



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill  
Middle District of Florida

Tampa	Orlando	Jacksonville	Ocala	Fort Myers
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE			CONTACT: WILLIAM DANIELS	
June 27, 2011			PHONE: (813) 274-6388	
<a href="http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/flm/pr">http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/flm/pr</a>			FAX: (813) 274-6300	

## **PLANT CITY MEN SENTENCED TO MORE THAN 19 YEARS FOR ROBBERY**

Tampa, Florida - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces that Kenneth Marquise Lee (20) and Kimani Richye James (19), both of Plant City, were each sentenced today by United States District Judge James D. Whittemore to federal prison for robbery and carrying a firearm during a crime of violence. Lee was sentenced to 295 months in federal prison while James was sentenced to 237 months.

Both men pled guilty on November 18, 2010.

According to court documents, on the morning of May 7, 2010, Lee and James drove a stolen Dodge Ram through the security door of an ACE Hardware store in Plant City and stole 33 guns from the store. ACE Hardware is a federal firearms licensee. Later that morning, the men used some of the stolen firearms to rob, at gunpoint, Prima's convenience store in Mulberry, Florida. Two of Prima's employees were shot during the robbery.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and the Polk County Sheriff's Office. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James A. Muench.

This is another case prosecuted as a part of the Department of Justice's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" program - a nationwide, gun-violence reduction strategy led by ATF.

United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill, along with Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent-in-Charge (ATF) is coordinating the Project Safe Neighborhoods effort here in the Middle District of Florida, in cooperation with federal, state, and local law enforcement officials.