



# Department of Justice

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WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **CHRISTOPHER E. HARRIS SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 15 YEARS IN PRISON**

### *Transylvania County Resident Pled Guilty to Two Federal Criminal Counts*

ASHEVILLE, NC - Christopher Eugene Harris, 35, of Transylvania County, NC, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Asheville on September 30, 2008 to 188 months in federal prison, United States Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert announced today. Harris was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Lacy Thornburg of the Western District of North Carolina.

Joining Shappert in today's announcement is Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) Zebedee T. Graham, and Sheriff David Mahoney of Transylvania County, NC.

Christopher Eugene Harris is currently in local federal custody where he has remained since December 2007. Harris will remain in local federal custody until the Federal Bureau of Prisons designates a facility at which he will serve his term of imprisonment. The facility at which he will serve his term of imprisonment has not yet been determined.

Harris entered a guilty plea to two separate federal criminal counts, one alleging conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine base (commonly known as crack cocaine) from on or about February 2004 and continuing through on or about November 2006 in Transylvania County, and the other alleging that Harris, being a convicted felon, unlawfully possessed a firearm in violation of federal firearms statutes.

The arrest and investigation of Christopher Eugene Harris is the result of the joint effort of the Transylvania County Sheriff's Office and ATF.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Corey F. Ellis of the U.S. Attorney's Asheville Office.

USA v. CHRISTOPHER EUGENE HARRIS  
DOCKET NUMBER: 1:07cr115  
CHRISTOPHER EUGENE HARRIS  
AGE: 35, Transylvania County, NC

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