



U.S. Department of Justice

ANTHONY J. JENKINS
*United States Attorney
District of the Virgin Islands*

*Federal Building & United States Courthouse
5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260
Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802-6424
Voice: (340) 774-5757
Fax: (340) 776-3474*

July 24, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ST. CROIX MAN GUILTY OF DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE

United States Attorney Anthony J. Jenkins announced today that on July 22, 2008, Alberto Lawrence, 56, pleaded guilty in district court on St. Croix to distributing crack cocaine.

“Lawrence’s conviction is part of a multi-agency law enforcement effort to prosecute street-level drug dealers throughout St. Croix,” Jenkins said. “This and other federal and territorial prosecutions are the result of citizen complaints concerning drug dealing in various neighborhoods throughout the island of St. Croix.”

To address these citizen complaints, a collaborative effort among the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, St. Croix High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force, the Virgin Islands Police Department, the Virgin Islands Attorney General’s Office, the Virgin Islands National Guard, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation was undertaken and has resulted in the arrest of nearly 40 subjects.

Lawrence’s sentencing is scheduled for November 27, 2008 in district court on St. Croix. He faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$2 million fine.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kim Lindquist. It was investigated by all of the agencies involved in the joint initiative.

