



NEWS RELEASE

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ANCHORAGE DRUG DEALER RECEIVES 60-MONTH SENTENCE TO FEDERAL PRISON

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Karen L. Loeffler announced today that Mario Labaron Hoskins, a resident of Anchorage, Alaska, was sentenced in federal court in Anchorage to 60 months for his convictions of distribution of controlled substances and possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute.

United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline imposed the sentence on Hoskins, 26.

According to information presented to the court by Special Assistant United States Attorney Erin White, who prosecuted the case, the defendant sold crack cocaine on two separate occasions. On February 14, 2008, Hoskins sold 11.6 grams of crack cocaine to a government informant. On March 5, 2008, Hoskins sold 26.9 grams of crack cocaine to the same government informant. Both of the drug buys were monitored, supervised, and recorded by the Drug Enforcement Administration. On July 2, 2008, Hoskins was involved in a motor vehicle accident with injuries. Hoskins had been driving a motorcycle and sustained injuries to his legs. A witness on scene told APD officers that they had seen a “male digging in his pants near his groin area” and “acting suspicious.” At the hospital, an emergency room physician discovered a clear baggy of what appeared to be several large rocks of crack cocaine in Hoskins’ groin area. The State of Alaska Crime Laboratory tested the rocks and determined that they consisted of 22.3 grams of cocaine base, or crack cocaine. The total amount of crack cocaine distributed and possessed by Hoskins was 60.8 grams.

Prior to imposing sentence, Judge Beistline noted the defendant’s history of drug dealing and the negative impact of drugs on the community, in particular on young people.

Ms. Loeffler commended the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Anchorage Police Department and the Municipal Prosecutor’s Office for the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Hoskins. Ms. White is one of two municipal prosecutors assigned to 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.

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