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**BALTIMORE MAN SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS
FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

Man Arrested After Shoot-Out With Police

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Kondwani Martin, age 25, of Baltimore, pleaded guilty today to being a felon in possession of a firearm and was given the maximum sentence of ten years in prison followed by three years of supervised release, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

According to the statement of facts presented to the court as part of his plea, on February 10, 2005, law enforcement officers responded to the Upper Deck Bar on South Eutaw Street in Baltimore for a report of an assault. An Upper Deck security guard advised officers that a male armed with a firearm had just left the premises. The security guard also pointed out the man, later identified as Kondwani Martin, who was walking across the street and advised that he had the gun in the back of his pants. Officers approached Martin and asked him to stop walking, but he refused and continued to walk away. As Martin walked south on Eutaw Street, the gun fell from his pant leg and he bent down and picked it up. Officers ordered Martin to drop the weapon and show his hands. Martin approached a gray Nissan car and opened the passenger side door. Officers again commanded Martin to drop the weapon. Martin refused, got behind the car door and raised the firearm, pointing in the direction of the officer. Fearing for his safety, the officer fired at Martin, who screamed and ran east on Pratt Street. Officers pursued Martin by car and on foot. As Martin ran he fired several shots at the officers and an officer returned fire. Martin stopped firing his weapon and ran south on Howard Street. Officers quickly located him lying on the sidewalk with gunshot wounds. Martin was arrested and officers recovered his gun, from which five cartridges had been fired. Martin was taken to Shock Trauma for treatment and later released and transported to Central Booking and Intake Center.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Baltimore City Police Department for their investigative work in this case. Mr. Rosenstein also praised Assistant United States Attorney Kwame J. Manley, who prosecuted the case.