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December 8, 2006
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BALTIMORE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

Impersonated an Officer During an Attempted Robbery

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Ronald Edward Ector, age 28, of Baltimore, Maryland pleaded guilty today to being a felon in possession of a firearm in connection with an attempted armed robbery in which he impersonated a deputy U.S. Marshal, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein.

According to the statement of facts presented to the court at today's guilty plea, on January 12, 2006, Baltimore City police officers responded to a 911 call for an attempted armed robbery and arrested Ector. On the scene, officers approached Ector, who identified himself as a deputy U.S. Marshal. At the time, Ector had subdued the intended robbery victim with flex cuffs and was wearing body armor and a raid jacket labeled "POLICE." Police searched Ector and recovered a loaded Glock, model 27, .40 caliber pistol and several forms of false police identification. An additional pair of handcuffs and another piece of body armor was also recovered from Ector's car.

Ector faces a maximum penalty of life imprisonment and a mandatory minimum of 15 years in prison for illegal possession of a firearm. U.S. District Judge Andre M. Davis scheduled sentencing for February 16, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein commended the investigative work performed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Baltimore City Police Department. Mr. Rosenstein thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Debra Dwyer, who is prosecuting the case.