



# PRESS NOTICE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **FLORENCE MAN GETS 20 YEARS FOR DRUGS, FIREARM**

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney REGINALD I. LLOYD, stated that DERRICK LAMONT BRUNSON, age 32, of Florence, was sentenced in federal court this week for being a felon in possession of a firearm, and to possessing with intent to distribute cocaine and cocaine base. United States District Judge Terry L. Wooten sentenced Brunson to 20 years in federal prison without the possibility of parole.

Evidence presented in court established that in December 2005, Brunson was stopped for speeding at the intersection of Sumter and Schofield Streets. As Brunson opened the driver's door to retrieve his wallet from the door pocket, the deputy saw a .25 caliber pistol beside the wallet. Brunson was searched, and deputies found 3.31 grams of powder cocaine, .83 grams of crack cocaine, a small quantity of marijuana,

and 9 rounds of .25 caliber ammunition.

Brunson had been previously convicted of resisting arrest with a deadly weapon, two counts of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, and possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine.

The case was investigated by the Florence County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Assistant United States Attorney Rose Mary Parham of the Florence office handled the case as a part of Project CeaseFire, an initiative of the United States Attorneys Office that seeks to aggressively prosecute gun-related crimes.

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