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ATF WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION RELEASES TOP INVESTIGATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR SECOND HALF 2012

WASHINGTON – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Washington Field Division Acting Special Agent in Charge (SAC) James D. Newman today released a list of the top investigations undertaken during the second half of fiscal year 2012 (April 1, 2012 - Dec. 31, 2012). The Washington Field Division covers the Commonwealth of Virginia, seven counties in the panhandle of West Virginia, and all of the District of Columbia.

“The men and women of ATF work diligently everyday carrying out ATF’s mission to remove violent offenders from our streets,” said Newman. “Working together with our law enforcement partners throughout the region allows us to maximize our resources to positively impact violent crime and keep our citizens safe.”

The investigations listed below were prosecuted out of the U.S. Attorney’s offices in the Eastern and Western District of Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Man Arrested for Serial Robberies

Dec. 28, 2012

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — Following a relentless investigation by The Newport News Police Department, the Hampton Police Division, the York County Sheriff’s Office and the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, an arrest has been made in connection with numerous commercial robberies spanning three jurisdictions dating back to December 2010.

[More »](#)

Maryland Man Pleads Guilty to 2010 Murder in Centreville

Dec. 10, 2012

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Tasheik Ashanti Champean, 46, of Suitland, Md., pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit armed robbery and murder of a man at a residence in the Centreville area of Fairfax County, Va., on May 17, 2010. [More »](#)

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Two Conspirators Exiled to Prison in Scheme to Straw Purchase Eight Guns

Nov. 30, 2012

GREENBELT, Md. — U.S. District Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. sentenced Henry Lee Smith, age 50, of Washington, D.C., today to a year and a day and ordered him to pay a \$2,000 fine for conspiring to straw purchase firearms. Co-defendant Joshua A. Smith, age 22, of Capitol Heights, Maryland, previously pleaded guilty to the conspiracy and was sentenced on Nov. 27, 2012, to 18 months in prison and 60 hours of community service. [More »](#)

Maurice Thomson Michaely of Haymarket

Nov. 30, 2012

HAYMARKET, Va. — Maurice Thomson Michaely of Haymarket, Va., was arrested and charged on Nov. 29, 2012, with burning or destroying a dwelling house by the Prince William County Fire Marshal's Office in conjunction with County Police. [More »](#)

Pennington Gap Police Officer Charged with Distribution of Lortabs and Percocets

Nov. 29, 2012

ABINGDON, Va. — John Charles Kelly, an officer with the Pennington Gap, Va., Police Department, was indicted yesterday by a federal grand jury sitting in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia in Abingdon. [More »](#)

Bowie Felon Exiled to 10 Years in Prison for Selling Ammunition to a Felon

Nov. 28, 2012

GREENBELT, Md. — U.S. District Judge Roger W. Titus sentenced Phillip Rudolph Johnson, Jr., age 43, of Bowie, Md., today to 10 years in prison followed by three years of supervised release for selling ammunition to a prohibited person. [More »](#)

Richmond Man Pleads Guilty to Drug Charge

Nov. 2, 2012

RICHMOND, Va. — Gregory Denard Mills, aka Craig Mills, 48, of Richmond pleaded guilty today to conspiring to distribute crack cocaine from 2006 to 2009. [More »](#)

Four Indicted on Drug, Gun, Robbery Charges

Nov. 1, 2012

ABINGDON, Va. — Four people, including the former police chief of the Pennington Gap, Va., Police Department, were indicted yesterday by a federal grand jury sitting in the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia in Abingdon on a variety of

charges. The grand jury has charged William Bryan Young, Kevin Andrew Young, Chris Miles and Jimmy Edward Johnson. [More »](#)

Man Charged with Arson for Throwing Molotov Cocktail in Ballston Common Mall

Oct. 19, 2012

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Leon Alphans Traille Jr., 29, has been charged with committing arson for allegedly throwing a Molotov cocktail into the food court area of the Ballston Common Mall in Arlington, Va. [More »](#)

Three Sentenced on Cigarette Trafficking Charges

Oct. 18, 2012

ABINGDON, Va. — One year after a federal indictment charging the Belcorp Corporation, and others, with cigarette trafficking crimes was unsealed, a federal judge sitting in the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia in Abingdon sentenced an individual and two corporate defendants for their roles in the scheme. [More »](#)

