



News Release



The Violent Crime Bureau

Chicago Field Division

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FIREARMS TRAFFICKER SENTENCED TO 22 YEARS FOR GUN AND DRUG CRIMES

Operation Falcon Drop

CHICAGO - Gary Shapiro, Acting United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, Larry Ford, Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Garry McCarthy, Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department, and Thomas Jankowski, Acting Special Agent in Charge IRS Criminal Investigation Division, today announced Richard Harrington, 35, of Chicago, Ill., was sentenced yesterday to 22 years in prison by Federal Judge Amy St. Eve on various illegal drug violations and money laundering.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Bethany Biesenthal and Joseph Thompson under the name "Operation Falcon Drop" as a result of a cooperative investigation by ATF, the Chicago Police Department, and the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division.

Harrington pleaded guilty in January 2011 to trafficking multiple kilograms of heroin and cocaine in numerous locations in the Austin and Lawndale communities on the city's west side between 2007 and 2009. He also was sentenced for possessing multiple firearms in furtherance of his drug trafficking crimes.

The defendant is in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

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