



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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Richmond Man Sentenced to 147 Years for Local Robbery

(Richmond, Virginia) - Donnell G. Hamilton, age 38, of Richmond, Virginia, was sentenced today to 147 months in federal prison for interfering with commerce by violence, and use of a firearm in furtherance of that crime. The sentence was imposed by United States District Chief Judge James R. Spencer. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Edgar Domenech, Special Agent-In-Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), Washington Field Office; Chief Rodney Monroe, Richmond Police Department; and Michael Herring, Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Richmond, announced the sentence. Hamilton was prosecuted under Project Exile, a joint local/federal operation aimed at addressing violent crime in the City of Richmond.

Hamilton was arrested for these offenses on February 16, 2006. According to court documents, three days prior, he had entered the McDonald's Restaurant on Chamberlayne Avenue in Richmond, brandished a firearm, and handed a note demanding money to a clerk. After Hamilton was developed as a suspect, Richmond Police executed a search warrant at his home and found a firearm that matched the description of the one used in the robbery.

Hamilton's prior criminal record includes convictions for burglary, felony larceny, perjury, and possession of cocaine. Additionally, he was convicted in the Circuit Court in Richmond on state charges for two other robberies he committed in November 2005 and February 2006.

This case was investigated by the ATF and Richmond Police Department. Special Assistant United States Attorney Matthew C. Ackley, an Assistant to the Attorney General of Virginia, prosecuted the case on behalf of the United States.

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