



**U. S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
**George E. B. Holding**

*Eastern District of North Carolina*

---

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**THURSDAY - March 6, 2008**

### **TEENAGER SENTENCED FOR CARJACKING**

**NEW BERN** - United States Attorney George E. B. Holding announced that in federal court yesterday Chief United States District Judge Louise W. Flanagan sentenced **TORRANCE LASHAWN HOWARD**, 19, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, to 130 months' imprisonment and 5 years supervised release.

A federal Grand Jury returned a Criminal Indictment on September 5, 2007 charging attempted carjacking and brandishing a firearm during a violent crime. On December 12, 2007 **HOWARD** pleaded guilty to the charges. On June 6, 2007, **HOWARD** attempted to carjack and rob a victim who was seated in her car, a 1999 Isuzu Rodeo, in front of a Harris Teeter on Raeford Road in Fayetteville. **HOWARD**, who was armed with a loaded .22 caliber Beretta firearm, beat the victim in the face and head in an attempt to obtain her vehicle. Witnesses in the area heard the victim screaming and came to her aid. **HOWARD** fled the scene but was arrested a short time later and the firearm was located. **HOWARD** admitted to striking the victim, and fleeing the scene of the crime.

***"In today's hustle and bustle, and often times violent world, it is refreshing to see others step forward, getting involved, to***

***assist another in distress. My gratitude goes out to those that assisted in this time of crisis,***" commented Mr. Holding.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Fayetteville Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Jane Jackson served as prosecutor for the government.

# # #

News releases are available on the U. S. Attorney's web page at [www.usdoj.gov/usao/nce](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nce) within 48 hours of release.