



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2008
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GLASGOW DRUG DEALER PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG TRAFFICKING

– \$1,169 seized in search from previously convicted dealer

BOWLING GREEN, KY - Joseph E. Haskins, age 25, of Glasgow, Kentucky, pled guilty to drug trafficking, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced. Haskins, previously convicted of drug trafficking in Barren Circuit Court, admitted that on or about February 22, 2007, he possessed with intent to distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine.

U.S. Attorney Huber praised the efforts of the Barren-Edmonson County Drug Task Force saying "they primarily investigated the case." On February 22, 2007, law enforcement officers with the Task Force and ATF executed a state search warrant at Haskins' residence in Glasgow, Kentucky. Haskins was present along with his wife. Officers recovered a plastic bag containing approximately 6.3 grams of crack cocaine from Haskins's person along with \$1,169 in cash. During the search of their residence, Joseph Haskins made numerous voluntary statements that everything there was his and not his wife's.

Additionally, a plastic bag containing approximately eight grams of suspected marijuana was found in a master bedroom closet in a shirt pocket. Tape recorded interviews were taken at the scene. Initially, Haskins said that he was a crack user but did not sell it. Eventually, he admitted that he had sold it about ten times over the past three months.

No state charges are pending as a result of this incident, but were deferred for federal prosecution. Haskins was previously convicted of felony drug trafficking in Barren Circuit Court.

The maximum potential penalties are not less than five years and not more than life imprisonment, a \$2,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of not less than four years.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert J. Kilmartin. The Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Barren-Edmonson County Drug Task Force, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state, local and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

The plea was entered before Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Haskins is scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Russell on June 30, 2008, at 11:30 a.m., in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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