



# UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Last of 16 Individuals Involved in Gilpin Court Area Drug-Distribution Organization Sentenced**

**(Richmond, VA)** - The last of 16 individuals involved in a street drug-distribution organization operating in the Gilpin Court area of Richmond, Virginia, were sentenced today to terms in federal prison. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Charles Cunningham, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Col. Rodney Monroe, Chief, Richmond Police Department, made the announcement following sentencing by United States District Judge Henry Hudson.

Judge Hudson imposed the following sentences on the defendants, each of whom were convicted of conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine:

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sentence</u>
Zeb Artis	46	264 Months
Victor Bassett	42	80 Months
Wessley Berry,	20	120 Months
Everette Bolling	22	136 Months
Cory Brockenbrough	21	135 Months
Troy Brockenbrough	21	125 Months
Craig Bullock	44	264 Months
Osmund Green	24	162 Months
Keoin Hicks	21	80 Months
Deborah M. Jones	44	97 Months
Jermaine Lambert	22	120 Months
Henry Paul Richardson	25	Life plus 30 years
Ron Rhone	27	75 Months
Lorenzo Stephens	23	327 Months
Antonio Taylor	23	66 Months

According to court records, the individuals were all members of a group known as the “Brick Yard Block.” The defendants would congregate in a part of Gilpin Court commonly known as “the front,” which is located between Saint John and Saint Paul streets, and openly sell crack cocaine. Some of the members also used public housing apartments to stash supplies of crack.

Henry Paul Richardson, a.k.a. “Packer,” was convicted on June 27, 2006, of conspiring to distribute heroin, possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and using a firearm to commit murder. Evidence presented at trial established that Richardson, said to consider himself the “John Gotti” of the projects, was a quick-tempered heroin dealer operating out of an apartment in the Gilpin Court housing project.

“Each of these drug dealers will spend many years in federal prison, where they will no longer be able to intimidate the good people of the Gilpin Court community,” said United States Attorney Rosenberg. “These sentences serve as a clear warning to others inclined to the same criminal behavior.”

The Richmond Area Violence Enterprise (RAVE) Task Force, which is comprised of agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Virginia State Police, and the Richmond Police Department, investigated the organization. Assistant United States Attorney Roderick C. Young prosecuted the cases for the United States.

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