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DELAWARE MAN SENTENCED TO 660 MONTHS FOR GUN POSSESSION, DRUG TRAFFICKING

WILMINGTON, Del. — Ivan Smith, 31, of Wilmington was sentenced on Friday, Jan. 16, 2007, to 660 months in prison followed by 36 months supervised release for distribution of cocaine, and being a felon in possession of a firearm. Smith received the lengthy sentence due to his lengthy criminal history, including nine prior gun and drug convictions, dating back to when he was only 14. These convictions made Smith amenable to career criminal status, and a heavy federal prison sentence.

Smith was originally arrested by the Wilmington Police Department in 2003 when officers witnessed him conducting a drug deal. Smith jumped off a 10-foot balcony into a fenced backyard. After a chase ensued, officers recovered a firearm from a trash can and crack cocaine from the alley where he had run to. Smith was placed under arrest, posted bail and fled to New York. He was later arrested on drug charges, and on the outstanding ATF warrant. At the time of his arrest, Smith was on probation for his previous federal gun conviction out of Philadelphia. In 2006, Smith subsequently went to trial in federal court on the firearm and drug charges. Smith was convicted and sentenced to 660 months according to the mandatory minimum guidelines.

The U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force assisted ATF in locating Smith. ATF would also like to thank the two Wilmington Detectives who executed the arrest and testified at Smith's trial.

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