



# Department of Justice

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WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**CHARLOTTE MAN SENTENCED**  
**IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT IN ASHEVILLE**  
**IN CONNECTION WITH ARMED ROBBERY IN HAYWOOD COUNTY, NC**

*Defendant to Serve More Than Eight Years in Federal Prison*

ASHEVILLE, NC - Rodrequis "Rod" Armani Council, 23, of Charlotte, was sentenced today to serve 100 months in federal prison, followed by three years of supervised release, U.S. Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert and ATF Special Agent in Charge Zebedee T. Graham, announced. Council was indicted in April 2008 and was tried by U.S. District Judge Lacy Thornburg in July 2008, after having waived his right to a jury trial. Council was found guilty by the court, as charged, on two counts alleging 1) that he took the personal property of Time Out Market, 5279 Jonathon Creek Road, Waynesville, North Carolina, on February 20, 2008, from the clerk, against her will, and by means of threatened force, and 2) that he used and carried a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence.

According to information presented in open court during the trial and during today's hearing, which was held in U.S. District Court in Asheville, Council is a former University of Louisville All America Team athlete. On February 20, 2008, he walked into the Time Out Market in Waynesville, NC and held a gun to the clerk's head to rob the store of approximately \$200.00. Council has been in federal custody since May 1, 2008.

The sentence was handed down today by U.S. District Judge Lacy Thornburg. The case was investigated and presented for federal prosecution by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Haywood County North Carolina Sheriff's Office. Substantial assistance was rendered to the investigation by the Tennessee Highway Patrol. Assistant U.S. Attorney Corey Ellis of the Asheville U.S. Attorney's Office handled the prosecution for the government.

Terms of federal imprisonment are served without the possibility of parole.

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