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For Immediate Release  
June 19, 2009

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## **SHREVEPORT DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON**

### *Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Investigation*

**Shreveport, Louisiana** . . . A major Shreveport drug trafficker was sentenced in federal court on Thursday, United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced today. **GREGORY L. YOUNG**, age 39, of Shreveport, Louisiana, was sentenced by United States Senior District Judge Tom Stagg to spend 20 years in prison for trafficking cocaine. The drug distribution charges stemmed from a joint federal and local investigation into a major drug trafficking and distribution conspiracy operating in the Shreveport area.

YOUNG was convicted of possession with intent to distribute approximately three and one-half kilograms of powder cocaine after a two-day jury trial in federal court in February. YOUNG was arrested in October 2008 after purchasing the cocaine from a person cooperating with the FBI. Testimony at trial revealed that YOUNG met the cooperating witness at a storage facility on Mansfield Road in Shreveport where he paid the cooperating

witness \$45,460 in cash for the cocaine and was immediately arrested by the FBI. Video and audio recordings of the transaction were played for the jury at trial.

This case was the result of an investigation conducted by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) into a major drug trafficking and distribution conspiracy operating in Caddo Parish. OCDETF, consisting of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, is the nation's primary tool for disrupting and dismantling major drug trafficking organizations, targeting national and regional level drug trafficking organizations, and coordinating the necessary law enforcement entities and resources to disrupt or dismantle the targeted criminal organization and seize their assets.

U.S. Attorney Washington stated: "This investigation continues our efforts to strike at the heart of the most prominent drug trafficking organizations. Reducing the supply of illegal drugs to this community remains a major law enforcement priority. As drug traffickers like Gregory Young have become more sophisticated, so have federal, state, and local law enforcement organizations. We pledge to use every tool of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century available to law enforcement to continue aggressive, offensive investigations to target, investigate, and prosecute drug trafficking organizations."

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

The investigation was conducted by OCDETF and the FBI's Northwest Louisiana

Violent Crimes Task Force which includes the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Shreveport, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Marshal's Service, Shreveport Police Department, Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office, Bossier City Police Department, Louisiana State Police and the Louisiana National Guard Counter-Drug Task Force. Assistant United States Attorney Allison D. Bushnell was the prosecutor for this case.

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