

US Department of Justice  
Office of the United States Attorney  
District of South Dakota

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**NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Sixteen Individuals Sentenced For Cocaine Distribution**

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Sioux Falls, SD

US Attorney Marty J. Jackley announced today that 16 individuals were sentenced by United States District Court Judge James M. Rosenbaum, at Bemidji, Minnesota.

The defendants were part of a large-scale cocaine distribution conspiracy operating on the Red Lake Indian Reservation. Following a thorough and comprehensive investigation, federal prosecutors obtained indictments which ultimately named thirty-four individuals and charged each with conspiracy.

Seven defendants were later charged by information with using a communication facility (telephone) in causing and facilitating the commission of a felony under the Controlled Substances Act.

The defendants' sentences are as follows:

Name	Disposition	Date of Sentencing	Sentence
Beaulieu, Alton Ryan	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 10/22/2007.	11/05/2008	30 months in prison to be followed by 4 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.
Beaulieu, Fawn Ashley	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 02/25/2008.	11/05/2008	30 months in prison to be followed by 4 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.
Beaulieu, Tyrone Wayne	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 11/05/2008.	11/05/2008	30 months in prison to be followed by 4 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.

Name	Disposition	Date of Sentencing	Sentence
Chaboyea, Ricky Lee	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 01/25/2008.	11/03/2008	66 months in prison to be followed by 5 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.
Cook, Jr., Donald	Pled guilty to use	11/04/2008	40 months in prison to be
Garrigan, Jr., Leroy Alvis	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 01/25/2008.	11/04/2008	12 months and 1 day in prison, to be followed by 4 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.
Head, Gary Lee	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 09/14/2007.	11/03/2008	48 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/008.
May, Herbert Melvin	Pled guilty to use	11/04/2008	48 months in prison to be
Oliver, Dana Alphonse	Pled guilty to use of communication facility on 06/16/2008.	11/03/2008	5 years of probation, with the first 18 months to be served at The Center in Fargo, ND.
Sayers, Ramon Charles	Found guilty of conspiracy and use of a communication facility after jury trial on 06/26/2008.	11/05/2008	60 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release on conspiracy charge, 48 months in prison to be followed by 1 year of supervised release on communication facility charge. The sentences shall run concurrently. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.
Seki, Marida Dawn	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 10/22/2007.	11/03/2008	24 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 01/15/2009.
Strong, Gary Lee	Pled guilty to conspiracy and possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance on 10/22/2007.	11/03/2008	144 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release on conspiracy charge, 60 months in prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release on possession with intent charge. The sentences shall run concurrently. Detained by U.S. Marshals Service.
Strong, Mavis Jean	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 03/20/2008.	11/05/2008	30 months in prison to be followed by 4 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.

Name	Disposition	Date of Sentencing	Sentence
Thunder, Barbara Ann	Pled guilty to conspiracy 01/25/2008.	11/04/2008	Time served (1 day), to be followed by 5 years of supervised release.
Thunder, III, Joseph Jacob	Pled guilty to conspiracy on 09/14/2007.	11/04/2008	36 months in prison to be followed by 4 years of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.
Vanwert, Robert Jeffrey	Pled guilty to use of communication facility on 06/16/2008.	11/03/2008	48 months in prison to be followed by 1 year of supervised release. To voluntarily surrender by 12/15/2008.

Agencies involved in the investigation included the FBI, ATF, DEA, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, the Red Lake Police Department, the Headwaters Safe Trails Task Force, the Paul Bunyan Task Force, the Minneapolis Police Department, the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, the Leech Lake Tribal Police Department, and the Beltrami County Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant US Attorney John Haak of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The case was prosecuted by the South Dakota United States Attorney's Office because the Minnesota United States Attorney's Office recused itself due to a potential conflict.

Two defendants were previously sentenced, and charges were dismissed against one. Fifteen defendants are yet to be sentenced.

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