal prison for possession of child pornography in violation of federal law, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Brian M. Moskowitz, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Ronald Roscoe, 44, of Petersburg, Michigan, was sentenced by United States District Judge John Corbett O'Meara.

Roscoe pleaded guilty in October 2006 to one count of Possession of Child Pornography. At the time of his plea, Roscoe admitted to the Court that on or about April 4, 2006, he knowingly possessed approximately 200 images of child pornography on his home computer which were obtained from the internet.

United States Attorney Murphy said "Today's 10-year sentence shows that child pornography possession can result in a significant criminal penalty. Those involved with child pornography in any way -- including the purchasing and downloading such images -- fuel an industry that abuses and causes irreparable harm to young children. Our critical mission is to do all we can to protect these children and prevent similar abuse from being visited on other potential victims."

ICE Special Agent in Charge Brian M. Moskowitz stated, "This case reveals the disturbing truth that some adults will go to great lengths to sexually exploit children. While we cannot restore innocence to those who were abused and exploited, we can make sure that justice is served. ICE will ensure that justice is served on behalf of the victims."

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

U.S. Attorney Murphy thanked the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement for their successful investigation of the case. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frances Lee Carlson.



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Feb 8, 2007

EVENT: Sentenced

Defendant: Douglas Kornacki

**BROWNSTOWN TOWNSHIP MAN SENTENCED TO 35 YEARS AFTER
THREE ARMED ROBBERIES AND SHOOTING AT ALLEN PARK POLICE**

A 42-year-old Brownstown Township man was sentenced to 35 years' imprisonment in federal court today after pleading guilty to using, carrying, and discharging a short-barreled shotgun during a crime of violence, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. The defendant admitted to being involved in three armed robberies, one of which involved shooting at Allen Park police in the fall of 2004. Joining in the announcement was FBI Acting Special Agent-In-Charge .

Receiving the sentence from United States District Judge John Corbett O'Meara was Douglas Kornacki, 42, of Brownstown Township. Kornacki pleaded guilty on September 27, 2006 after one day of trial.

At the time of the plea, Kornacki admitted that he stole approximately \$7,000 from the National City branch in Brownstown Township and the Blockbuster Video and CVS Pharmacy stores in Taylor. The robberies took place on September 13, October 9, and October 12,

2004, respectively. Kornacki also admitted that he fired at two Allen Park police cruisers while trying to escape following the CVS heist. Police did not return fire during the incident.

Kornacki's wife, Elizabeth, who was the getaway driver in all three robberies, also pleaded guilty. She was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment on October 31, 2006.

United States Attorney Murphy said, "While we regard all violent crime cases with the utmost gravity, anytime a defendant shoots at police, the case will go to the top of our priority list. Today's 35-year sentence is an appropriately significant penalty in light of the seriousness of the violent conduct that took place in this case. It should remind all those with potential to engage in violent criminal activity that doing so will result in hard time in federal prison."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Frances Lee Carlson and Leonid Feller.



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Feb 9, 2007

EVENT: Sentenced

Defendant: Kenneth Heath

**SHELBY TOWNSHIP TAX PROTESTER
SENTENCED ON TAX EVASION CHARGES**

A 69-year-old Shelby Township man was sentenced to 21 months in prison by a federal judge today after being found guilty in September of four counts of tax evasion and one count of attempting to pass a fictitious financial instrument, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by IRS Special Agent in Charge Maurice Aouate.

Receiving the sentence from United States District Judge George Caram Steeh was Kenneth Heath, 69, of Shelby Township. Heath was a self-proclaimed follower of nationally-known convicted tax protester Irwin Schiff. Heath was convicted of avoiding the payment of more than \$37,000 after failing to file tax returns or pay any taxes in 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

United States Attorney Murphy said, “The right to protest cannot cross the line into unlawful conduct. Although our system depends on the voluntary compliance of citizens, no one is exempt from paying taxes or following federal tax laws.”

Maurice Aouate, Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation Division, said, “The courts have consistently held that there are no legal grounds for failure to file tax returns or failure to pay your tax liability. Mr. Heath was put on notice of this when the book he relied upon was written from a prison cell by an author who had similar anti-tax behaviors.”

