



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Columbus Field Division

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ATF, COLUMBUS POLICE, AND U.S. ATTORNEY SNARE SUSPECTS IN ANTI-GANG SWEEP

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Culminating a two-year investigation of gang members, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Columbus Police today arrested several key suspects who face federal gun and drug charges with sentences of 10 years to life imprisonment.

“We've been clear that we won't tolerate gang violence in Columbus and these suspects are going away for the maximum federal sentence allowed by law,” said Mayor Michael B. Coleman. “I want to thank Columbus Police, ATF and U.S. Attorney (Gregory G. Lockhart, for the Southern District of Ohio) for working as a team to make sure these dangerous criminals get the toughest sentences.”

“Thugs with guns and drugs are learning some hard lessons today thanks to ATF and Columbus Police,” said Chris Sadowski, Special Agent in Charge, ATF. “From now on the only cold steel they'll hold in their hands are the bars of their jail cells. Federal time is hard time because there is no probation, there is no parole and life in prison means just that...life.”

The individuals are also considered suspects as part of two ongoing Columbus Police investigations, involving multiple shootings at Maloney Park and multiple shootings by suspects at Columbus Police officers in early 2006 in the Short North neighborhood.

The Columbus Division of Police works in partnership with ATF and the U.S. Attorney to prosecute gang members and associates with the maximum federal sentence.

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Since late 2004, as part of the Mayor's anti-gang initiative, Columbus Police have made more than 200 arrests and seized 180 crime guns. They have also seized \$124,000 in cash, 150 grams of heroin, 1,774 grams of crack cocaine, 490 grams of powder cocaine and 155 pounds of marijuana.

More information about ATF and its programs can be found at www.atf.gov.