Virginia Couple Sentenced to Life on Murder Charges

Lorie Ann Taylor Keller, Nakia Keller To Spend Life In Prison

Sept. 6, 2012

HARRISONBURG, Va., — A married couple from Folks Run, Va., will spend the rest of their lives in federal prison after being sentenced this morning in the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia in Harrisonburg.

http://www.justice.gov/usao/vaw/news/2012/keller_06sep2012.html

Hampton Man Sentenced in String of Armed Robberies

Aug. 24, 2012

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — Christian Lamont Johnson, 23, of Hampton, Va., was indicted yesterday by a federal grand jury accused of robbing at gunpoint three businesses in the Hampton Roads region. [More »](#)

Prince George's County Drug Dealer Sentenced to Over 8 Years in Prison on Gun and Drug Charges

July 9, 2012

GREENBELT, Md. — Chief U.S. District Judge Deborah K. Chasanow sentenced Dana Vincent McGriff, Jr., age 30, of New Carrollton, Md., today to 100 months in prison followed by four years of supervised release for possession with intent to distribute heroin and illegal possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. [More »](#)

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Two Convicted of Car Jacking a Sears Delivery Truck

June 22, 2012

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — Antonio D. McGhee of Essex, Md. and Gabriel D. Mitchell, of Norfolk, Va. were convicted today by a federal jury on charges of conspiracy to commit robbery, robbery, carjacking, and brandishing a firearm during a crime of violence. [More »](#)

Virginia Beach Man Sentenced to 14 Years in Prison on Gun Charges

June 18, 2012

NORFOLK, Va. — Leonard Clarence Davis, 43, of Virginia Beach, Va., was sentenced today in Norfolk federal court to nine years in prison for transferring 16 unregistered machine guns, and to five years in prison for possession of a firearm after having been convicted of a felony. The sentences are to run consecutively. [More »](#)

Suitland Felon Exiled to 10 Years in Prison for Possessing a Gun

May 18, 2012

GREENBELT, Md. — U.S. District Judge Peter J. Messitte sentenced Leconie Williams IV, age 35, of Suitland, Md., today to 10 years in prison followed by three years of supervised release for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Judge Messitte enhanced Williams' sentence upon finding that the gun he illegally possessed had an obliterated serial number. [More »](#)

ATF Washington Field Division Agents Receive Prestigious Top Cops Award

May 11, 2012

WASHINGTON — Two Washington Field Division special agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) will receive an honorable mention Top Cops Award from the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) on May 12 for their work in conducting an undercover murder for hire investigation in Warren County Virginia. [More »](#)

Five Men Convicted of Charges for Their Roles in Crimes that Led to Five Murders, Nine Other Shootings

May 7, 2012

WASHINGTON — Five men were convicted by a jury today of murder, conspiracy, and other charges for a series of violent crimes that culminated on the night of March 30, 2010 with a deadly mass shooting on South Capitol Street, announced U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and Cathy L. Lanier, Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). [More »](#)

Richmond Man Sentenced to More Than 38 Years for His Role in 11 Commercial Robberies in the Richmond Area

May 3, 2012

RICHMOND, Va. — Gary Young, 23, of Richmond, was sentenced today to 462 months in prison for his role in eleven commercial robberies in the Richmond area. Targeting gas stations, fast food restaurants, convenience stores, and groceries, Young and his accomplice's crime spree netted over \$5,000 in proceeds from these robberies. [More »](#)

Brothers Sentenced to Combined 94 Years in Prison for Armed Robberies

April 24, 2012

RICHMOND, Va. — Troy Douglas Baylor, 47, of Richmond, Va., and James Derrick Baylor, 44, of Brooklyn, N.Y., were sentenced today to 52 and 42 years in prison, respectively, for committing armed robbery of two businesses in Chesterfield and Richmond. [More »](#)

North Carolina Man Indicted on Federal Charges in Assault Against Ambassador, Fires at Gabonese Embassy

April 19, 2012

WASHINGTON — Leon Obame, 44, of Raleigh, N.C., was indicted today on federal charges stemming from two arsons in 2009 at the Gabonese Embassy and a 2011 assault against the country's ambassador, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced. [More »](#)

For information on ATF and its programs, go to www.atf.gov. To read more about Washington Field Division investigations, click on the Field Divisions tab and click on Washington and press releases.

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