During the trial, Heath testified that after reading a book by Schiff, who was sent to prison in 2006 after his fourth tax evasion conviction, called “The Federal Mafia” he became convinced that he did not have a legal obligation to pay federal income taxes. At sentencing, Heath said he refused to accept the court’s jurisdiction over him or admit that he had committed a crime.

In imposing the sentence, Judge Steeh stated: “Mr. Heath is not alone in his tax protesting behaviors and there is obviously . . . a need to promote respect for the law and to deter others from engaging in this conduct.” Judge Steeh rejected Heath’s “claimed good faith belief” that he did not have to pay taxes, noting that Heath “found ideas to support his behavior that are convenient for the circumstances he is in.”

In addition to his prison sentence, Heath was ordered to cooperate with the IRS in determining and repaying the taxes he owes, serve a three-year term of supervised release, and pay a special assessment of \$500.

In September, a jury deliberated for less than three hours before returning the verdict, concluding a three-day trial before Judge Steeh.

In addition to his conviction on four counts of felony tax evasion, Heath was also convicted of the fictitious instruments charge after he admitted sending a realistic-looking “Registered Bill of Exchange” to the IRS for \$88,000 in hopes the agency would wipe out his tax debt. An expert witness for the government testified at trial that there is no such thing as a “Registered Bill of Exchange.”

Murphy commended the two-year long investigation of special agents from the IRS Criminal Investigation Division.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Sarah Resnick Cohen and James Mitzelfeld.



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Feb 12, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Michael Lazo Mihal

**FORMER DETROIT POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED FOR RECEIPT AND POSSESSION OF CHILD
PORNOGRAPHY**

A former Detroit Police Officer was sentenced today to 41 months imprisonment for charges related to the receipt and possession of child pornography, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Michael Lazo Mihal, 57 of Detroit, was sentenced by United States District Judge Nancy G. Edmunds.

Mihal pleaded guilty in October 2006 to one count of Receipt of Child Pornography, and one count of Possession of Child Pornography. Mihal became the subject of an investigation after the United States Postal Inspection Service arrested Angel Mariscal, and shut down his illegal business Cultural Research Team (CRT) in 2002. For years, Mariscal videotaped himself raping and sexually assaulting children in Central and South American countries, and distributed the tapes to customers, such as Mihal, for a profit. Mariscal was sentenced to 100 years in federal prison for his crimes. CRT records recovered during the investigation showed Mihal ordered child pornographic videotapes from CRT from on at least 17 different occasions

between April 1998 and June 2001.

In September 2003, Postal Inspectors searched defendant's residence and his computer for child pornography and found more than 8,000 images and more than 100 movies/movie files.

containing child pornography, 60 of the movies were produced by Mariscal and CRT.

United States Attorney Murphy applauded the efforts of the Postal Inspection Service for their aggressive pursuit of those who prey on children. "Protecting these innocent victims of violent sexual assault from suffering the injury of re-victimization by child pornography distributors is paramount. These images represent a photographic record of a violent crime in progress. The horror of the crime, having been reduced to a recording, may well haunt the victims for years to come."

Murphy praised the work of the Postal Inspection Service for their professionalism and dedication in their aggressive and thorough investigation of these cases.

Assistant United States Attorney Saima Mohsin, prosecuted case for the United States.



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Feb 15, 2007

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY STEPHEN J. MURPHY ANNOUNCES
PLANS TO HOST 2007 WEED AND SEED NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy is pleased to announce that Detroit has been selected as the site of the 2007 National Weed and Seed Conference. The conference will be held at the Renaissance Center/Marriott Hotel complex August 20, 2007 through August 24, 2007.

Weed and Seed is a U.S. Department of Justice program that brings together diverse representatives from local government, community leaders, community service providers and residents to form a program aimed at deterring crime, promoting economic growth and enhancing quality of life.

Upon application by United States Attorney Murphy's office, Detroit was chosen as the conference site by the Director of the Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) of the Justice Department's Office of Justice Programs. Several factors were considered in selecting the site, including assistance from the local Weed and Seed sites, commitment from the local United States Attorney's Office, support of the host city, as well as the hotel and meeting space package available. After reviewing several other submissions by United States

Attorney's Offices from across the nation, CCDO selected Detroit for having the most impressive overall package.

