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**U.S. Department of Justice**



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Detroit, Michigan

**EIGHT INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY ON DRUG AND GUN CHARGES**

*“Evonnie Boyz & Gyrلز” Gang Members Face Up To Life Imprisonment*

A fourteen-count indictment charging eight defendants with conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine and heroin – as well as other drug and firearm charges – has been unsealed, Acting United States Attorney Terrence Berg announced today. Berg was joined in the announcement by Thomas E. Brandon, Special-Agent-In-Charge of the Detroit office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Jackson County Sheriff Dan Heyns, Jackson County Prosecutor Henry C. Zavislak, Chief Matthew Heins, Jackson City Police Department, Lt. James Shaw, Michigan State Police, the Jackson Narcotics Enforcement Team and the Michigan Department of Corrections.

The indictment charges eight defendants – all alleged to be members of an armed street gang known as the “Evonnie Boyz & Gyrلز” – with conspiring to distribute crack cocaine and heroin in Jackson over the past year. The eight defendants are:

- DEONDRE MEQUALE MULLEN, a/k/a Dre, 33
- SHARONDA LATRICE BAILEY, a/k/a Shorty, 23
- JARRELL LAFEYETTE FULLILOVE, a/k/a Chi Town, 24
- DWIGHT EVERETTE FULLILOVE, a/k/a Whitehead, 22
- DIONTE CORTEZ REED, a/k/a Mike Jones, 20

- DELANO D'MITERI TARPLEY, a/k/a Lano, a/k/a Bird, 19
- JAMIE LEE WAGNER, 20
- DESHAWN SWEET, 20

Jarrell Fullilove is also charged with selling a stolen firearm.

"Gangs can be beaten when federal, state, and local law enforcement team up with community groups to fight organized drug trafficking and the dangers it brings to our neighborhoods," Berg said.

"ATF remains committed to working with our law enforcement partners and prosecutors to aggressively investigate armed violent gangs," Brandon said.

"Taking these offenders off the streets of Jackson and bringing the harshest penalties to bear has always been our goal," says Prosecutor Hank Zavislak. Both Chief Matt Heins and Sheriff Heyns agree that a small group of gun carrying perpetrators has always been at the heart of violent crime in the community. "The Jackson community needs protection from these types of offenders. Thanks to Project Safe Neighborhood and some great police work, they're going to get it!"

Mullen, Jarrell Fullilove, Dwight Fullilove, and Reed were taken into custody this morning by ATF agents working with officers from the Jackson Police Department. They made their appearance before Magistrate Judge Donald A Scheer in federal district court in Detroit and were ordered temporary detained pending a detention hearing tomorrow.. Wagner was arrested and appeared in federal district court late yesterday afternoon. Law enforcement officers continue to search for Bailey and Sweet, who are fugitives and Tarpley is currently in state custody.

The most serious charge against all eight defendants, conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine, carries a penalty of 10 years to life imprisonment.

An indictment is a charging document and not evidence of guilt. Each and every defendant is presumed to be innocent.

These charges are a result of the "Three Cities Initiative" (TCI), which is part of Project Safe

Neighborhoods, and launched in September, 2007 which expanded the resources necessary to combat gun and gang violence in three priority communities in the Eastern District of Michigan: Flint, Saginaw and Jackson. As part of the TCI, a \$1M grant was awarded and is being allocated to the TCI over three years and will be rolled out in five phases that include identifying the worst of the worst and weekly meetings, community outreach and public awareness, major sweeps based on intelligence gathering, evaluation and sustainability. Each city participated in the grant process and received a proportion of the award based on population, crime rate and other needs related to gun crime demonstrated in the grant.

Citizens with information concerning illegal guns, gangs with guns, armed drug trafficking or the trafficking of illegal guns are encouraged to call 800-ATF-GUNS. Callers can remain anonymous. This number is managed and answered by law enforcement, ATF agents who work directly with local police departments. For information about Project Safe Neighborhoods call 1-800-891-8881 or visit [www.psnworks.org](http://www.psnworks.org).

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Leonid Feller.