



Department of Justice

**Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney
Southern District of Indiana**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, October 1, 2008
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ins/>

CONTACT: MARY BIPPUS
(317) 229-2403
Fax: (317) 226-5002
Cell: (317) 590-7928

COCAINE COURIER SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 22 YEARS IN PRISON

PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JOHN SMITH, 54, Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 266 months imprisonment yesterday by U.S. District Judge Sarah E. Barker following his guilty plea to conspiracy to distribute cocaine. This case was the result of a three-month investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

From July 20, 2007 through August 29, 2007, SMITH served as a drug courier for an Indianapolis-based cocaine trafficking organization that operated in Indianapolis. The Indianapolis organization obtained its cocaine from several different sources in the El Paso, Texas area. The cocaine was transported from El Paso to Indianapolis by truck drivers. After the cocaine arrived in Indianapolis, members of the organization delivered the cocaine to customers in Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Akron, Ohio. SMITH transported approximately ninety to one-hundred kilograms of cocaine from Indianapolis to a cocaine trafficking cell in Cincinnati during the wire surveillance.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Bradley A. Blackington, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Barker also imposed five years supervised release following SMITH's release from imprisonment. During the period of supervised release, SMITH will be subjected to random urinalysis and random searches of his person, residence, and vehicle.

###