United States Attorney Murphy stated, "I am thrilled that Detroit has been selected as the site of the 2007 Weed and Seed national conference. This important event will bring Weed and Seed participants from across the nation to our great city. Beyond serving to boost the local economy, the gathering will allow us to showcase some of the excellent work being done by our office and by our local partners at the six southeast Michigan Weed and Seed sites – all of which are doing terrific work in cleaning up neighborhoods and reducing violent crime."

The conference is held for participants from the numerous different Weed and Seed sites throughout the United States and it will afford participants an opportunity to engage in a variety of group exercises and hands-on-training. The conference will likely bring more than 1600 visitors and countless tourist dollars to Detroit.

CCDO is an agency within the Justice Department's Office of Justice Programs. The mission of CCDO is to help communities help themselves, enabling them to develop solutions to public safety problems and to strengthen leadership to implement and sustain those solutions. This mission is carried out by means of the National Weed and Seed Program.

Since the inception of Operation Weed and Seed in 1991, the CCDO has designated more than 300 communities as Weed and Seed sites, including six in southeast Michigan: Inkster, Flint East, Highland Park, northwest Detroit, northeast Detroit and Flint Westside.

The highly effective Weed and Seed initiative is the flagship program of CCDO.

Weed and Seed is an innovative and comprehensive multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization.

Four fundamental principles underlie the Weed and Seed strategy:

- ★ COLLABORATION - among agencies and residents
- ★ COORDINATION - of resources

- ★ COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION - residential participation from those that live in the site area
- ★ AND LEVERAGING RESOURCES - utilizing exist resources to develop a strategy and network these services to better serve the community.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Michigan is home to Six Officially Recognized Weed and Seed sites that each receive the benefit of a one million dollar grant to assist these sites to target high crime, prison re-entry and community revitalization.

The United States Attorney's office for the Eastern District of Michigan is comprised of almost 100 attorneys and a similar number of support professionals dedicated to representing the interests of the United States in a 34 county region populated by approximately 6.7 million residents. The office is led by United States Attorney Stephen Murphy, who was appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by unanimous consent of the U.S. Senate on June 8, 2005.

For more information on CCDO, please visit their website at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/nonflash.html



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Stephen Moore - IRS (313) 234-2410

Feb 21, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Ali Abdul Karim Farhat

**FINAL DEFENDANT SENTENCED
IN 17-MEMBER COMPLEX FRAUD SCHEME**

The last of seventeen defendants indicted in a large-scale scheme to defraud numerous credit card companies, banks, mortgage lenders and the bankruptcy court was sentenced today in federal court, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

U.S. Attorney Murphy was joined in the announcement by Acting Special Agent in Charge Judith Chilen, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Detroit Division and Special Agent in Charge Maurice Aouate of the Internal Revenue Service.

Mr. Murphy said: "Today's sentence wraps up an extensive, multilayered fraud scheme involving credit card 'bust-outs,' mortgage frauds and bankruptcy frauds. These corrupt practices can be extremely difficult to detect, investigate and root out, and it is a tribute to the tireless efforts of the FBI, the IRS, and the prosecutors in our office who worked on the case that we have been able to successfully investigate and obtain convictions of all of the defendants involved in such a complex and varied artifice. Individuals who would attempt to

carry out illegal fraud schemes should be forewarned: those schemes will be detected and prison time may very well follow.”

“An entire family thought they had the skills to defraud the banking industry and the bankruptcy court system,” said Aouate. “The IRS Criminal Investigation Division will use their financial skills to make sure that this type of activity can only lead to prison.”

