U.S. Department of Justice

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PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE SENDS ANOTHER GUN-WIELDING DRUG DEALER TO PRISON

Little Rock – Bud Cummins, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and Stevan Dalrymple, Prosecuting Attorney for the Eleventh Judicial District - West, announced that Frederick Tyrone Thurman (dob: 6-6-68) of Pine Bluff, was sentenced Monday before United States District Judge Bill Wilson.

According to the Indictment and proceedings in this case, Thurman was involved in a crack cocaine and cocaine hydrochloride trafficking organization operating in the Eastern District of Arkansas and elsewhere. From 1999, until January 16, 2004, Thurman, co-defendants Anthony Lavelle Brown and Horace Hudson, III, and others were in possession of multi-kilogram quantities of cocaine base, a/k/a crack cocaine, powder cocaine and numerous firearms.

Thurman and others were arrested at Thurman's Pine Bluff residence on September 29, 2003. More than 2 pounds of cocaine powder and more than 93 grams of crack cocaine, along with six firearms and $ 11,335 in U.S. currency were recovered during the search of the Thurman's residence.

Thurman entered guilty pleas to conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of cocaine base, a/k/a crack cocaine and possession of firearms in connection with drug trafficking activities. Thurman has admitted responsibility to the possession and distribution of between 2 and 3.5 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride and between 50 and 150 grams of crack cocaine.

District Judge Wilson sentenced Thurman to a total of 180 months or 15 years imprisonment: 10 years imprisonment for the drug conspiracy followed by a consecutive five years for his possession of firearms in connection with the drug trafficking activities occurring at his home.

Co-defendants Horace Hudson, III and Anthony Lavelle Brown were previously sentenced by JudgeWilson to terms of imprisonment of 595 months and 570 months respectively for their roles in this drug and firearm criminal activity.

"Law enforcement officers in Jefferson County deserve a lot of credit for this case," Cummins said. "In this case, the use of federal resources ensured the most effective punishment. These cases are classic examples of what Project Safe Neighborhoods is doing to remove gun-wielding thugs from the community."

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Pine Bluff Police Department, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, the Tri-County Drug Task Force, the Little Rock Police Department.

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