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BALTIMORE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO GUN CHARGE BEFORE TRIAL

Faces Mandatory Minimum Penalty of 15 Years in Prison

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today Harold Greene, age 32, of Baltimore, pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. Greene's federal jury trial was scheduled to begin today before U.S. District Judge Richard D. Bennett.

According to the statement of facts provided to the court as part of the plea agreement, on July 9, 2005, Baltimore City Police officers traveling in the 1500 block of Abbotston observed Greene, in a light colored Oldsmobile, look in the direction of the officers and then quickly get out of the car, leaving both the driver's side door and window open. The officers then approached the light colored Oldsmobile and observed a 9mm Tanfoglio handgun in the open center console area of the vehicle. Greene was placed under arrest. A search of the vehicle revealed a black bag containing 84.91 grams of cocaine; a scale with suspected cocaine residue; approximately \$2,023 in cash; and various papers and documents in Greene's name.

Greene faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment with a minimum mandatory sentence of 15 years, based upon his previous convictions of three or more violent felonies or serious drug offenses. Judge Bennett has scheduled sentencing for April 21, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. Greene remains detained.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised the investigative work performed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Baltimore City Police Department. Mr. Rosenstein also thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Romano, who prosecuted the case.