



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

*Eastern District of Michigan
211 W. Fort Street*

*Suite 2001
Detroit, Michigan 48226*

May 16, 2007

CONTACT: Gina Balaya - (313) 226-9758
Vera Fedorak - ATF (313) 202-3407

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Detroit, Michigan

DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON

A 41-year-old Detroit man was sentenced today to 15 years in prison as a result of his guilty plea to charges of narcotics trafficking, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Valerie J. Goddard, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Receiving the sentence before U.S. District Judge Bernard A. Friedman was Terrance Baker.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "Given the dangers to our neighborhoods created by armed drug trafficking, today's 15-year prison sentence is a clear message to anyone thinking of getting involved with the dead-end of illegal narcotics trade: don't do it."

SAC Goddard said, "Illegal drugs and guns go hand-in-hand and are a threat to the safety of our citizens and to our law enforcement officers," said SAC Goddard. "Today's lengthy sentence highlights our effort to remove armed drug dealers from our streets. We are dedicated to reducing violent crime and this case highlights a repetitive problem of illegal narcotics traffickers willing to use and carry firearms to protect their drug proceeds," she added.

At his August 2006 guilty plea hearing, Baker admitted that on September 16, 2005, he possessed more than 121 grams of crack cocaine and more than 27 grams of cocaine, and three firearms and ammunition inside of a residence he maintained and operated in the city of Detroit. Specifically, a Izhmash 7.62 assault rifle, a Lorcin .380 caliber semi-automatic pistol, and a Starr .22 caliber pistol and ammunition. Because of the dangers involved in narcotics trafficking, Baker possessed the firearms to protect himself, his family and his drug business. The crack cocaine and cocaine were

packaged in separate plastic bags and stored in a drawer inside of the defendant's bedroom. Baker admitted to possessing these controlled substances with the intent of distributing and/or selling them.

This case was investigated by agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Saima Mohsin.