Between October 2006 and today, the following individuals, all but two of Dearborn, MI, were sentenced before U.S. District Judge John Corbett O’Meara after having entered guilty pleas in August 2006:

- Ali Abdul Karim Farhat, 42, was sentenced to 74 months’ imprisonment for conspiracy to violate the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act (RICO) and ordered to pay \$669,125 in restitution. As part of his sentencing, Mr. Farhat forfeited his business and \$72,621 in cash. In addition, Judge O’Meara ordered that Farhat be remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals.
- Sadek Berro (also known as Sam Berro), 51, was sentenced to 78 months’ imprisonment for conspiracy to violate RICO and ordered to pay \$1,224,003 in restitution.
- Abdulamir Berro, 38, was sentenced to 70 months’ imprisonment for conspiracy to violate RICO and ordered to pay \$669,125 in restitution.
- Akram Berro, 49, of Taylor, MI, was sentenced to 44 months’ imprisonment for conspiracy to commit bank fraud and mail fraud, bankruptcy fraud and conspiracy to launder money and ordered to pay \$521,657 in restitution.
- Jamal Berro, 51, of Taylor, MI, was sentenced to 46 months’ imprisonment for conspiracy to commit bank fraud and mail fraud, bankruptcy fraud and conspiracy to launder money and ordered to pay \$521,657 in restitution.
- Nassib Saadallah Berro, 61, was sentenced to 41 months’ imprisonment for conspiracy

to commit bank and mail fraud and was ordered to pay \$468,301 in restitution.

- Abdul Halim Berro, 41, was sentenced to 35 months' imprisonment for conspiracy to commit bank and mail fraud and was ordered to pay \$421,120 in restitution.
- Sami Ahmad Berro, 53, was sentenced to 27 months' imprisonment for conspiracy to commit bank and mail fraud and ordered to pay \$124,549 in restitution.
- Zeinab Berro, 43, was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment for conspiracy to commit bank and mail fraud and was ordered to pay \$554,878 in restitution.
- Hussein A. Berro, 47, was sentenced to 14 ½ months' imprisonment for conspiracy to commit bank and mail fraud and ordered to pay \$352,500 in restitution.
- Amira Farhat, 42, was sentenced to 12 months' and 1 day imprisonment for bank fraud and fined \$4,000.
- Houda Mohamad Berro, 28, was sentenced to 12 months' and 1 day imprisonment for bank fraud in connection with false statements she made to obtain mortgage loans. As part of her sentencing, Ms. Berro forfeited the property obtained through fraud.
- Abdul Karim Akram Berro, 24, was sentenced to 10 months' imprisonment for false statements.
- Noura Berro, 49, was sentenced to 8 months' imprisonment for conspiracy to commit bank and mail fraud and ordered to pay \$124,549 in restitution.
- Salwa Nassib Berro, 41, was sentenced to 10 months' imprisonment for conspiracy to commit bank and mail fraud and ordered to pay \$468,301 in restitution.
- Almire Ali-Sadek Berro, 26, was sentenced to 3 years' probation for bank fraud.
- Lina Reda (née Berro), 26, was sentenced to 1 year probation for false statements

made to obtain a mortgage loan.

According to documents filed in the case, from March 1999 through April 2004, the defendants defrauded numerous creditors and the bankruptcy court through a large-scale credit card “bust out” scheme. As part of the scheme, Ali Farhat and Abdulmir Berro, aided by Sadek Berro, used their companies to process over one million dollars in credit card transactions for other defendants in exchange for cash and discounted merchandise, knowing that payment would not be made for the charges. The credit card companies and banks transferred funds to Ali Farhat and Abdulmir Berro in the amount of the charges to the credit cards but ultimately never received payment from the defendant-credit card holders. The defendants maximized the value they could obtain from the credit cards by making charges on the cards, submitting non-sufficient funds checks to free up the available credit on the card, and then making additional charges on the cards before the card issuers became aware that the checks were worthless. The defendants then took steps to evade collection efforts by creditors by declaring bankruptcy so creditors could not attach assets or otherwise collect on amounts owed. Through their bankruptcy proceedings, the defendants sought to avoid payment of nearly three million dollars in debt. Defendants also concealed assets from the bankruptcy court; many of the defendants “sold” their homes to their wives or adult children, who made fraudulent statements to qualify for mortgage loans. Some of the defendants also engaged in financial transactions designed to conceal assets and funds from bankruptcy court and creditors.

The investigation of this case has been conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service. The case has been prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Cathleen M. Corken and Barbara L. McQuade.



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Feb 22, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: James Edgar Coleman

MAN SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IN HEROIN - FENTANYL DEATHS

James Edgar Coleman, 36, of Detroit, was sentenced today to 30 years in prison as a result of his guilty plea to a superseding information charging him with two counts of delivering a controlled substance resulting in death, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Robert Corso , Special Agent in Charge of the DEA, Detroit, as well as Oakland County Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard.

