



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

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PADUCAH DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS AND NINE MONTHS ON CRACK-COCAINE DISTRIBUTION CHARGES

*- Paducah Police Department targets local crack dealers
- Street value of drugs was approximately \$9,300*

PADUCAH, KY - Christopher D. Hill, age 33, of 1016 Avondale, Paducah, McCracken County, Kentucky was sentenced to 3 years and 9 months imprisonment in United States District Court, Paducah, Kentucky, for distributing a mixture or substance containing cocaine base, commonly known as crack-cocaine, 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. Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, also sentenced Hill to 3 years supervised release following incarceration. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system.**

Hill plead guilty to knowingly and intentionally distributing fifty grams or more of a mixture containing cocaine-base commonly known as crack-cocaine on July 9, 2008.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ("ATF") conducted three controlled buys from Defendant Christopher D. Hill in McCracken County, here in the Western District of Kentucky during the month of December, 2006. For each of the buys, ATF set up the deal via recorded phone calls to Hill. Specifically, on December 11, 2006, ATF set up a deal to purchase an ounce of crack-cocaine from Hill for \$700.00. A confidential informant ("CI") placed a recorded call to arrange the meeting place (Walgreen's parking lot in Paducah). A

recorder was placed on the CI and police established surveillance in the parking lot. The CI obtained the crack-cocaine from Hill. Lab results show that the crack-cocaine from this controlled buy, as charged in Count One of the Indictment, weighed 23.4 net grams.

On December 14, 2006, ATF arranged to purchase another ounce of crack-cocaine from Hill. Hill stated to the CI that he only had a "21 piece" meaning 21 grams. The CI called to arrange the meeting location and time. A recorder was placed on the CI and surveillance was established in the Walgreen's parking lot in Paducah. Officers observed Hill drive up and park beside the CI. The CI got into Hill's car for the transaction. Lab results show that the crack-cocaine from this controlled purchase, as charged in Count Two of the Indictment, weighed 17.8 net grams.

Then, on December 20, 2006, ATF arranged to purchase two ounces of crack-cocaine from Hill. The CI placed a recorded call to arrange the meeting location. Hill directed the CI to go to Applebee's in Paducah. Hill then called the CI and told the CI that "it" (meaning the crack-cocaine) was in the ashtray of his Tahoe and to leave the money in the ashtray. The CI retrieved the two ounces of crack-cocaine from Hill's Tahoe in the Applebee's parking lot and placed \$1400 in Hill's ashtray. After the CI departed from the Applebee's parking lot, surveillance units observed Hill come out of the restaurant and retrieve something from his vehicle (the money) and then return to the restaurant. Lab results show that the crack-cocaine from this controlled buy, as charged in Count Three of the Indictment, weighed 52.1 net grams - for a combined total of 93.3 grams of crack-cocaine.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michele Thielhorn, and it was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division/Paducah Satellite Office in partnership with the Paducah Police Department, as part of ATF's ongoing commitment to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

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