

NEWS

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Two GKB Bloods Leaders Plead Guilty to Crack Cocaine Distribution Charges

(More)

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TRENTON – A high-ranking member or “4-star general” of a Trenton Bloods street gang known as “Gangster Killer Bloods” or “GKB” pleaded guilty today to a federal crack cocaine distribution charge, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

Jabari Cross, 28, of Trenton, entered his plea in U.S. District Court in Trenton before Judge Mary L. Cooper. Cross pleaded guilty to a one-count Information that charged him with possession with the intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine. Cross has remained in custody since his arrest on Nov. 30, 2007.

GKB “5-star general,” Ricky Davis, 25, pleaded guilty before Judge Anne E. Thompson on March 4, 2008, to a one-count Information that charged him with distribution and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine. Davis has remained in custody since his arrest on Sept. 27, 2007.

“As can be seen with the gang's name, these are violent thugs,” Christie said. “They used violence to intimidate, to consolidate their hold on the Wilbur neighborhood of Trenton where they sold drugs.”

“These pleas and the likelihood that these young men will spend many years in a federal prison far from Trenton should be a wake up call to other gang members in Mercer County,” said Christie. “Give up the gang life, the violence and drug dealing. It’s not worth it, and there is a large law enforcement contingent in place to watch you, arrest and prosecute you.”

Through a 14-month investigation, law enforcement authorities identified Davis as a “5-star general” and Cross as a “4-star general” of the GKB Bloods gang that operated in the Wilbur Section of Trenton. The guilty pleas of Davis and Cross, along with federal arrests and convictions of eight additional GKB members and associates, results from an investigation by the DEA and the Trenton Police Department, with the assistance of other federal, state and county law enforcement agencies, into the GKB gang that was operating in Trenton.

Gerard P. McAleer, Special Agent in Charge of the DEA, New Jersey Division stated, "The investigation of the Gangster Killer Bloods Set led by Ricky Davis is proof that federal, state, and local law enforcement will remain vigilant in ridding Trenton of violence and drugs. I would like to thank Director Joseph Santiago of the Trenton Police Department and the Vice Unit for their efforts in forging a partnership with DEA."

At his plea hearing, Cross admitted that on March 27, 2007, he arranged to have crack cocaine sold to another person. Cross admitted that after the drug transaction, he collected his share of the drug proceeds.

At Davis’ plea hearing, he admitted that on Sept. 21, 2007, he possessed a quantity of crack cocaine and sold it to another person. Davis and Lamar Carey, 24, of Trenton, were both

arrested on a criminal Complaint, which was signed on Sept. 24, 2007, that charged them each with three counts of distribution and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine. The Complaint alleges that on three occasions between March 2007 and August 2007, Davis and Carey sold a total of approximately 400 grams of crack cocaine to an individual who was cooperating with law enforcement. Carey has pleaded guilty to one-count of distribution of crack cocaine and is awaiting sentencing.

The charge of distribution and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine carries a mandatory minimum penalty of 10 years in prison and a maximum penalty of life, plus a fine of \$4 million.

In determining actual sentences, the judges to whom the cases are assigned will consult the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Christie credited Special Agents of the DEA, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Gerard P. McAleer in Newark, and Police officers with the Trenton Police Department, under the direction of Joseph J. Santiago, Police Director, with the investigation leading to the guilty plea.

Christie also thanked the New Jersey State Police Gang Unit, ATF, FBI, Ewing Police Department, and the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office for their assistance to the investigation.

The Government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jimmy Kitchen, of the U.S. Attorney's Criminal Division in Trenton.

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Defense Attorney:
Cross - Ruth Liebesman Martinuk, Esq. Wood-Ridge
Davis - Robin Lord, Esq. Trenton