



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Columbus Field Division

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Warren Man Sentenced to 20 Years for Drug and Gun Violations

Co-Defendant sentenced to 10 Years for Drugs

CLEVELAND, Ohio – William J. Edwards, acting United States Attorney, Northern District of Ohio and Special Agent in Charge Christopher P. Sadowski, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Columbus Field Division, announced today that on June 18, 2008, Gerald Lofton of Warren, Ohio, was sentenced to 20 years incarceration and 10 years supervised release by U.S. District Judge James S. Gwin, Northern District of Ohio.

Lofton was sentenced based upon his April 3, 2008, guilty plea to charges of possession of firearms by a convicted felon in violation of 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1) and conspiracy to distribute cocaine base more commonly known as crack cocaine in violation of 21, United States Code, Section 846.

David Rigg of Warren, Ohio, was indicted with Lofton for drug violations. On June 18, Rigg was sentenced by Judge Gwin to 10 years incarceration and five years of supervised release based upon his plea of guilty to conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine.

Lofton and Rigg admitted in their April guilty pleas that beginning of June 15, 2006, and continuing to Aug. 22, 2006, they conspired to sell more than 96 grams of crack cocaine to an undercover ATF agent on seven separate occasions. During that same time period, Lofton also admitted that he possessed two firearms and ammunition despite being a felon previously convicted of Attempted Aggravated Trafficking and Aggravated Assault in Trumbull County.

The nine month investigation was conducted by the ATF Youngstown Field Office.

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