



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA NEWPORT NEWS NORFOLK RICHMOND

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHUCK ROSENBERG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 9, 2008

Jim Rybicki
Public Information Officer
Phone: (703) 842-4050 Fax: (703) 549-5202
E-Mail: usavae.press@usdoj.gov
Website: www.usdoj.gov/usao/vae

Further Information Contact:
Margaret Jahn
Phone: (757) 591-4000

Newport News Drug Dealer Sentenced to Life plus 105 Years in Federal Prison

(Newport News, VA) – Robert Ronald Gibson, 26, was sentenced today to life, plus 105 years, in prison for conspiracy to distribute crack, discharging a firearm during a drug trafficking crime, possessing firearms as a convicted felon, and ten other federal crimes. A jury convicted Gibson following a five day jury trial in February of this year. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Edgar A. Domenech, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; J.D. “Danny” Diggs, Sheriff, York County Sheriff’s Office; Charles “Chuck” Jordan, Chief of Police, Hampton Police Department; and, James D. Fox, Chief of Police, Newport News Police Department, made the announcement after United States District Judge Robert G. Doumar sentenced Gibson today.

According to court documents, the charges stem from a drug organization that, since January 2005, imported approximately 50 kilograms of cocaine base and significant quantities of ecstasy from California to Hampton Roads. The drugs were shipped through various carriers and by car to about 13 residences in Newport News and Hampton. Approximately one million dollars in cash was shipped back to California after distribution of the drugs locally.

In July 2005, Frederick Hudson, a Gibson coconspirator, shot at a UPS driver because Hudson believed a crack shipment had been tampered with. In June 2006, when drug proceeds and crack were stolen, Hudson shot into a Newport News apartment and bullets struck a pregnant woman. She and the baby survived. In July 2006, Gibson fired into an apartment in Hampton in retaliation for the nonpayment of a drug debt. One of the bullets struck a young woman in the back.

Previously sentenced in the conspiracy were Frederick Hudson (40 years in prison), Robert Hoskins, the California source for the drugs (43 years in prison), Bobby Buckley and Tyrell Hunt (27 years in prison), and Jason Linwood and Chianti Edgeron (11 years in prison). The year-long investigation was conducted through the joint efforts of the Drug Enforcement

Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the York County Sheriff's Office, and the Newport News and Hampton Police Departments.

The Hampton and Newport News Commonwealth Attorney's Offices assisted in coordinating the prosecution of the case. Assistant United States Attorneys Scott Putney and Eric Hurt prosecuted the case on behalf of the United States.

###