



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Vermont*

*United States Courthouse and Federal Building
Post Office Box 570
Burlington, Vermont 05402-0570*

*(802) 951-6725
Fax: (802) 951-6540*

PRESS RELEASE

BURLINGTON, VERMONT October 10, 2008

The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Vermont announced today that Samuel Herbin, 30, formerly of Queens, New York, was sentenced to a term of 188 months in prison. Herbin was convicted in December 2006 of conspiring to possess crack cocaine with intent to distribute, maintaining a residence in Essex to facilitate drug trafficking, possessing crack cocaine with intent to distribute, and possessing a firearm as convicted felon. The prosecution arose from the seizure of over 70 grams of crack cocaine and a loaded handgun at an apartment in Essex where local, state, and federal agents executed a search warrant on March 31, 2004.

Herbin's sentence also reflected federal charges relating to Herbin's assault of his court-appointed attorney during a previous trial. Herbin pleaded guilty to charges relating to that assault in January 2007.

This case was part of a larger investigation which has resulted in the convictions of over 10 individuals, including Oliver Washington, Robert Valgean, and Shannon Smith.

The United States Attorney complimented the extraordinary investigative efforts of the Burlington Police Department, the Essex Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, which resulted in these prosecutions.

Mr. Herbin is represented by Mark Kaplan of Burlington.