

NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

DRUG DEALER SENTENCED ON FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES IN THE ARMED ROBBERY OF A COCAINE SUPPLIER

St. Louis, MO: Kirk Allen Newby was sentenced to 180 months in prison on drug charges involving a scheme to rob a cocaine supplier, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway announced today.

According to court documents filed at the time of Newby's plea last October; in June 2007, a confidential informant (CI) and an undercover agent for the *Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)* met with Kirk Newby and Craig Miller in St. Louis to discuss plans to rob a cocaine supplier of 20 kilos of cocaine. At this meeting Miller informed the undercover ATF agent that he had committed similar robberies numerous times in the past, and that he would provide the firearms and locate co-conspirators to assist in the robbery. Additionally, Miller and Newby negotiated a 50-50 split of the cocaine with the undercover agent. On June 20, 2007, Miller and Craig Brooks furnished firearms and bullet-proof vests to be used in the robbery to the confidential informant. At a meeting later that day Newby, Brooks and Miller met with the undercover agent and began to finalize the plans. While this meeting was going on, Andre Cody and Leon Combs arrived with two more firearms.

Newby, 36, Madison, IL, pled guilty last October to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and possession of firearms in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. He appeared today for sentencing before United States District Judge Rodney S. Sippel.

The following co-defendants have previously pled guilty and been sentenced on related charges:

Andre Earl Cody, 31, St. Louis, 63106, was sentenced to 210 months in prison in December 2007.

Craig Jamar Brooks, 28, Chicago, IL, was sentenced to 195 months prison in early January 2008.

Two remaining defendants are set for trial February 4, 2008:

Leon L. Combs, 32, St. Louis, 63102; and Craig Devin Miller, 32, Belleville, IL.

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and defendants Combs and Miller are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Hanaway commended the work on the case by the *Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives* ; and Assistant United States Attorney Tom Mehan, who is handling the case for the U.S. Attorney's Office.