

Department of Justice

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GANG DEFENDANT SENTENCED ON RICO CHARGES

ROCHESTER, N.Y. - U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Jayquan Gerod Wynne, a/k/a "Topsy", 20, of Rochester, N.Y., who was convicted of conspiring to engage in racketeering activity, which included narcotics trafficking, violent crimes in furtherance of racketeering activity and weapons possession, was sentenced to 183 months in prison by U.S. District Judge Charles J. Siragusa. Wynne will also serve five years of post-release supervision.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas E. Gregory, who handled the prosecution of the case, stated that in 2009, state and federal authorities focused their attention on the "Chain Gang" aka "Wolfpack", a violent street crew that controlled the streets in the area of Chamberlain and Garson Avenues in Rochester. A total of 19 gang members were charged under federal racketeering laws with conspiring to use their membership in the Chain Gang to engage in multiple acts of drug trafficking, murder and attempted murder. Three defendants were convicted in July 2011 after a five week jury trial. All 19 defendants have been convicted.

In his plea, Wynne agreed that he conspired with other Chain Gang members to sell cocaine base in an exclusive area in the Beechwood neighborhood. Wynne also admitted that in April 2007, he fired numerous .45 caliber rounds into a car believed to be occupied by rival gang members, striking one man in the head and causing physical injuries.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge Scott Heagney, along with officers and investigators with the Rochester Police Department, under the direction of Chief James Sheppard.

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