



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maryland
Northern Division*

*Thomas M. DiBiagio
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer*

*6625 United States Courthouse
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2692*

*410-209-4800
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462
410-209-4885
FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

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**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION CONTACT
VICKIE LEDUC, AUSA
(410) 209-4885**

CAPTURED FUGITIVE PLEADS GUILTY IN ARMED ROBBERY OF PAWN SHOP

Greenbelt, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that Darrion Kinsey, age 20, of Capitol Heights, Maryland pleaded guilty today before U.S. District Court Judge Deborah K. Chasanow to crimes committed in connection with the September 10, 2002 armed robbery of the A-1 Pawn Shop in Laurel, Maryland.

The two-count indictment to which Kinsey has pleaded guilty charged Kinsey and four others with robbery by threat of violence against two employees of the A-1 Pawn Shop, as well as use of a firearm during the commission of a violent crime. Kinsey's guilty plea to the federal firearms violation will require him to serve at least seven years of imprisonment, consecutive to what he receives for the robbery itself.

According to an uncontested statement of facts, two employees of the A-1 Pawn Shop provided inside information to Kinsey and two other robbers, including the location of video surveillance cameras and guns kept at the pawnshop. Kinsey and two co-defendants carried out the armed robbery using the information provided by those employees. 82 firearms, mostly handguns, were stolen and only a handful of the approximate \$38,000 worth of guns have been recovered.

Although the employees that aided Kinsey's robbery advised him to remove two store cameras, the stipulated statement of facts indicates that they were unaware of a third camera that successfully obtained video images of Kinsey and his co-defendants conducting the gunpoint robbery of two store employees. The other four participants to the crime pleaded guilty in 2003 and received sentences between 8 and 11 years.

Kinsey was arrested by U.S. Marshals on June 9, 2004 and confessed his involvement in the robbery. He will remain in custody until his sentencing on January 24, 2005.

To date, the vast majority of the handguns stolen from the robbery have not been found. Any information relating to the whereabouts of the weapons should be directed to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives at 1-800-ATF-GUNS.

This case was jointly investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Prince George's County Police Department and the United States Attorney's Office. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys James M. Trusty.