



Department of Justice

**United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: DAWN MASDEN
PHONE: (502) 582-5911
FAX: (502) 582-5097

PADUCAH DRUG DEALERS PLEAD GUILTY

- An armed career criminal, 3 prior felonies

PADUCAH, KY - **Keith Taylor**, a/k/a Allison Taylor, age 40, 223 Berger Road, and **Deonna Donelson**, age 30, 2270 Olivet Church Road, both from Paducah, Kentucky, McCracken County, pled guilty to Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, Marijuana, and Heroin. In addition to the above charges, Taylor pled guilty to Possession with Intent to Distribute Crack and Cocaine and being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm and an Armed Career Criminal, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of 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 today.

In the event of a conviction, the combined maximum potential penalties are life imprisonment, a \$5,250,000 fine, and supervised release for life. Taylor faces a combined mandatory minimum of 20 years in prison because he is an Armed Career Criminal: he has three prior violent felony convictions from Chicago (Cook County), Illinois: in 1991, he was convicted of the felony charge of armed violence, and in 1992, he was twice convicted of armed robbery.

Taylor and Donelson admitted that on February 8, 2008, they possessed with the intent to distribute over 300 grams of cocaine, 3.1 grams of heroin, and over 300 grams of marijuana. ATF agents, in conjunction with officers from the Paducah Police Department, found these drugs while they executed a search warrant at Taylor and Donelson's residences. Two firearms were also found during the search – a Berretta, Model 950B, .22 caliber and a Browning Arms, .22 caliber. Prior to the search, in December of 2007, agents and police officers observed Taylor sell approximately 11 grams of crack cocaine to another person. In February of 2008, agents and police officers observed Taylor sell approximately 14 grams of cocaine to another person. The street value of the drugs seized from Taylor and Donelson is approximately \$35,000.

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 case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amy M. Sullivan. The Paducah Field Office of the ATF conducted the investigation in partnership with the Paducah Police Department, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

Taylor and Donelson are scheduled to be sentenced before United States District Court Judge Thomas B. Russell, on January 14, 2009, at 11:15 a.m., in Paducah, Kentucky.

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