



NEWS RELEASE

**KAREN L. LOEFFLER
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse • 222 W. 7th Avenue • Room 253 • Anchorage, AK 99513 • (907) 271-5071

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2009**

09-080

**ANCHORAGE YOUTH NETS FIVE YEARS IN A FEDERAL PRISON
IN CONNECTION WITH POSSESSION OF CRACK, HEROIN AND GUN**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Karen L. Loeffler announced that Xavier Miguel Collins, a resident of Anchorage, Alaska, was sentenced in federal court in Anchorage to sixty months in prison for possessing crack cocaine.

United States District Court Judge Timothy M. Burgess imposed the sentence on Collins, age 20.

According to information presented to the court by Special Assistant United States Attorney Christine M. Thoreson, Collins was a passenger in a vehicle that was stopped by the Anchorage Police Department Special Assignments Unit. As officers approached the vehicle, they ordered the occupants of the vehicle to put their hands in the air. Collins refused to comply, and instead took off the jacket he was wearing. Officers subsequently searched the jacket and found 18.9 grams of heroin and 12.3 grams of crack. Additionally, a gun was found beneath Collins' seat.

Prior to imposing sentencing, Judge Burgess stated that while Collins has not had an easy life, it does not excuse the conduct that led to these charges.

Ms. Loeffler commended the Special Assignments Unit of the Anchorage Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation Safe Streets Task Force, comprised of Anchorage police officers and FBI agents and the Municipal Prosecutors Office, for the investigation leading to the sentence in this case. Ms. Thoreson is one of two prosecutors in the U.S. Attorney's Office who are funded by the Municipality of Anchorage for the purpose of prosecuting gang-related and violent crime cases.

###