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**BALTIMORE FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM
SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON**

Baltimore, Maryland - U.S. District Judge William D. Quarles, Jr. sentenced William Wright, age 37, of Baltimore, today to 15 years in prison followed by five years of supervised release for being a felon in possession of a firearm, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein. Judge Quarles enhanced Wright's sentence upon finding that he is an armed career criminal based on three prior drug convictions.

According to his guilty plea, on July 4, 2006, Baltimore police officers searched Wright's residence and found Wright in possession of a Ceska Zbrojovka, model Vzor .32 caliber pistol.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and Baltimore City Police Department, and commended Assistant United States Attorney Gregory Welsh, who prosecuted the case.