



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**ANCHORAGE MAN SENTENCED TO 63 MONTHS IN FEDERAL
PRISON FOR CHAUFFEURING AROUND A DRUG DEALER**

Anchorage, Alaska – Acting United States Attorney Kevin Feldis announced that on May 18, 2009, Charles Rashid Lee, a resident of Anchorage, Alaska, was sentenced in federal court to 63 months in prison for aiding and abetting the possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute. Mr. Lee was convicted of this offense after a federal jury trial in August of 2008.

Chief United States District Court Judge John W. Sedwick imposed the sentence on Lee, age 27.

According to Special Assistant United States Attorney Christine M. Thoreson, who prosecuted the case, the evidence presented at trial established that on or about September 2, 2007, Lee drove a rented car and picked up a close friend at his residence in Anchorage. His friend had previously been convicted of drug dealing. After picking up his friend, Lee drove his friend around while his friend conducted drug deals in the Mountain View area out of the rental car. Anchorage police officers saw several of the drug deals take place, and in response, stopped the car and arrested both Lee and his friend. Inside the car, police found 19.5 grams of crack cocaine, marijuana, a digital scale, and two cell phones. Lee was also carrying \$6,915 dollars in his front pants pocket at the time of his arrest.

Mr. Feldis commended the Anchorage Police Department Special Assignments Unit who conducted the investigation leading to the conviction and sentence in this case. SAUSA 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.

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