

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney District of Maryland

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August 20 2007 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/md

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MAN TRANSPORTING GUNS THROUGH MARYLAND PLEADS GUILTY TO BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM AND AMMUNITION

Baltimore, Maryland - Kwati Jackson, age 35, of Atlanta, Georgia, pleaded guilty today to being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

According to the plea agreement presented to the court, on March 14, 2007, Jackson was a passenger in a car registered to his wife, which was stopped in Baltimore for speeding on Interstate 95. Jackson was traveling from Atlanta, Georgia to New York City with two other individuals. A narcotics canine was called to the scene after an officer smelled marijuana in the car. The dog alerted on the vehicle's interior and the car was searched recovering a burned marijuana joint in the ashtray and two 9mm semi-automatic handguns, two .380 caliber semi-automatic handguns, 27 rounds of 9mm ammunition and six rounds of .380 caliber ammunition in the trunk.

Jackson faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison followed by three years of supervised release. U.S. District Judge Andre M. Davis has scheduled sentencing for September 5, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and Maryland Transportation Authority Police for their investigative work. Mr. Rosenstein thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Debra Dwyer, who is prosecuting the case.