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NEWS

**MEMPHIS WOMAN EARNS 168 MONTHS IN PRISON
FOR CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 11, 2012

Memphis, Tenn. B Kala Bray, 19, of Memphis, was sentenced today to 168 months in prison for conspiracy to engage in child sex trafficking and sex trafficking by force, fraud, and coercion.

The sentence was announced by United States Attorney Edward L. Stanton III; Assistant Attorney General Lanny Breuer of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice; and Special Agent in Charge of the Memphis Federal Bureau of Investigation Field Office Aaron T. Ford.

According to the indictment, in the summer of 2011, Bray and her co-defendant, Vincent Jones, lured two Memphis-area juveniles to Houston, Texas with promises of a trip to a water park. Bray and Jones supplied the teens with drugs, including Oxycontin and Xanax, and made the juveniles engage in commercial sex acts both in Memphis and Houston. Bray pleaded guilty to the sex trafficking conspiracy on November 4, 2011.

Vincent Jones, Bray's co-defendant, pleaded guilty to the same conspiracy charge on July 7, 2012, and is set to be sentenced on December 14, 2012.

In addition to 168 months in prison, U.S. District Judge Samuel H. Mays, Jr. sentenced Bray to 5 years of supervised release, and a special assessment of \$100. As a condition of her supervised release, Bray must register as a sex offender. Parole is not a possibility in the federal system.

"Miss Bray's actions were both shocking and reprehensible, and her sentence reflects this community's disgust for those who participate in child sex trafficking," said United States Attorney Stanton. "This office has zero tolerance for any form of sex trafficking, and we will continue to hold traffickers accountable to the full extent of the law. Today, the children who were victimized and their families can know that justice was done."

"Kala Bray prostituted trafficked children, tricking them and making them suffer abuse for her personal gain," said Assistant Attorney General Breuer. "Though nothing can undo the damage Bray caused, this sentence underscores our continued commitment to protecting our nation's children and punishing those who would do them harm."

"Today's sentencing is a result of the dedicated efforts of the FBI and our law enforcement partners, and demonstrates that we will not tolerate the exploitation of minors," said Aaron T. Ford, Special Agent in Charge of the Memphis Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. "Human trafficking investigations are a priority for the FBI, and we will continue to target those who victimize children and seek to profit from sex trafficking."

The case was investigated by the FBI working in conjunction with the Memphis Police Department and the Bartlett Police Department. FBI Special Agent Michael Saltsman was the lead investigator on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Jonathan Skrmetti and Trial Attorney Mike Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section prosecuted the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and CEOS, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

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