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DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON

TAMPA FL--United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill and Acting Assistant Attorney General Matthew Friedrich of the U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division announced today that Gustavo Barreda, age 35, of Brandon, FL, was sentenced yesterday by the Honorable Senior Judge William J. Castagna to 189 months in prison for conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and 120 months for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The prison terms are to run concurrent to one another. Barreda pleaded guilty on March 25, 2008 to the charges.

According to court documents, Barreda was arrested on December 5, 2006, in a closed night club in Ybor City by the Tampa Police Department Narcotics Squad. According to information contained in court documents, Barreda was attempting to purchase multiple kilos of cocaine when he was arrested. Three firearms were recovered and more than \$116,500 in cash was seized at the time of his arrest.

The case was jointly investigated by FBI Safe Streets Gang Task Force, Tampa Police Department and Florida Department of Law Enforcement. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Walter E. Furr and Trial Attorney Jerry D. Massie from the Department of Justice Criminal Division's Gang Squad Unit.