



*Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Kentucky
James A. Zerhusen, Acting United States Attorney*

Lexington Man Sentenced to 10 Years for Armed Drug Trafficking

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2008

www.usdoj.gov/usao/kye

For information contact

Kyle Edelen (859) 685-4811

E-Mail: Kyle.Edelen@usdoj.gov

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Kendall Lee Franklin, 20, of Lexington, Ky., was sentenced today by United States Senior District Court Judge Joseph M. Hood to ten years in prison for possession with the intent to distribute crack cocaine and possession of a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking. Franklin received a five year sentence on the drug charge and a five year sentence on the gun charge. The two sentences will run consecutively for a total of ten years.

In February of 2008, Franklin pleaded guilty to the charges and admitted that on August 24, 2007, he possessed approximately ten grams of crack cocaine in Duncan Park in Lexington. He also acknowledged that he intended to sell that cocaine and that he possessed a loaded RG, 22 caliber revolver in his back pocket.

Under federal law, Franklin must serve 85 percent of his prison sentence, and upon his release, he will be under the supervision of the United States Probation Office for 4 years.

James A. Zerhusen, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky, Ray Larson, Fayette Commonwealth Attorney, Paul Vido, Special Agent In Charge of Louisville Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), and Ronnie Bastin, Chief of Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Division of Police, jointly made the announcement today after the sentencing.

The investigation was conducted by the Lexington Police Division, and the ATF Lexington Field Office. The United States was represented by Assistant United States Attorney Robert M. Duncan, Jr.

The case was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office in connection with the Cease-Fire Project and Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). The PSN program is a Department of Justice initiative aimed at reducing gun crimes and violent crime, including armed drug trafficking.

— END —