



# **PRESS NOTICE**

**REGINALD I. LLOYD**  
**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**  
**DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

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January 25, 2008

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**CONTACT PERSON: KEVIN MCDONALD**  
**(803) 929-3000**

## **SENTENCING**

Columbia, South Carolina---- United States Attorney REGINALD I. LLOYD, stated that DAMION MERRELL SCOTT, age 33, of Murray, Kentucky, was sentenced by United States District Judge R. Bryan Harwell, to 72 months imprisonment for being a felon in possession of a firearm, possessing a firearm during a drug trafficking crime, and to possessing crack cocaine with intent to distribute.

In October 2006, at approximately 4:00 a.m., Florence County deputies encountered Scott at the fairgrounds after closing time. The deputies searched Scott and found six grams of cocaine in his pocket. Scott admitted that he was staying in a motel on East Palmetto Street and that he had more drugs and a gun in his hotel room. Officers seized a loaded Caltec pistol with the serial numbers filed off, 53 bags containing more than 20 grams of crack cocaine, five bags of marijuana, and other drug paraphernalia.

Scott was previously convicted of sexually assaulting a child, and is prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm as a convicted felon.

The case was investigated by the Florence County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Rose Mary Parham of the Florence office as part of Project CeaseFire, an initiative of the United States Attorneys Office that seeks to aggressively prosecute gun-related crimes.

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