



Department of Justice

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Eastern District of Tennessee**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2007

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MICHAEL JACKSON AND BROLIN BERRY INDICTED ON FEDERAL FIREARMS AND NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS

[CHATTANOOGA, TN] - The arrest of Michael Lebron Jackson, 33, a/k/a "Mike J" and Brolin Demont Berry, 35, a/k/a "Bear" was announced today by U.S. Attorney James R. (Russ) Dedrick for the Eastern District of Tennessee and James M. Cavanaugh, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Nashville Field Division. These arrests are part of a team effort by agents, officers and deputies of ATF, the Chattanooga Police Department, Bradley County Sheriff's Department and Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher Poole.

The arrests of Jackson and Berry occurred yesterday without incident. According to information contained in a federal grand jury indictment, Jackson is charged with being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) and distribution of crack cocaine in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1). Federal law prohibits convicted felons from possessing firearms and ammunition. Berry is charged with distribution of crack cocaine in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1). U.S. Attorney Dedrick pointed out that these cases are part of the district's ongoing violent crime reduction initiative, Project Safe Neighborhoods.

On Friday, Jackson and Berry appeared before U.S. District Court Magistrate Susan K. Lee regarding the aforementioned charges. If convicted, Jackson faces a minimum of 15 years up to life in federal prison. Berry faces a minimum of 10 years up to life in federal prison. Additionally, both face fines up to \$250,000 and a period of supervised release. There is no parole in the federal prison system. The next court proceeding is a detention hearing in U.S. District Court in Chattanooga set for November 20, 2007.

Members of the public are reminded that indictments contain only charges. A defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it will be the government's burden to prove a defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

For further information please contact James R. Dedrick, United States Attorney, 865-545-4167, Christopher D. Poole, Assistant United States Attorney, 423-752-5140, or Sharry Dedman-Beard, Public Information Officer, 865-545-4167.