



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PADUCAH DRUG DEALER PLED GUILTY

PADUCAH, KY - Deonna Donelson, age 30, 2270 Olivet Church Road, from Paducah, Kentucky, McCracken County, pled guilty on October 15, 2008, to Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, Marijuana, and Heroin, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

The maximum potential penalties are 20 years imprisonment, a \$1,000,000 fine, and supervised release for life.

Donelson admitted that on February 8, 2008, she possessed with the intent to distribute over 200 grams of cocaine, 3.1 grams of heroin, and over 300 grams of marijuana. ATF agents, in conjunction with officers from the Paducah Police Department, found these drugs while they executed a search warrant at Donelson's residence, and at the co-defendant Keith "Allison" Taylor's residence. The co-defendant, Taylor, previously pled guilty on September 23. The street value of the drugs seized from Donelson and Taylor is approximately \$35,000.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state, local and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amy M. Sullivan. The Paducah Field Office of the ATF conducted the investigation in partnership with the Paducah Police Department, as part of ATF's ongoing commitment to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

Donelson's plea was entered before United States District Court Judge Thomas B. Russell, Paducah Division. Donelson is scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Russell on January 15, 2009, at 12:15 p.m., in Paducah, Kentucky.

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