Coleman received the sentence from United States District Judge Lawrence P. Zatkoff, in U.S. District Court in Port Huron, Michigan. The judge sentenced Coleman to the maximum statutory penalty.

At the time of his plea, Coleman admitted to the Court that he had sold heroin mixed with fentanyl from a home on Keating St. in the City of Detroit. Coleman stated that the controlled substance that he sold had been acquired by two individuals, who ingested the drug

and died as a result. Coleman's guilty plea was the first to specifically address the spate of deaths from overdoses of heroin laced with fentanyl, which occurred earlier this year in Detroit and other urban areas throughout the United States.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "All illegal drugs are dangerous. In this case the danger was so great it caused the immediate deaths of two people in our community. This significant sentence is the result of a robust federal response to the rash of overdose deaths caused by fentanyl-laced heroin, and would not have been successful without the excellent investigative work by the DEA and the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team."

SAC Corso said, "This investigation exemplifies the outstanding results that can be achieved by local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies working together and combining their respective resources. Today's sentencing reflects a "substantial sentence for a substantial violator". This sentence should serve as a message to drug vendors throughout the metro Detroit area— deal at your own peril. If we can establish that your drugs caused someone's death, you will pay a severe and certain penalty for that activity."

The investigation of this case has been conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team, and by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathryn McCarthy.



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Carolyn Gibson - DEA (313) 234-4220
Dawn Clenney - FBI (313) 237-4206

Feb 22, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Michael Anthony Clark

**LEADER OF LARGE SCALE DRUG TRAFFICKING
ORGANIZATION IS SENTENCED TO 50 YEARS IN PRISON**

Michael Anthony Clark, a.k.a. "Mike Nitty," the leader of a Detroit-based drug trafficking organization which operated in the Detroit area for more than 15 years, was sentenced today to 600 months, or 50 years in prison and a \$30,000 fine, announced United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Robert Corso, United States Drug Enforcement Administration, Acting Special Agent in Charge William Kowalski, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Roseville Police Chief Richard Heinz.

The organization was responsible for transporting more than 1,000 kilograms of marijuana from the Western United States to the Eastern District of Michigan, and elsewhere for distribution, as well as over 11 kilograms of cocaine. The court ultimately found Clark responsible for distributing approximately 150 kilograms of cocaine during the 10-year period charged in the Superceding Indictment. Clark was convicted in November 2006, of conspiracy

to possess with intent to distribute both marijuana and cocaine; continuing criminal enterprise from 1996 to September 2005; felon in possession of firearms, unlawful use of communication facilities and criminal forfeiture.

As part of his role in the organization, Clark recruited and caused others to enlist many subordinate associates to store the marijuana in their homes, and in stash-houses, to prevent detection by law enforcement authorities, and to distribute the marijuana throughout the Eastern District of Michigan, and elsewhere. Clark also enlisted others to assist him in overseeing the drug distribution activities and collection of drug proceeds for the organization and to further its operation through recruitment of other members of the conspiracy to sell the drugs and assist in the collection of drug proceeds.

This investigation resulted in the indictment of 15 defendants and the seizure of 1200 pounds of marijuana, and approximately \$2 million dollars in cash and other assets. Clark forfeited his home, eleven automobiles and two businesses, including Mike's Detailing and Car Salons "II" and "III" located at 14440 Plymouth Road and 8843 Livernois, Detroit, Michigan.

United States Attorney Murphy said, "Today's 50-year sentence shows the severe penalties that await those who operate large scale drug distribution networks like Clark's. Disrupting and dismantling such organizations and interrupting the flow of illicit street drugs into the stream of commerce in Detroit remains a top priority of my office. The successful criminal forfeiture of the drug organization's assets in this case also sends the message that drug profits will be taken away."

Special Agent in Charge Corso stated, "I am extremely pleased with today's sentencing because it confirms that individuals substantially pay the price for polluting our streets with drugs and the violence associated with drug trafficking. The sentence imposed on Mr. Clark matches the severity of his crimes. The convictions in this case finally put an end to more than a decade of drug trafficking activities which has plagued our community for far too long. We are committed to continue working closely with our federal, state and local partners, as depicted in this outstanding endeavor, to enhance the quality of life in our neighborhoods."

