



Department of Justice

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ARMED VOLUSIA COUNTY DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO ELEVEN YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON

Orlando, Florida - U.S. Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces that U.S. District Judge Gregory A. Presnell yesterday sentenced Ivan Albert Smith, Jr. (age 28, of DeLand) to eleven years in federal prison for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of cocaine base with the intent to distribute, and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense. Smith previously entered a guilty plea to the charges on January 12, 2011.

According to court documents, on May 28, 2010, members of the West Volusia Narcotics Task Force executed a state search warrant at Smith's residence on South Blue Lake Avenue, DeLand, Florida. After entering the residence, agents located Smith, his girlfriend and a two year-old child inside. After waiving his constitutional rights, Smith told investigators that he had been "selling crack cocaine to pay the bills." He also admitted that there were three firearms on the property, one of which he specifically used to protect himself while selling narcotics. Agents ultimately recovered three firearms (a revolver, a rifle and a shotgun), drug distribution paraphernalia, and more than 16 grams of crack cocaine from the residence. As a previously convicted felon, Smith is prohibited from possessing firearms under federal law.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the West Volusia Narcotics Task Force and the Volusia County Sheriff's Office. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert E. Bodnar, Jr.

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 Tampa Field Division, is coordinating the Project Safe Neighborhoods effort here in the Middle District of Florida in cooperation with federal, state, and local law enforcement officials.