

U.S. Department of Justice

Gregory R. Miller United States Attorney Northern District of Florida

111 N. Adams Street, 4th Floor Tallahassee, Florida 32301 Telephone (850) 942-8430 Fax (850) 942-8429 21 East Garden Street, Suite 400 Pensacola, FL 32502 Telephone (850) 444-4000 Fax (850) 434-9050 Commerce Building 300 University Avenue, Ste. 310 Gainesville, FL 32601 Telephone (352) 378-0996 Fax (352) 371-1912

Please reply to: Pensacola

October 25, 2005 FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Managing Assistant U.S. Attorney Len Register at (850) 444-4040

PRESS RELEASE

MAN SENTENCED IN PENSACOLA TO 40 YEARS FOR INTERSTATE PROSTITUTION RING WITH MINORS

Pensacola, Florida - United States Attorney Gregory R. Miller, Northern District of Florida, announced today that **WAYNE ROBERT BANKS, aka "Day Money"**, 27, of Toledo, Ohio, was sentenced to 40 years in federal prison for his role in an interstate prostitution ring which trafficked in girls as young as 13 years old. Banks was indicted by the federal grand jury in Pensacola and entered a guilty plea on July 8, 2005 to six felony counts charging his participation in a multi-state consortium of pimps who actively traded and sold prostitutes, including underage girls, to further their business interests in the flesh trade.

Banks was adjudicated guilty by the Court for Conspiracy to Engage in Interstate Transportation of Minors for Criminal Sexual Activity, Sex Trafficking of a Minor, and Tampering with a Witness, Victim, or Informant. After being taken into custody, Banks' calls from the Escambia County Jail were intercepted, documenting his efforts to obstruct the investigation. In imposing the sentence, Senior United States District Judge Lacey Collier, calling Banks acts "dastardly," also ordered Banks to register as a sex offender and not to have any contact with any minors for five years following his release from prison.

This case was investigated by the Escambia County Sheriff's Office (ECSO) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and resulted from a stop in March 2005 by ECSO Deputy Michael Gilmore, who witnessed a juvenile prostitute talking with a potential customer. After inquiry by Deputy Gilmore, Banks and other prostitutes were taken into custody. USA Miller had high praise for Gilmore whose alert response lead to the apprehension of Banks and the hopeful conclusion to a sordid chapter in the lives of many young women who were used by Banks to sell themselves in support of his lavish lifestyle. Miller also offered special commendations to FBI Special Agent Chon Taylor of Pensacola for his professionalism and perseverance in pursuing this important prosecution. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Goldberg and actively supported by the United States Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), a component of the Department's Criminal Division.