"The conviction and sentence in this case represents a culmination of the hard work and

investigative efforts of the agencies involved. The FBI continues to aggressively investigate the most violent gang and drug trafficking organizations such as the Clark organization as a top priority,” said ASAC Kowalski.

U.S. Attorney Murphy noted that this investigation would not have been possible without the combined effort of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Detroit Police Department, and the Michigan State Police.



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Feb 27, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Gary Lee Dailey Jr.

DETROIT MAN SENTENCED TO 125 MONTHS FOR FIVE BANK ROBBERIES

A 29-year-old Detroit man who robbed five banks in May 2006 was sentenced to 125 months imprisonment in federal court today, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. Joining in the announcement was FBI Acting Special Agent-In-Charge William Kowalski.

Gary Lee Dailey Jr. pled guilty on September 12, 2006 to five counts of bank robbery before United States District Judge Robert H. Cleland. Dailey admitted that he stole more than \$9,000 from the following banks:

May 6, 2006 – LaSalle Bank, 3825 Carpenter Rd., Ypsilanti, Michigan – \$2,500

May 15, 2006 – LaSalle Bank, 2250 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Michigan – \$3,458

May 23, 2006 – LaSalle Bank, 25230 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, Michigan – \$881

May 26, 2006 – TCF Bank, 26838 Plymouth Rd., Redford Township, Michigan – \$746

May 30, 2006 – Charter One Bank, 751 E. Big Beaver Rd., Troy, Michigan – \$1,727

In each robbery, Dailey entered the bank wearing a baseball cap and gave a teller a

note demanding money and threatening that he had a gun.

“By engaging in a month-long crime spree of bank robberies, this defendant’s conduct put bank employees, guards, and customers at risk. This sentence brings the defendant’s criminal career to a definite, and – let’s hope – permanent close.” United States Attorney Murphy said.

In addition to the term of imprisonment, the court ordered the defendant to pay full restitution and to serve two years of supervised release.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Leonid Feller.



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Feb 27, 2007

EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Larry Gavin

DETROIT MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL GUN CHARGES

A 54-year-old Detroit man pleaded guilty today to federal gun charges carrying a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years imprisonment, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Valerie Goddard, Special Agent in Charge, Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Entering the guilty plea before United States District Judge Robert Cleland was Larry Gavin.

The federal charges arose following Gavin's arrest by Detroit Police officers on August 18, 2006, who found Gavin loitering outside a known narcotics trafficking location in the City of Detroit. At the time of his arrest Gavin was in possession of a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun.

Gavin entered the guilty plea in United States District Court before Judge Robert H. Cleland. Gavin pleaded guilty to felon in possession of a firearm, following three serious felony offense convictions, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §922(g) and §924(e). Gavin's plea was entered pursuant to a plea agreement with the government.

Gavin has prior felony criminal convictions which include Breaking and Entering a Building with Intent and Assault with Intent to Do Great Bodily Harm less than Murder. Based upon his prior criminal record, Gavin faces a potential sentence of 15 years to life imprisonment. Sentencing has been scheduled for June 26, 2007 at 2:00 pm.

U.S. Attorney Murphy said, "Prior convicted violent felons have no business possessing firearms. That is what Project Safe Neighborhoods tries to address: taking guns away from those who have a history of violent crimes, and taking them off the streets."

SAC Goddard said, "Federal prosecution of armed career criminals is a top priority for ATF. The sentence imposed in this case will ensure that this repeat and violent offender is off our streets for the next 15 years

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Susan Gillooly.



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Feb 27, 2007

EVENT: Guilty Plea

Defendant: Bobby "Sweets" Coward, Jr.

Detroit Loan Officer Pleads Guilty to Conspiracy to Defraud the IRS

Bobby "Sweets" Coward, Jr., 29, of Detroit, Michigan, a loan officer, pleaded guilty to conspiring to aid others in the filing of false claims, attempting to defraud the Internal Revenue Service of over \$113,000, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced.

United States Attorney Murphy was joined in the announcement by Maurice M. Aouate, Special Agent in Charge of the Detroit Field Office of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation.

