



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of Maryland*

*Rod J. Rosenstein  
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc  
Public Information Officer*

*36 South Charles Street  
Fourth Floor  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201*

*410-209-4800  
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462  
410-209-4885  
FAX 410-962-3091  
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

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**Contact AUSA VICKIE E. LEDUC or  
MARCIA MURPHY at 410-209-4885**

**BALTIMORE MAN CONVICTED OF GUN AND DRUG CHARGES**

*Richardson Fired at Police Just Prior to His Capture*

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that yesterday a federal jury convicted Corey Howard Richardson, age 36, of Baltimore of being a felon in possession of a firearm, possession with intent to distribute cocaine base (crack), and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

Testimony at trial showed that Richardson was involved in a gun battle with Baltimore County police officers on October 4, 2005. Officers arrived at the scene for a report of shots fired. Police canvassed the area and located Richardson and another suspect. Witnesses testified that both Richardson and the other suspect fled at the sight of police. Officers chased Richardson, who fired at the officers. Officers eventually arrested Richardson and found the .38 caliber pistol he had used, 15 live and 3 spent rounds of ammunition, and 30 bags of crack cocaine.

Richardson faces a maximum sentence of life in prison and a \$250,000 fine for the felon in possession charge, 20 years in prison and a \$1,000,000 fine for possession with intent to distribute cocaine base, and life in prison and a \$250,000 fine for possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. United States District Judge Richard D. Bennett has scheduled sentencing for June 16, 2006 at 10:00 am. Richardson continues to be detained.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised the investigative work performed by the Baltimore County Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Mr. Rosenstein also thanked Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kwame J. Manley and John F. Purcell, who prosecuted the case.