



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan  
District of Massachusetts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2008  
[WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/MA](http://WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/MA)

CONTACT: CHRISTINA DiIORIO-STERLING  
PHONE: (617)748-3356  
E-MAIL: [USAMA.MEDIA@USDOJ.GOV](mailto:USAMA.MEDIA@USDOJ.GOV)

## WORCESTER GANG LEADER SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS ON FEDERAL GUN AND DRUG CHARGES

WORCESTER, MA - An alleged leader of the Minor Kilby Posse, a Worcester street gang, was sentenced in U.S. District Court late yesterday for being a felon in possession of a firearm and possessing crack cocaine with intent to distribute it.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan; Glenn N. Anderson, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives - Boston Field Division; Kevin Lane, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration - Boston Field Division; Joseph D. Early, Worcester County District Attorney; and Chief Gary J. Gemme of the Worcester Police Department announced that **DAVID RODRIGUEZ**, age 26, formerly of 31 Woodland Street, Worcester, was sentenced late yesterday by U.S. District Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV to 144 months of imprisonment, to be followed by 5 of supervised release. **RODRIGUEZ** pled guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm, two counts of possession of cocaine with intent to distribute it, and one count of possession with intent to distribute cocaine on June 26, 2008.

At the earlier plea hearing, the prosecutor told the Court that had the case proceeded to trial the Government's evidence would have proven that back on October 7, 2003, as part of a drug investigation, Worcester police executed a search warrant at **RODRIGUEZ's** residence at the time located at 166 Fremont Street in Worcester. As a result of the search officers recovered a loaded Llama .380 caliber semi-automatic pistol along with more than 70 grams of crack cocaine and drug distribution paraphernalia. At the time he was in possession of the pistol, **RODRIGUEZ** had a previous 2001 felony conviction for possession with intent to distribute cocaine, possession of a firearm without a firearms identification card, and possession of a firearm with a defaced serial number.

While out on bail and awaiting trial on that case, Worcester Police executed a second search warrant at **RODRIGUEZ's** new residence located at the time at 23 Vernon Street in Worcester on February 2, 2006. During the search investigators recovered more than 140 grams of cocaine, over \$12,400 in cash, a firearm holster, and drug distribution paraphernalia. While arresting him, **RODRIGUEZ** made statements to Worcester police officers claiming to be a leader of the Worcester street gang, Minor Kilby Posse.

The investigation was conducted by the Street Violence Prevention Group (SVPG), comprised of members of federal, state and local law enforcement, led by the Worcester Police Department and was formed under the auspices of Project Safe Neighborhoods (“PSN”). PSN is President Bush’s comprehensive initiative to combat gun crime in America by providing locally-based programs with the tools and resources they need to succeed. The SVPG includes representatives from the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Worcester County District Attorney’s Office, Worcester Police Department, ATF, DEA, Massachusetts State Police and U.S. Marshals Service. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Paul Casey in Sullivan's Worcester Office.

###