

MEDIA RELEASE



**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
July 19, 2005**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DAVID L. HUBER
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Western District of Kentucky**

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**20-YEAR-OLD LOUISVILLE MAN SENTENCED TO 8 YEARS AND 10 MONTHS
IN PRISON FOR VIOLATING FEDERAL DRUG AND FIREARM LAWS**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **WILLIAM FREEMAN**, age 20, of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, **was sentenced** on July 18, 2005, in United States District Court for possessing with the intent to distribute cocaine base (commonly known as "crack" cocaine), possessing marijuana, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense, and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Senior United States District Judge Edward H. Johnstone sentenced **Freeman** to 8 years and 10 months in prison followed by 5 years of supervised release. **There is no parole in the federal system.**

Freeman had previously pled guilty to the charges against him. According to a written Plea Agreement filed in open court, **Freeman** admitted that on or about September 14, 2004, a Louisville Metropolitan Police Department (LMPD) officer responded to a call that a robbery suspect had been identified at Vermont Liquors located at the corner of 34th and Vermont Streets in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky. The officer, who responded to the scene, recognized the defendant, **Freeman**, from the robbery suspect description and asked to speak with **Freeman**. The officer told **Freeman** to put his hands on the vehicle, but **Freeman** refused and attempted to flee on foot. The two engaged in a scuffle. A backup officer responded to the scene and **Freeman** was subdued. When the officers brought **Freeman** to his feet, they found a loaded Davis P-380 pistol and a bag of suspected marijuana on the ground where **Freeman** had been lying. During a search incident to **Freeman's** arrest, the officers found approximately 3.42 grams of "crack cocaine" packaged for distribution in **Freeman's** right pant pocket.

Prior to September 14, 2004, **Freeman** had been convicted of a felony crime. Specifically, on March 23, 2004, **Freeman** was convicted of two counts of complicity to wanton endangerment in the first degree, and receiving stolen property over \$300, in Case Number 03CR2500 in Jefferson Circuit Court, Louisville, Kentucky.

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This federal case against **Freeman** was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jo E. Lawless. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in close conjunction with the Louisville Metropolitan Police Department.

This was a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a commitment by the Jefferson County and United States Attorneys to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

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