



News Release



Chicago Field Division

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ENGLEWOOD GANGSTER DISCIPLE GANG LEADER SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 27 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON ON DRUG AND GUN CHARGES

CHICAGO - PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ANDREW L. TRAVER, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; JODY WEIS, Superintendent, Chicago Police Department, today made the following announcement:

United States District Judge Blanch Manning yesterday sentenced Danny Mitchell, 31, of 50th and Peoria St., in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago, Illinois, to 324 months in federal prison with 10 years of supervised release for distributing 3,600 grams of heroin and 300 grams cocaine base "crack" cocaine and possessing firearms as a convicted felon.

Mitchell pleaded guilty to the charges on July 3, 2008. In pleading guilty, Mitchell admitted that between January, 2004 and October 2006, he and other members of his organization conspired to distribute, and sold crack cocaine and heroin under the brand name "Karma" on eight occasions to an individual who, unbeknownst to Mitchell, was an undercover ATF Agent. Mitchell asked the undercover Agent if he could obtain any guns for Mitchell. Mitchell admitted that he agreed to provide the Agent crack cocaine and heroin in exchange for firearms. Mitchell admitted that on October 4, 2006 he met with the ATF Agent at 47th and Halsted St. in Chicago. Mitchell viewed the inside of the trunk of the Agent's vehicle and inspected the firearms and then provided the Agent with 4 and 1/2 ounces of crack cocaine in exchange for eight semi-automatic handguns. Mitchell attempted to escape arrest by ramming his vehicle into another arrest vehicle occupied by two ATF Agents, but was apprehended immediately. Mitchell further admitted that prior to October 4, 2006 he had been convicted of multiple felony offenses. Mitchell has been in federal custody since his arrest.

ATF Special Agent in Charge Andrew Traver said: "It looks like Danny Mitchell's attempt to exchange crack cocaine for firearms turned out to create 324 months of really bad "Karma" for him. All of the cash that he and his GD cohorts generated by selling their brand-name narcotics won't do him much good in the Federal prison system."

Mitchell, with three prior felony convictions for violent crimes and drug trafficking offenses, was sentenced as a “career offender” on the drug charge and as an “armed career criminal” on the firearms charge under tough federal laws that ensure lengthy, non-paroleable sentences for those repeatedly convicted of drug trafficking and violent crimes. In addition to 324 months in prison, the court ordered Mitchell to serve 10 years of supervised release following his release from prison and a \$200 special assessment. Mitchell’s co-conspirators: Terryon Cates was sentenced to 46 months in prison, Albert Jones was sentenced to 151 months in federal prison, and Cynthia Ford was sentenced to 100 months in federal prison by Judge Manning based on their varying degrees of involvement in the conspiracy.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Chicago Police Department.

The case was prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorneys Maggie Snyder and Steve Dollear.

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