According to court records, between January 1st and April 15th of 2003, Coward, Jr., conspired and agreed with Vassalo Russell and Eric Tyler, among others, to submit false federal income tax returns claiming false, fictitious, and fraudulent income, tax withholdings, and refunds from the Internal Revenue Service. Specifically, Coward, Jr. provided false Forms W-2 to taxpayers.

According to court records, in March 2006, Vassalo Russell, of Detroit, was sentenced

to 87 months imprisonment for threatening to use a weapon of mass destruction against U. S. government property, a false claim conspiracy, and a probation violation from a prior federal bank fraud conviction. In November 2006, Eric Tyler was sentenced to 12 months and a day, followed by three years supervised release after pleading guilty to a false claim conspiracy.

U.S. Attorney Murphy said, "Our American system of voluntary filing of tax returns depends on the honesty and integrity of citizens. When loan officers such as the defendant in this case conspire to submit numerous false claims, we have a serious breakdown of the system that requires criminal prosecution. I congratulate the team from our office and the IRS that successfully pursued this tax fraud ring."

"The IRS Fraud Detection Center in Andover, Massachusetts, picked up on this fraudulent claim scheme, made on the behalf of various individuals in the metro Detroit area," said Aouate. "As the result of the Fraud Detection Center's timely efforts, along with IRS Criminal Investigation, very few of the refunds were actually paid out by IRS." Sentencing is scheduled for May 25, 2006 at 2:00 pm, before United States District Judge Gerald E. Rosen.

United States Attorney Murphy commended the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation for its diligent investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Bobby Coward, Jr., Vassalo Russell and Eric Tyler. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kenneth R. Chadwell.



U.S. Department of Justice

**Stephen J. Murphy
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan**

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Feb 28, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Ahmad Musa Jebriil

**DEARBORN RESIDENT SENTENCED TO 77 MONTHS
FOR ATTEMPTING TO BRIBE A JUROR IN A FEDERAL TRIAL**

Ahmad Musa Jebriil, age 36, was sentenced today to serve 77 months in custody, to be followed by 2 years supervised release, for conduct arising out of his unsuccessful efforts to bribe a juror during his federal trial in November 2004. Thirty months of the sentence imposed today will run consecutive to the 70-month sentence that was imposed following his earlier conviction, for a total period of incarceration of 100 months.

The announcement was made today by United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy, joined by William J. Kowalski, Acting Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Honorable Gerald E. Rosen imposed the sentence on Ahmad Jebriil, and will also sentence Jebriil's co-defendants, Musa Fawzi Odeh and Radwan Almadrahi, in the coming weeks.

"The sentence imposed upon Ahmad Jebriil today is appropriately severe," Mr. Murphy said. "The American system of justice depends wholly on the integrity of the individuals who

serve on juries. Efforts to compromise the jury process are extremely serious and cannot be tolerated. Juror Nine should be commended for immediately coming forward to the court and thwarting the defendants' brazen attempt to corrupt the jury system."

According to the information presented to the court at the time of the pleas, in November 2004, Ahmad Jebril and his father, Musa Jebril, were on trial before Judge Rosen on a 42-count indictment charging them with conspiracy, bank fraud, mail fraud, wire fraud, Social Security fraud, money laundering, failure to file income tax returns, and being felons in possession of firearms and ammunition. During jury selection in that case, the Jebrils targeted the female juror seated as Juror Nine, and recruited Musa Odeh, Radwan Almadrahi and others to approach her at her place of business and attempt to persuade her to find the Jebrils not guilty. Almadrahi and Odeh did locate Juror Nine; they spoke with her fiancé and offered to pay for their wedding and buy them a house if she could cause the jury to acquit the Jebrils.

Instead, Juror Nine immediately came forward to Judge Rosen and reported the unlawful conduct. Judge Rosen excused her from jury service; the remaining jurors were told only that Juror Nine had been released from jury duty for personal reasons. The trial proceeded to its conclusion, and Ahmad Jebril and Musa Jebril were convicted of all 42 counts.

The results of the FBI investigation of the attempts to bribe the juror were presented to a federal grand jury, and indictments were returned in February 2006. The three defendants pleaded guilty in December 2006.